

Fiscal Year 2020/2021 Budget
Projected Five Year Capital Budget
May 6, 2020

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# SAN LUIS OBISPO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY VISION STATEMENT, VISION ELEMENTS, MISSION STATEMENT AND STRATEGIC DIRECTION 

## VISION

The RTA of the future is an integral part of the "SLO lifestyle." From the vineyards in North County, to the secluded beach towns on the North Coast, to multi-faceted communities in the South County, residents and visitors use public transportation rather than relying on their cars.

## Vision Elements

- Continue successful partnerships with jurisdictions, county, other public agencies, businesses and schools.
- Provide excellent, reliable, sustainable seamless service that is effective in getting residents and visitors where they want to travel.
- Secure reliable funding.
- Implement an Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) program to improve service quality and provide efficiencies.
- Develop a well-executed image-building campaign with a single face for public transportation.


## MISSION

The Mission of RTA is to provide safe, reliable and efficient transportation services that improve and enhance the quality of life for the citizens and visitors of San Luis Obispo County.

## STRATEGIC DIRECTION

- Stabilize and grow funding.
- Continue to improve service quality: On-time performance, scheduling and routing, customer amenities on our vehicles and at our bus stops, operating procedures.
- Consolidate and streamline operations to improve efficiency and effectiveness of public transportation throughout the county.
- Include public transportation as part of the lifestyle evolution needed to confront climate change.
- Reduce Vehicle Miles Traveled.
- Embrace technological improvements that will positively impact efficiency and quality of service.


## SAN LUIS OBISPO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY VALUES

## Commitment to Serve

Provide valuable services to the public and direct our energies in strengthening our relationships with our customers and the community while maintaining responsible ethical fiscal management.

## Leadership

Be trustworthy, credible, confident, progressive and influential in all we do.

## Teamwork

Work together with trust, support and mutual cooperation and respect. Provide an environment that fosters frank and open communication. Have Fun in our daily activities and keep issues in perspective. Have pride in our accomplishments while taking on our challenges with spirit and vigor.

## Integrity

Promote honesty, loyalty, dignity, respect, decency, fairness, courtesy, responsibility, and character.

## Human Development

Provide the appropriate resources and environment for employees to be successful, motivate individuals to take initiative and to be creative in all of our efforts.

# SAN LUIS OBISPO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY 

MAY 6, 2020
STAFF REPORT

## AGENDA ITEM:

TOPIC:

## PRESENTED BY:

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

RTAC RECOMMENDATION:

## B-1

Fiscal Year 2020-21 Operating and Capital Budget

Tania Arnold, Deputy Director/CFO
Bring the Fiscal Year 2020-21 Budget as Presented to the Board for Approval

Meeting cancelled due to COVID 19

## BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

We appreciate the Board's support and leadership during these unprecedented times as we work to present a fiscally constrained Fiscal Year 2020-21 operating budget, and an advisory FY21-22 operating plan. In addition, we are presenting a five-year capital program.

The budget packet contains the following items:

- Our Vision and Mission statements,
- Budget Assumptions adopted by the Board at its March 4, 2020 meeting,
- Fiscally constrained FY20-21 operating and capital budgets,
- Fiscally unconstrained FY21-22 operating budget, and
- Fiscally unconstrained FY21-22 through FY24-25 capital budgets.

It should be noted that staff continues to present separate columns in the revenue and expense tables for Paso Robles Express fixed-route and dial-a-ride services, as well as for the County-funded (SLOCAT) transit services. This separation is presented so that readers can easily distinguish between core RTA services and those operated under contract for our partner agencies. As South County Transit consolidation discussions continue, information would be presented as a separate column should consolidation occur, as well. We have broken each fixed-route service into weekday, Saturday and Sunday sections to better understand the financial commitment necessary to operate these distinct services should service reductions become necessary due to funding or other constraints.

