

Employee of the Quarter



Consent Agenda

- A-1 Draft RTA Executive Committee Meeting Minutes April 2, 2025 (Information)
- A-2 RTA Board Meeting Minutes of March 5, 2025 (Approve)
- A-3 RTAC Minutes of January 16, 2025 and Draft for April 10, 2025 (Information)
- A-4 Agreement for County Auditor/Controller Services (Approve)
- A-5 Updated RTA Title VI Policy and DBE Program (Approve)
- A-6 Contract Renewal – AGP Video Production of Board Meetings (Approve)
- A-7 RTAC Bylaws Revisions (Approve)
- A-8 Procure Trolley; Declare Four Vehicles Surplus (Approve)
- A-9 Agreement with Token Transit for Mobile Ticketing Services (Approve)
- A-10 Arroyo Grande Park-Out Facility Lease Extension (Approve)
- A-11 Vehicle Loan Agreement with ModelOne for e-Van (Approve)
- A-12 Procurement of Classification and Compensation/Benefits Study (Approve)
- A-13 Update to the RTA Drug and Alcohol Policy (Approve)
- A-14 Procure Phase 2 Electric Vehicle Servicing Equipment (Approve)

SAN LUIS OBISPO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY MAY 7, 2025

AGENDA ITEM: B-1

TOPIC: Executive Director's Report

PRESENTED BY: Geoff Straw

RECOMMENDATION: Receive and File



Morro Bay Transit & Atascadero DAR Consolidation into the RTA

- Both agreements to consolidate are fully executed
- Working through transition plan
- Only one Bus Operator joining the RTA



Operations & Maintenance

- Five Bus Operators in training and four in permitting/background check
 - Still have five open bids
 - Open shifts are covered by Extra Board, Casual drivers and employees working overtime
- Notified of an NHTSA recall on one of our two battery electric buses



Marketing & Communications

- The Avila Trolley started Friday May 2 with its updated info and flags. It's a great way to go to the Friday Farmers Market!
- Continue to run Bus Operator recruitment campaigns
- Route 9 map/schedule shows the MST Line 84, operating since December 2024
 - Total of 65 boardings – almost 4% of total



Finance and Administration

- Approval of FTA 5339(b) grant for four BEBs still delayed
 - Issued Notice to Proceed to lock down pricing; will issue PO once funding is locked-down
- USDOT Secretary guidance letter issued
 - RTA in full compliance with new emphasis areas



FY24-25 Operating Results

- RTA intercity fixed-route ridership increased 6.7% over last year but still 34% below pre-pandemic totals
- Paso Robles local fixed-routes up 24.8% since pandemic
- South County fixed-routes: down 25.9%
- Runabout up 6%

FY24-25 Financial Results

- Non-capital expense were 59.5% of the annual Administrative budget
- 58% of the of the annual Operations budget at 37.7% of the fiscal year.
- Overall non-capital expenses are at 58%



Staff Recommendation

Accept the Executive Director's Report as an information item

SAN LUIS OBISPO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY MAY 7, 2025