Please note: the budget presentation assumes a change in the core levels of service miles and hours for fixed-route services from what are currently being operated, please see Key Issue \#10. During these uncertain times, staff is prepared to bring budget amendments as the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic become clearer. In accordance with the adopted RTA Strategic Business Plan (SBP), the RTA will make consistent efforts to explore new service and service delivery options as well as work with regional
efficiencies in the delivery of transportation to the jurisdictions. The 2016 Short Range Transit Plan included a number of service improvements to meet current and projected future demand for regional transit services. In particular, new mid-day express runs on Routes 9 and 10, as well as later evening services, were recommended for FY17-18. However, those improvements have not been implemented due to a lack of funding and will remain financially-unconstrained until or unless new sustainable operating funds can be secured.

As noted during the presentation of the budget assumption at the March $4^{\text {th }}$ RTA Board meeting, below are the key issues the RTA is working to address and they are:

## KEY ISSUES

1. The RTA will begin construction of the long-planned new Bus Maintenance Facility located at 253 Elks Lane toward the end of the current fiscal year. However, the majority of the roughly 18-month construction period will occur in FY20-21 so much of the staff's resources will be focused on this vital project.

We continue to work with our Financial Advisor, Bond Counsel, Commissioning Agent and Construction Manager to address the funding needs. Based on the funding plan and construction authorization approved by the Board at the March 4, 2020 meeting, staff is in the process of requesting bids for construction of the new Bus Maintenance Facility. Staff will bring it to the Board at the May 6, 2020 for approval, assuming sufficient funding can be identified, and construction mobilization to begin in summer 2020.
2. Address the funding plan for the CaIPERS liability due to the termination of the RTA's contract with CalPERS as of January 10, 2020.

The major increases in this year's administration budget that was not identified in prior projections is related to costs for the transition to the County Pension Trust program from the CalPERS program. Note: staff is still awaiting the final actuarial report and the negotiated payoff for leaving the CaIPERS program. Once these numbers are received we will be amending the budget to identify that expense and the associated funding, which staff anticipates will include an additional LTF request as was presented as a draft during prior Board meetings.
3. Address SoCo Transit's request to consolidate with the RTA.

As a consolidation date is reviewed for SoCo Transit, staff will present a mock consolidated budget for review. Assuming consolidation is ultimately adopted, staff will present a budget amendment for adoption by the Board that identifies impacts but the budget as included does not include consolidation. Financial impacts that would be included in the budget amendment include the SoCo Transit contract for administrative, financial, marketing,
maintenance and dispatch services. Additionally staff will reserve policies after consolidation as part of the evaluation of insurance options and address options self-insured retentions.
4. State Transit Assistance (STA) funds are projected to be flat to the region but they are higher than FY17-18 due to the Senate Bill 1 - Road Repair and Accountability Act (SB-1) funds, which include augmented STA funds and State of Good Repair funds.

With the additional State Transit Assistance (STA) funds made available through the new Senate Bill 1 - Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017 (SB1 Augmentation) fund, there have been no LTF requests for capital projects and has minimized the impact of LTF for operating purposes. Staff continues to apply for the competitive funds from SLOCOG under the State of Good Repair program added with SB-1, and unfortunately the RTA was not awarded discretionary funds for FY20-21.
5. Local Transportation Funds (LTF) used for operating purposes are projected to be down slightly to the region.

In May 2019, when staff presented the advisory FY20-21 operating budget, staff had originally estimated a roughly $6.3 \%$ increase in administration and service delivery costs, with a significant portion of the increase for wages as identified in the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA). Since that time, as noted in Key Issue \#2 CalPERS to SLOCPT transition, the additional ongoing costs related to pensions resulted in approximately \$200,000 additional operating costs.

When staff presented the FY19-20 budget, we noted that we expected the FY20-21 carryover to be lower than in years past. Instead of attempting to "smooth" the variation by reserving FY19-20 funds for FY20-21 use, staff minimized the LTF request in FY19-20 so that the jurisdictions could maximize LTF for non-transit needs.

During the May 2019 budget presentation, staff also provided an early projection for FY20-21 LTF the RTA would need for operations, which was an increase of $41 \%$ from FY19-20 levels, or a total of just over $\$ 4.9$ million. With the revised revenue and expense projections, see additional Key Item \#10 regarding service reduction, the LTF request has dropped to an increase of $30 \%$ and just under $\$ 4.5$ million. Although we were hoping this number would drop more, it is a positive sign given the noted unexpected increases in cost due to the CaIPERS transition. And in comparison, this is just over a $15 \%$ increase from the LTF request in FY18-19.

No LTF is required for local match for any of the proposed capital projects in the current fiscal year. The budget does include the use of financing needed
to fund construction of the long-term Bus Maintenance Facility, since those costs would begin when the project is completed in FY21-22.
6. Liability costs continue to escalate, despite the RTA's good safety record (especially general liability costs).

In March 2020, staff was pleasantly surprised to learn that workers compensation insurance provided by CSAC Excess Insurance Authority is projected to be in line with FY15-16 levels, with a notable reduction from the current fiscal year, especially in times of increasing wages. Most importantly, itis a significant drop from the preliminary estimates staff received in December 2019. The reduction in premiums continue to provide a welcome relief - especially with the realization that worker's compensation for transit services is especially challenging statewide across all employment sectors as loss development trends for the state are not favorable.

In late March 2020 we also received estimated premium for general liability and vehicle physical damage insurance policies. The annual premium cost for these two insurance policies is also lower as a result of staff's continual work with our employee committee that has evaluated workplace safety and has initiated a proactive program to reduce the number and severity of claims.

In addition to the items listed under Key Issue \#3 SoCo Transit consolidation into the RTA, staff will be evaluating options for consolidating insurance coverage between the RTA and SoCo Transit, which would reduce duplicative administrative charges for both general liability and workers compensation.
7. We continue to focus on containment of Runabout costs, which had leveled off for several years but have recently increased slightly in the first part of FY19-20.

Runabout hours and miles are assumed to increase slightly based on July 2019 to February 2020 ridership trends. Staff will continue to monitor the Runabout service, including the premium fare charged to Tri-Counties Regional Center starting in January 2018 and the functional assessments as part of the certification and recertification process. Should service demands change significantly during the fiscal year, a budget amendment will be presented to the Board for consideration, which will include options such as taxicab service as noted in the budget assumptions.
8. Address staffing and retention, in particularly in the Bus Operator classification.

As included in the budget assumptions that your Board accepted in March 2019, the new 4-year CBA was ratified in November 2017, with new wage scales that began January 1, 2018. The FY20-21 budget includes significant changes in wages and benefits, primarily due to the California Legislature's
recent minimum wage hike to $\$ 15.00$ per hour by 2021 will result in wage compression issues. The RTA's current average hourly wage for Bus Operators is $\$ 20.25$ per hour, with a current starting wage rate of $\$ 16.90$ per hour.

An annual inflationary adjustment for non-union employees (excluding Operations Supervisors) of 3\% will be implemented in January 2021. The original July 2020 implementation date is being delayed due to the current response to the COVID 19 pandemic, resulting in a savings of $\$ 21,960$. The Operations Supervisor classification CPI increase adjustment will be implemented in January 2021, to coincide with Bus Operator wage scale adjustments identified in the CBA. Employees within the salary range for their position will be eligible for a step merit increase subject to performance assessments. The wage scales for non-CBA employees is presented in tabular format at the end of this budget document. Note: this may change should the Governor make the election to not increase the minimum wage in January 2021.
9. Fuel costs continue to be volatile; this also impacts ridership and fares.

Due to the current global uncertainty, fuel prices have continued to swing wildly over the past few years, and noticeably in the last few weeks. Staff has tried to budget fuel somewhat conservatively, but we may need to adjust it if fuel prices change significantly during the fiscal year from the $\$ 3.30$ per gallon budgeted amount. It should be noted that diesel-powered buses manufactured after 2009 also require the use of Diesel Exhaust Fluid (DEF) to meet emissions requirements. DEF costs more than diesel fuel, and it is used at a roughly $5 \%$ ratio DEF to diesel; its use is included in the fuel line item.