AGENDA ITEM: C-1

TOPIC: PUBLIC HEARING: SRTP, and Fare & Service Changes

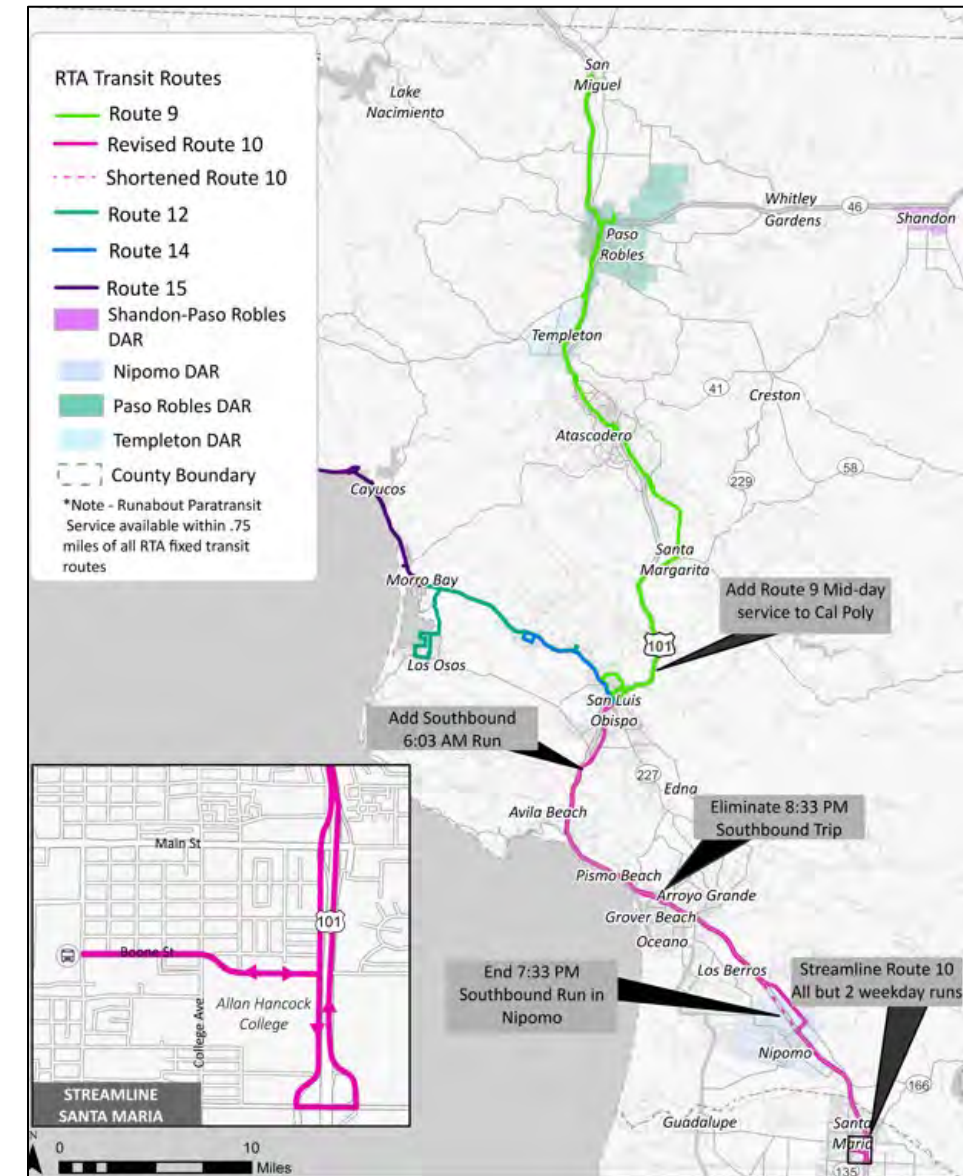
PRESENTED BY: Geoff Straw, Executive Director

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt Short-Range Transit Plan, and Implement SRTP-Recommended Fare Changes & Service Changes (as Modified)



S RTP Intercity Service Plan Elements

- ❑ Streamline Route 10 in Santa Maria – all but 2 weekday runs
- ❑ End 7:33 PM Run at Nipomo
- ❑ Eliminate Route 10 8:33 PM Southbound Trip
- ❑ Add Route 10 Southbound 6:03 AM Run
- ❑ Add Route 9 Mid-Day Service to Cal Poly



S RTP Fare Structure Recommendations

- ☐ Implement Cal-ITP Open-Loop Contactless Payment/Fare-Capping System
- ☐ \$2 for 1 Hour fare structure to replace current zone fares on Regional Routes
- ☐ Discount Fare Verification Process

Outreach Efforts for Public Hearing

1. Face-to-face meetings
 - a) Pop-up meetings at transit centers in Paso, Pismo, SLO and Santa Maria
 - b) Rode affected Route 10 runs, handing out bilingual flyers & survey forms
2. Social media posts with link to online survey
3. Notices on buses & top 50 bus stop pairs
4. Stakeholder interviews/discussions
5. Public meetings in Paso, Grover, Nipomo & AG
6. New Times notice

Results of Surveys

1. Total of 164 surveys completed
2. Route 10 recommended changes -- overwhelming dissatisfaction with Marian Loop proposal and ending service earlier
3. Route 9 Cal Poly loop – no consensus on exact loop, but many supported more direct service
4. Unease about how flat cash fare would be implemented, but simplification supported