## ADDITIONAL KEY ISSUE:

10. Declining ridership and increasing operating costs suggest a service reduction should be implemented.

Ridership has declined on fixed-route services across the United States over the past several years - and has been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Prior to the pandemic, this could be attributed to an improving economy and greater automobile ownership in California. The RTA was forced to reduce service with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in mid-March 2020, and it is likely that demand will slowly build once the pandemic recedes. For these reasons, the FY20-21 operating budget assumes a roughly $5 \%$ reduction in fixedroute services. In terms of service levels, this equates to a roughly 1,810 reduction in annual service hours ( $36,170 \times 5 \%=1,809$ ). Methods to achieve these reductions will be presented in a series of public meetings and a public hearing in late spring / early summer 2020 based on ridership trends on Routes

9, 10, 12 and 14 ; the Route 15 along the North Coast is already at essentially "lifeline" levels ( 5 roundtrips/day), so reductions would be too severe.

## Revised Revenue Assumptions

In March 2020, the federal government approved the "Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act" (CARES Act) which is a $\$ 2$ trillion emergency funding package designed to blunt the worst and most immediate impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. At this time staff is uncertain how much additional funding will be coming to the region via traditional formula funding allocations but anticipates that these funds will be used to offset the additional costs incurred during the pandemic for items such as labor, additional supplies, and offset lost fare revenue.

Staff is working with SLOCOG, SoCo Transit, and the Cities of Atascadero, Paso Robles and San Luis Obispo to cooperatively program the funds for FY21-22.

## Revised Expenses Assumptions

The overall Administration Expense for RTA core services is up by approximately 9\% compared to last fiscal year. Labor has shifted due to the new pension program and professional development has increased with the large about of new hires over the last year. Marketing and Reproduction decreased because last fiscal year included an increased for the addition of Wi-Fi service on all fixed-route buses, which is a two year agreement and completion of the bi-annual customer perception survey in March 2020.

The proposed Service Delivery cost is up by roughly $5 \%$ from what was identified in the FY19-20 budget. The primary reasons for these increases as noted previously is the increase in wages as programed in the CBA and an increase in maintenance related cost due to the increasing average fleet age, reduced by $5 \%$ based on the service reduction noted in Key Issue \#10.

## Capital Program

The focus of our capital program will continue to be development and implementation of the new Bus Maintenance Facility on Elks Lane, as well as vehicle replacements for both fixed-route and Runabout services. We have also programmed the following minor capital projects:

- $\$ 40,200$ for specialized maintenance equipment to improve efficiencies;
- Bus stop improvements; and
- Miscellaneous computer equipment, including an update to the phone server ports which we will be able to move with us to the new facility.

It should be noted that a portion of the FY19-20 capital funds for fully funded projects, such as the design and engineering for the Bus Maintenance Facility and bus stop improvements had not been carried over to the proposed $\mathrm{FY} 20-21$ budget. This will happen with a budget amendment after the FY20-21 has started and the carryover will have no financial impact to local jurisdictions because the funding has been fully secured.

Also included is a projected five-year capital improvement program as part of the budget plan. While only the first year is financially constrained, the projects identified in the ensuing four years provide a snapshot of future capital needs and potential cost levels. It should be noted that staff has only identified replacement projects and easily identifiable on-going projects (i.e., computer needs and bus stop improvements) in the capital improvement program. No expansion vehicles are included in the base budget. Also of note is the significant amount included in FY22-23 and FY23-24 for 40' fixedroute bus replacements. No LTF funds are programed for capital projects in FY20-21.

## Conclusion

Fiscal Year 2020-21 will be challenging year, including financial uncertainty. We look forward to working with our customers, the Board and other stakeholders in providing stability and the highest quality of transportation services to residents of and visitors to our community. We believe that this budget reflects the path set by your Board in previous years and, although we would like to do more, we believe that this budget provides the optimum levels of service within the confines of existing limited resources.

## Staff Recommendation for Executive Committee:

Recommend staff provide the FY20-21 budget to the Board for approval at the May $6{ }^{\text {th }}$ Board meeting.

## Staff Recommendation for the Board:

Recommend that the Board adopt the FY20-21 budget as presented and direct staff to conduct public participation process regarding the $5 \%$ service reduction.

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# SAN LUIS OBISPO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY <br> MARCH 4, 2020 <br> STAFF REPORT 

## AGENDA ITEM:

TOPIC:
ACTION:
PRESENTED BY:
STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

## B-3

Fiscal Year 2020-21 Budget Assumptions

## Approve FY20-21 Budget Assumptions

Tania Arnold, Deputy Director/CFO
Approve Budget Assumptions to Enable Staff to Begin Development of Operating and Capital Budgets

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

 RECOMMENDATION:
## BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

The following report outlines staff's recommended budget assumptions for the RTA's Fiscal Year 2020-21 Operating and Capital Budget, and it is the first step in the development of our operating budget and operating program. It should be noted that the RTA is again developing a two-year operating budget and five-year capital budget. As in past years, only the first year would be financially-constrained, while the out-years should be considered advisory. Upon the Board's guidance and approval of these assumptions, staff will prepare a detailed report along with preliminary budget numbers for presentation to the Executive Committee at their April $8^{\text {th }}$ meeting prior to the final draft budget presentation to the Board in May.

## KEY ISSUES

1. The RTA will begin construction of the long-planned new Bus Maintenance Facility located at 253 Elks Lane toward the end of the current fiscal year. However, the majority of the roughly 18-month construction period will occur in FY20-21 so much of the staff's resources will be focused on this vital project.
2. Address the funding plan for the CaIPERS liability due to the termination of the RTA's contract with CalPERS as of January 10, 2020.
3. Address SoCo Transit's request to consolidate with the RTA.
4. State Transit Assistance (STA) funds are projected to be flat to the region but they are higher than FY17-18 due to the Senate Bill 1 - Road Repair and Accountability Act (SB-1) funds, which include augmented STA funds and State of Good Repair funds.
5. Local Transportation Funds (LTF) used for operating purposes are projected to be down slightly to the region.
6. Liability costs continue to escalate, despite the RTA's good safety record (especially general liability costs).
7. We continue to focus on containment of Runabout costs, which had been escalating for several years but have recently leveled off.
8. Address staffing and retention, in particularly in the Bus Operator classification.
9. Fuel costs continue to be volatile; this also impacts ridership and fares.

## Mission Statement

The Mission of the RTA is to provide safe, reliable and efficient transportation services that improve and enhance the quality of life for the citizens of and visitors to San Luis Obispo County.