Modified Recommendations

- **Route 10 Marian Loop** – serve on all northbound, and on the 5:33PM southbound
- **Reducing Route 10 Evening Service** – end both the 7:33PM and 8:33PM departures from SLO in Nipomo
- Direct staff to implement service changes on August 10, 2025
- Align implementation of **Intercity Flat Fare** and **Open-Loop Contactless Fare-Capping System**

Open Public Hearing for Input

Note that the Staff Report includes a summary of respondents' answers to questions, as well as a listing of all written input

Staff Recommendation

Adopt Short-Range Transit Plan, and Implement SRTP-Recommended Fare Changes & Service Changes (as Modified)

SAN LUIS OBISPO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY MAY 7, 2025

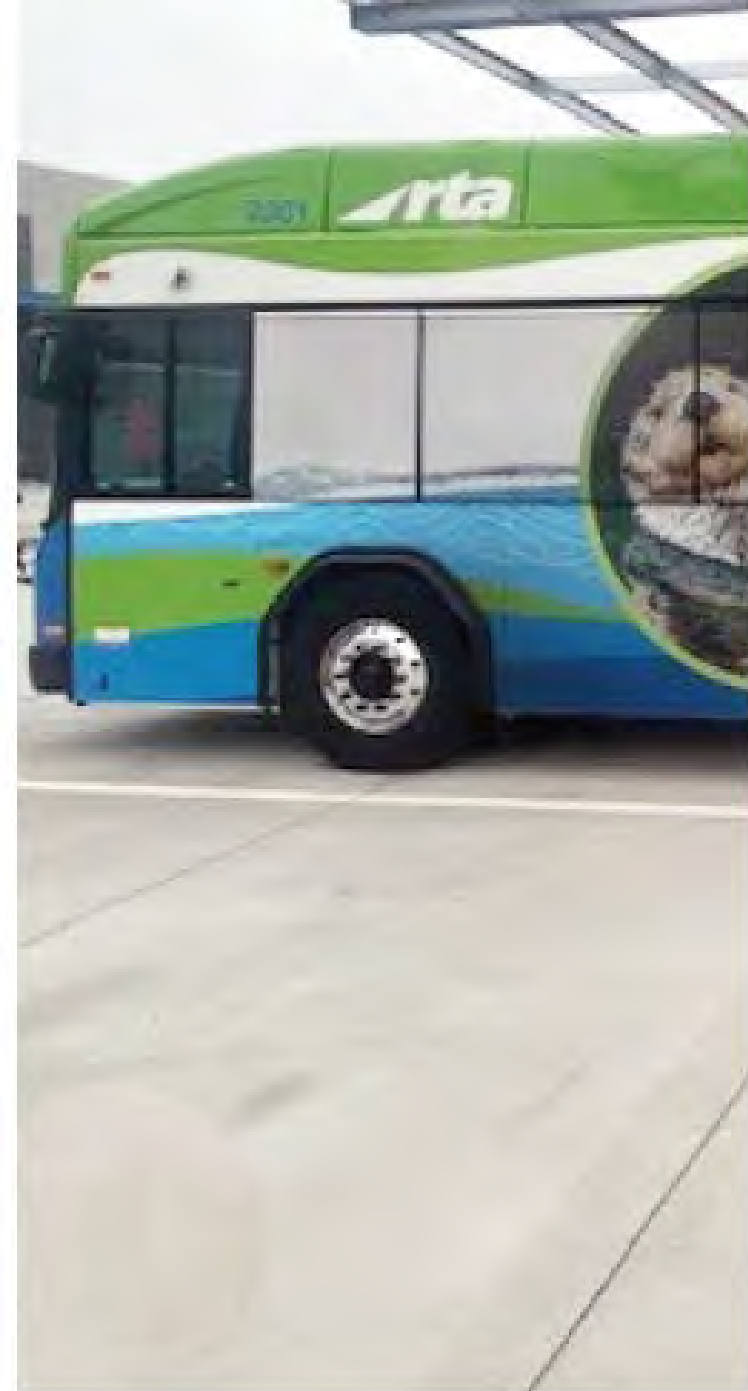
AGENDA ITEM: C-2

TOPIC: Fiscal Year 2025-26 Operating and Capital Budget

PRESENTED BY: Tania Arnold, Deputy Director/CFO

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt the Fiscal Year 2025-26 Budget as Presented