## Objectives and Revenue Impacts

1) Maintain service levels and hours of service that meet the standards of productivity and demand of our customers and communities through the effective and efficient delivery of RTA Fixed-Route and Runabout core services.
a) RTA received $\$ 1,093,860$ for RTA core services in STA funding, which includes capital funding for the planned new RTA Bus Maintenance Facility project. Staff will work with SLOCOG staff to determine a realistic estimate for FY20-21.
b) Continue to monitor the results and impacts on ridership and fare revenue from the December 31, 2017 fare increase, both on RTA Fixed-Route and on the Runabout service, which included the establishment of a Runabout premium service fare.
c) The FY19-20 budget adopted in May 2019 included $\$ 3,350,105$ in LTF operating revenues. At that same meeting, the advisory FY20-21 LTF amount was $\$ 4,690,010$. Staff is still developing estimated annual FY19-20 expenses, which impacts the carryover amount that could reasonably be identified for the FY20-21 budget, but does expect this amount to be minimal.
d) Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Sections 5307, 5311 and 5339 operating funding and capital funding for $\mathrm{FY} 20-21$ will be presented in the same format as previously presented in May 2019, taking into account preliminary projected revenues identified in the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act. Should the actual annual authorizations for FTA programs increase or decrease for any of these programs, staff would adjust these assumptions accordingly. Monies for FTA-funded projects are reimbursed either as progress payments or
as full payment at the end of the project and/or fiscal year, which requires focused care by staff to ensure adequate cash flow.
e) FTA Section 5307 operating funding from the Santa Maria Urbanized Area for RTA Route 10 will be budgeted based on commitments with Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG) and the City of Santa Maria.
f) Detailed miles/hours and span of service for each RTA core Fixed-Route and Runabout will be provided with the draft budget. For context, detailed budgets based on miles/hours and span of service will also be provided separately for SLO County Services and North County Local Services. As a consolidation date is reviewed for SoCo Transit, staff will present a mock consolidated budget for review. Assuming consolidation is ultimately adopted, staff will present a budget amendment for adoption by the Board.
g) Productivity of each RTA-operated fixed-route service during holiday time periods will be presented to the Board as part of the draft budget, specifically associated with the service provided the weeks of Christmas and New Years to determine if service levels should be reduced. Staff will present the results of the elimination of the commuter Express trips from December 2019.
h) Staff will continue to research and evaluate new revenue resources should any potential shortfall in operating revenues arise. If we are unable to secure funding, staff would recommend that the Board consider adjusting the TDA allocation from the RTA jurisdictions and/or adjust service levels.
i) Due to changes in self-insured retention requirements, staff will review and provide recommendations regarding the RTA reserve policy once consolidation is completed. The reserve policy was originally adopted in May 2014, as part of the budget process.
2) Work with SLOCOG and our transit agency partners in the region to evaluate regionwide service efficiencies.
a) Transit agencies across the country have experienced ridership declines due to the relatively low price of fuel and increasing private automobile ownership rates, which are affecting farebox recovery ratios. Other factors also include increasing costs due to the California minimum wage. These issues have caused farebox recovery ratios to decline for most transit agencies.
b) Review the tasks and financial impacts included in the SoCo Transit contract for administrative, financial, marketing, maintenance and dispatch services, and evaluate efficiencies with the RTA - including SoCo Transit's request to consolidate into the RTA.
c) The RTA will work with SLOCOG staff and other transit providers to evaluate efficiencies in the provision of service throughout the county.
d) Staff will use the 2018-20 RTA Strategic Business Plan as well as the 2016 Short Range Transit Plan to evaluate potential efficiencies, and with Board concurrence, implement efficiencies.
3) Evaluate options and provide analysis on the 5-year capital improvement program and methods to fund these needs.
a) Staff will continue to work with SLOCOG to prioritize capital projects using the State of Good Repair STA portion of SB-1 funds. For FY17-18 and FY18-19, the RTA received funding for the design and engineering of the new RTA Bus Maintenance Facility. These new SB-1 funds are an important source of revenues for the RTA and the other transit operators in our region. It directly impacts the RTA need for LTF to fund operations and the local match for capital projects by reducing local match needed for federal funds, and interest when financing for capital projects is needed.
b) Staff has completed the design/engineering phase and expects to soon complete the permitting process for the long-term RTA Bus Maintenance Facility. We continue to work with our Financial Advisor and Bond Counsel, and have also recently contracted for Commissioning Agent and Construction Manager services. Assuming sufficient funding can be identified, as will be reviewed during the March 2020 Board meeting, the RTA will then conduct the construction services procurement, with construction mobilization to begin in summer 2020.
4) Address projected changes in demand for Runabout service.
a) Runabout service hours and miles are projected to increase slightly based on recent demand trends experienced over the year. Staff will closely monitor this, keeping in mind the ridership peaked in FY14-15 at over 45,000, and the ensuring annual decline to just under 40,000 in FY18-19, which was a result of variety of cost-saving and efficiency measures implemented at the Board's direction.
b) To ensure that only those persons truly eligible for Runabout service are initially registered or re-registered, staff will continue to conduct functional assessments as part of the Runabout application process. This process was added in early 2016. Staff will also provide mobility training for disabled persons who are able to use fixed-route services for some or all of their travel needs. Staff continue to work with groups such as the Paso Robles Independent Skills Program that have completed the RTA travel training review process and are now able to assist their clients with travel training.
c) Staff does not foresee needing to move forward with using supplemental taxicab services at this time, but should future service expansions be required or if staffing shortages persist, staff will revisit this option.