RTA Fiscal Year 2025/2026

Budget Packet Contents

The budget packet contains the following items:

- Our Vision and Mission statements
- Budget Assumptions adopted March 5, 2025
- Fiscally constrained FY25-26 operating and capital budgets
- Fiscally unconstrained FY26-27 operating budget
- Fiscally unconstrained FY26-27 through FY29-30 capital budgets (expense only for FY27-28 through FY29-30)

Format Update

- Proposed Combined Budget and RTA Core Budget
- Support information for other services operated:
 - County-funded rural transit
 - Paso Robles local fixed route and dial-a-ride
 - South County local fixed-route
 - Morro Bay local fixed route, call-a-ride and trolley
 - Atascadero Dial-a-Ride
- RTA core services are defined as:
 - Intercity fixed-routes (RTA Routes 9, 10, 12, 14 and 15)
 - Regional ADA complementary paratransit services (Runabout)

Background

Expense information broken-out for each RTA core fixed-route service into:

- Weekday
- Saturday
- Sunday
- Express and Tripper Services

Background

Same core levels of service (miles and hours) for fixed-route services that are currently being operated, adjusted for the S RTP recommended service changes in Item C-1:

- Streamline Route 10 in Santa Maria
- Reduce Evening Service into Santa Maria
- Add Route 9 Mid-Day Service to the Cal Poly at 12:17PM
- Implement Regional Flat Fares, and a Discount Fare Verification Process

LCTOP funded additions:

- Additional service on Sunday
- Additional RTA Route 9 and 10 Express Trips

Background

LCTOP funded additions for services operated by the RTA:

- Paso Robles:
 - Add School Tripper Services
 - Add Saturday Paso Robles Route A Service
- South County:
 - Add School Tripper Services

Format update for capital revenue:

- Line up with FTIP breakdown by project type

Key Issue #1

1. Address the uncertainties the agency currently faces, including state funding uncertainty.
 - Pending construction on US-101
 - Liability costs
 - Focus on Runabout
 - Address staffing and retention

Key Issue #2 and #3

2. Collective Bargaining Agreement – Expires December 31, 2025
3. Continue efforts to implement Zero-Emission Bus technologies, and expansion of recharging infrastructure for planned additional BEBs in the coming years.

Key Issue #4 and #5

4. State Transit Assistance (STA) funds are projected to be down compared to the original FY24-25 allocation.
5. Local Transportation Funds (LTF) used for operating purposes are projected to be lower to the region; staff will continue to maximize all other funding sources before determining the need for LTF

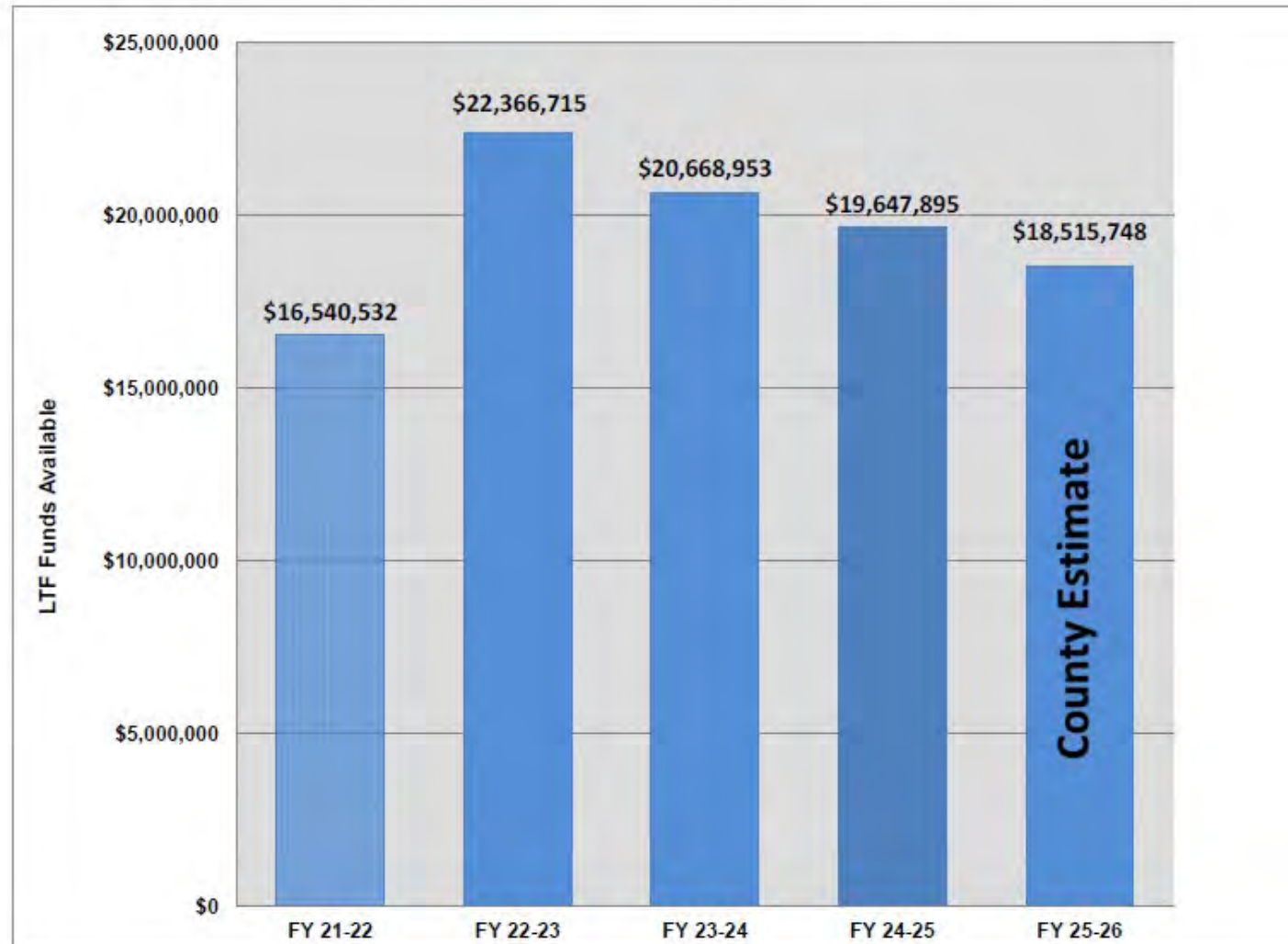
Agenda item B-2 at the April 2, 2025 SLOCOG meeting:

“2025/26 Local Transportation Fund (LTF) - \$18,515,748
(5.8% decrease in LTF available for distribution)

Key Issue #5 (continued)

Figure 1

Historical LTF Allocations
(Allocations based on estimated receipts + opening cash balance)