## Expenses Impacts

1) Fuel consumption and price will be budgeted conservatively; diesel fuel will be budgeted at $\$ 3.30$ per gallon. Included in the fuel line item will be diesel exhaust fluid (DEF), used to lower diesel exhaust emissions on the newer Fixed-Route vehicles.
2) Insurance Expenses:
a) CaITIP liability insurance premiums are projected to increase. The exact amount is not known at this time, as CaITIP actuaries are still working on May 1, 2020 through April 30, 2021 rates. Estimates will be available from CaITIP in time to include in the RTA draft budget presented to the Executive Committee at its April 2020 meeting. Although the number of RTA losses based on mileage has been lower than the statewide pool average, the RTA did experience a large claim in February 2019 that will impact future premiums. The pool had experienced significant negative claims development but those have stabilized due to efforts of all the member agencies to ensure the stability of the pool and ensure equity in costing among all members. This included a recently actuarial study on the application and formulas used in applying and calculating each agencies experience modification factor. More importantly, the California liability market continues to contract, which also increases per-mile costs.
b) CaITIP vehicle physical damage will increase minimally due to the added asset value of newer vehicles in the fleet, namely the six new 40 -foot buses and eight new cutaway vehicles that RTA received in replacement for vehicles that had exceeded their useful life during the FY18-19.
c) Our annual Employment Risk Management Authority premium is estimated at $\$ 27,000$, with a $\$ 50,000$ self-insured retention. This self-insured retention does not currently have a reserve in place to cover it should a loss develop. As noted previously, staff hopes to bring a revised reserve policy to the Board once consolidation is completed to address this reserve need.
d) Workers compensation premiums through the CSAC Excess Insurance Authority are projected to increase, with the realization that workers compensation for transit services is especially challenging statewide as loss development trends in the state are not favorable. Staff will obtain a more refined estimate in early March. We continue to work with our employee committee that has evaluated workplace safety and has initiated a proactive program to address the number of claims and severity of the claims. The decline in FY18-19 was a result of these efforts, and although premiums are expected to rise, a significant portion of that increase is attributable to the increase in wages identified in the collective
bargaining agreement that are triggered by the changes in the California minimum wage.
e) Property insurance will increase due to the significant losses in the property insurance market, namely the wildfires in California.
f) For budget-making purposes, staff is assuming a 6\% annual increase for healthcare costs for each of the next two fiscal years.
3) Staffing Expenses:
a) The current 4-year Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) was ratified in November 2017, with new wage scales that began January 1, 2018. The FY2021 budget will include significant changes in wages and benefits, primarily due to the effects of changes to the California minimum wage program. Should the January 2021 minimum wage change be delayed by the Governor, staff would bring a budget amendment to the Board. The draft budget will assume the minimum wage change will be implemented as planned.
b) The number of FY20-21 budgeted full-time equivalent (FTE) positions will remain the same as in FY19-20.
c) For FY20-21, the overall number of budgeted positions for the North County and SLO County services will remain the same. It should be noted that the marginal costs and revenues the services will be treated in the budget the same way as prior years: as separate and distinct columns.
d) An annual inflationary adjustment based on the December 2018 to December 2019 of $3.0 \%$ will be implemented in July 2020. The Operations Supervisor classification CPI increase adjustment will be implemented in January 2021, to coincide with Bus Operator wage scale adjustments identified in the CBA. Employees within the salary range for their position will be eligible for a step merit increase subject to performance assessments.
e) The RTA Board of Directors took action at its December 11, 2019 meeting to adjust the compensation and benefits of management, administration and confidential employees who are currently enrolled as CaIPERS employees, including the transfer of their retirement plan to the San Luis Obispo County Pension Trust (SLOCPT). This transition will result in approximately \$220,000 in additional cost.