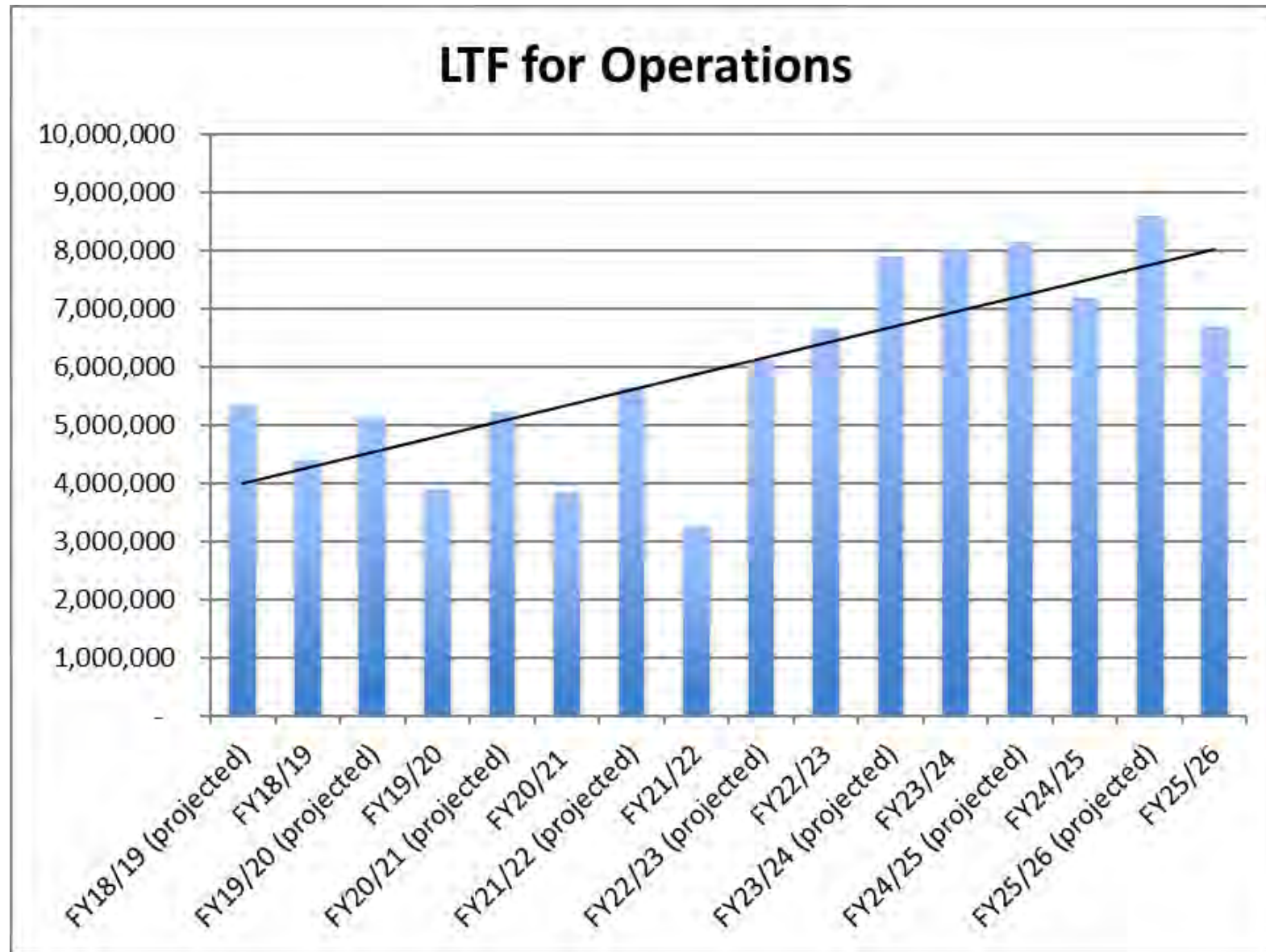


Key Issue #5 (*continued*)

Proposed budget includes LTF of \$6,702,900 for operations and \$458,060 for capital (total of \$7,160,950 prior to the Rural Transit Fund Exchange)

- LTF for capital is in accordance with the requirements outlined in the TIFIA loan agreement approved by the Board in September 2020

Key Issue #5 (continued)



Key Issue #6

6. FTA Section 5307 Formula Funds projected to be in line with the amount projected for FY25-26 when the FY24-25 budget was adopted in May 2024

Key Issues #7, 8 and 9

7. Implementation of the SRTP financially constrained recommendations, including fare structure adjustments and enforcement of the discounted fare policy
8. Assist SLOCOG officials in addressing Senior-WAV service levels
9. Fully incorporate Morro Bay Transit and Atascadero Dial-A-Ride services

Revised Expense Assumptions

Administration Expense is up by approximately 20%

- Increasing insurance costs
- Enforcement of discounted fare policy
- Passenger survey

Service Delivery cost is up by roughly 2%

- Increase in Bus Operator, Mechanic and other Teamster-negotiated wages

Capital and Planning Program

Focus will be to secure vehicle replacements that have reached their useful life

- Some of the FY24-25 capital funds for fully funded projects, are not carried over to the proposed FY25-26 budget but will be included in a budget amendment after the start of the fiscal year.
- The carryover will have no new financial impact to local jurisdictions because the funding has been previously secured

Executive Committee Recommendation

Recommended staff provide the FY25-26 budget to the Board for approval at the May 7th Board meeting.

RTAC Recommendation

Recommended staff provide the FY25-26 budget to the Board for approval at the May 7th Board meeting.



Staff Recommendation

Adopt the fiscal year 2025-2026 budget as presented.