## Proposed Budget Calendar

February 5 Detailed budget assumptions and revenue forecasts presented to Executive Committee

March 4 Obtain Board concurrence on proposed draft budget assumptions
March 4 Provide mid-year FY19-20 Budget data to Board (no additional budget amendments are being requested)

March 31 Based on feedback from Executive Committee, develop FY20-21 Budget
April $8 \quad$ Present draft FY20-21 Budget to Executive Committee
April 23 Present final draft FY20-21 Budget to RTAC
May $6 \quad$ Final Board Budget presentation; Board adoption of FY20-21 Budget

## Staff Recommendation for Executive Committee:

Recommend staff provide the FY20-21 budget assumptions and budget calendar to the Board for approval at the March $4^{\text {th }}$ Board meeting, so that a detailed work plan and budget may be developed.

Staff Recommendation for the Board:
Approve the budget assumptions and budget calendar so that a detailed work plan and budget may be developed.


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## RTA Staff Salary Schedule

Effective July 1, 2020

| SLORTA POSITION | STEP 1 |  | STEP 2 |  | STEP 3 |  | STEP 4 |  | STEP 5 |  | STEP 6 |  | STEP 7 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Administrative Assistant | \$ 44,340.51 | \$ | 46,557.54 | \$ | 48,885.43 | \$ | 51,329.69 | \$ | 53,382.88 | \$ | 54,984.37 | \$ | 56,084.06 |
| Accounting Technician | \$ 46,557.54 | \$ | 48,885.43 | \$ | 51,329.69 | \$ | 53,896.18 | \$ | 56,052.02 | \$ | 57,733.58 | \$ | 58,888.25 |
| Transit Training Instructor | \$ 51,329.69 | \$ | 53,896.18 | \$ | 56,590.98 | \$ | 59,420.53 | \$ | 61,797.35 | \$ | 63,651.27 | \$ | 64,924.29 |
| Transit Training Instructor/Mobility Specialist | \$ 51,329.69 | \$ | 53,896.18 | \$ | 56,590.98 | \$ | 59,420.53 | \$ | 61,797.35 | \$ | 63,651.27 | \$ | 64,924.29 |
| Lead Supervisor | \$ 62,391.56 | \$ | 65,511.13 | \$ | 68,786.69 | \$ | 72,226.03 | \$ | 75,115.07 |  | 77,368.52 | \$ | 78,915.89 |
| Human Resources Officer | \$ 63,951.34 | \$ | 67,148.91 | \$ | 70,506.35 | \$ | 74,031.68 | \$ | 76,992.95 | \$ | 79,302.74 | \$ | 80,888.78 |
| Maintenance Assistant Manager | \$ 72,226.03 | \$ | 75,837.32 | \$ | 79,629.19 | \$ | 83,610.65 | \$ | 86,955.08 | \$ | 89,563.72 | \$ | 91,354.99 |
| Manager, Marketing and Community Relations | \$ 74,031.68 | \$ | 77,733.25 | \$ | 81,619.92 | \$ | 85,700.91 | \$ | 89,128.95 | \$ | 91,802.81 | \$ | 93,638.87 |
| Manager, Grants | \$ 74,031.68 | \$ | 77,733.25 | \$ | 81,619.92 | \$ | 85,700.91 | \$ | 89,128.95 | S | 91,802.81 | \$ | 93,638.87 |
| Manager, Safety and Training | \$ 74,031.68 | \$ | 77,733.25 | \$ | 81,619.92 | \$ | 85,700.91 | \$ | 89,128.95 | \$ | 91,802.81 | \$ | 93,638.87 |
| Manager, Maintenance and Facilities | \$ 87,791.18 | \$ | 92,180.74 | \$ | 96,789.78 |  | 101,629.28 |  | 105,694.44 |  | 108,865.28 |  | 111,042.59 |
| Manager, Operations | \$ 101,629.28 |  | 106,710.74 | \$ | 112,046.27 |  | 117,648.58 |  | 122,354.53 |  | 126,025.16 |  | 128,545.66 |
| Deputy Director/CFO | \$ 123,531.02 | \$ | 129,707.57 | \$ | 136,192.94 | \$ | 143,002.61 | \$ | 148,722.71 |  | 153,184.39 |  | 156,248.08 |
| Executive Director | \$ 136,264.00 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 165,621.00 |

