

# Employee of the Quarter – Damon Blalark



# Outstanding Achievement Awards



Cindy Herrera



Rafael Ruiz

# Years of Service Recognition

15 Years of Service Recognition:

**Lucas Houston**



# Years of Service Recognition

10 Years of Service Recognition:

## Kevin Cooksley and Robert Schwartz



# Consent Agenda

- A-1 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of Feb. 11, 2026 & Apr. 8, 2026 (Information)
- A-2 RTA Board Meeting Minutes of March 4, 2026 (Approve)
- A-3 Agreement for County Auditor/Controller Services (Approve)
- A-4 Update Representative and Alternative Appointments on CalTIP Board (Approve)
- A-5 Arroyo Grande Park-Out Facility Lease Extension (Approve)
- A-6 Classification and Compensation/Benefits Study (Accept)
- A-7 Contract Renewal – AGP Video Production of Board Meetings (Approve)
- A-8 PRISM MOU for Cyber Liability Program (Approve)
- A-9 Add FTA Civil Right Duties to Deputy Director/CFO Job Description (Approve)
- A-10 Employment Agreement with Executive Director (Approve)
- A-11 Procurement of Various 3rd Party Facility Maintenance Services (Approve)
- A-12 Low-Carbon Transit Operations Program Cycle B Grant Application (Adopt Resolution)
- A-13 Revised Contract for Demand Response Scheduling & Dispatching Software (Approve)
- A-14 Contract Extension for ITS Service Agreement with Connexionz (Approve)

**SAN LUIS OBISPO  
REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY  
MAY 6, 2026**

**AGENDA ITEM:**                    **B-1**

**TOPIC:**                            **Executive Director's Report**

**PRESENTED BY:**                **Geoff Straw, Executive Director**

**RECOMMENDATION:**        **Receive and File**



# Operations

- Bus Operator Recruitment
  - Two new Bus Operators in service; five currently in training
  - Four applicants in background/permitting
  - Four open bids



# *Bus Charging & Electrification Study Update*

- Help define our BEB charging needs at:
  - Three overnight park-out yards
  - Four bus layover locations
- Power Demand Analysis draft report delayed – possibly piggybacking on SLOCOG June 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting

# Marketing & Communications

- Planning for launch of *Tap2Ride* has been our primary focus
  - *See Agenda Item B-2*
- Bus Operator recruitment campaign
- Prepare for Avila & Morro Bay Trolley services
- Continue to replace faded bus stop signs

# Maintenance & Facilities

- Photovoltaic design-build project – still in permitting and awaiting shipping date on PV panels
- Agreement for additional construction management to address on-going HVAC challenges
- Update on miles operated with electric vehicles

# Maintenance & Facilities

Hosted electric vehicle safety symposium with Cal-Fire and other safety agencies



# Finance and Administration

- YTD Ridership Results in comparison to last year:
  - RTA intercity fixed-route ridership down about 1.1%
    - Route 10 up 2.5%
  - Paso Robles local fixed-routes up 15.6%
  - South County local fixed-routes down 1.9%
  - Runabout down 14.1%
- Total non-capital expenditures 65% through 75% of the year



# Finance and Administration

- Farebox Recovery Ratio:
  - Intercity Fixed-Routes 8.1%
  - Runabout 3.0%
- Subsidy per Passenger-Trip
  - Intercity Fixed-Routes \$14.69
  - Runabout \$149.70



# Staff Recommendation

Accept the Executive Director's Report  
as an information item

**SAN LUIS OBISPO  
REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY  
MAY 4, 2026**

**AGENDA ITEM:**

**B-2**

**TOPIC:**

**Update on Fare Change  
Implementation & Contactless  
Fare System**

**PRESENTED BY:**

**Geoff Straw**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**Receive and File**



# Actions Completed to Date

- RTA Board authorized flat fare for each boarding (\$2.00 / \$1.00)
- Executed contracts for four critical items:
  - On-Bus Payment Acceptance Device (Kuba)
  - Transit Processor Services (Littlepay)
  - Payment Acceptance Services (Elavon)
  - Mobile Ticketing (Token Transit)



# Current Actions

- Technical setbacks & delays
- April 6<sup>th</sup> launch of new flat fare
  - *Delayed Tap2Ride – launching May 4<sup>th</sup>*
- No change to multi-ride fare media



# Current Actions

- Discount fare verification program
- Scheduling outreach opportunities throughout the county
- Also registering those eligible for the discounted fare in the Cal-ITP benefits portal



# Staff Recommendation

Receive and file.

**SAN LUIS OBISPO  
REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY  
MAY 4, 2026**

**AGENDA ITEM:**

**B-3**

**TOPIC:**

**Annual Status of Vacancies and  
Recruitment & Retention  
Efforts**

**PRESENTED BY:**

**Tania Arnold**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**Receive and File**



# December 2025 Status Update

Count of Regular Full-Time and Part-Time Positions by Bargaining Unit as of December 2025:

	Positions	Position Count
International Brotherhood of Teamsters Local 986	Bus Operator Mechanic Utility Worker Parts Clerk	81
Non-Represented	Management, Confidential, Professional & Administrative	30
FY 2026 Total Budgeted Positions		111

Vacancy Rate by Bargaining Group as of December 31, 2025:

	Positions	Vacancy Rate
International Brotherhood of Teamsters Local 986	Bus Operator Mechanic Utility Worker Parts Clerk	10.4% 0% 0% 0%
Non-Represented	Management, Confidential, Professional & Administrative	3%

# Staff Recommendation

Receive and file.

**SAN LUIS OBISPO  
REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY  
MAY 6, 2026**

**AGENDA ITEM: C-1**

**TOPIC: Fiscal Year 2026-27 Operating and Capital Budget**

**PRESENTED BY: Tania Arnold, Deputy Director/CFO**

**RECOMMENDATION: Adopt the Fiscal Year 2026-27 Budget as Presented**



RTA Fiscal Year  
2026/2027  
Operating and Capital  
Budget



# Budget Packet Contents

The budget packet contains the following items:

- Our Vision and Mission statements
- Budget Assumptions adopted March 4, 2026
- Fiscally constrained FY26-27 operating and capital budgets
- Fiscally unconstrained FY27-28 operating budget
- Fiscally unconstrained FY27-28 through FY30-31 capital budgets (expense only for FY28-29 through FY30-31)

# 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 SRTP recommended service changes implemented in August 2025:

- Additional Local Trip for Route 10 at 6:03 a.m.
- Additional Express Trips for Route 9 and 10
- Route 9 Mid-Day Service to the Cal Poly

Runabout adjusted based on current projections

# 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

2. Continue efforts to implement Zero-Emission Bus technologies, and expansion of recharging infrastructure for planned additional BEBs in the coming years.

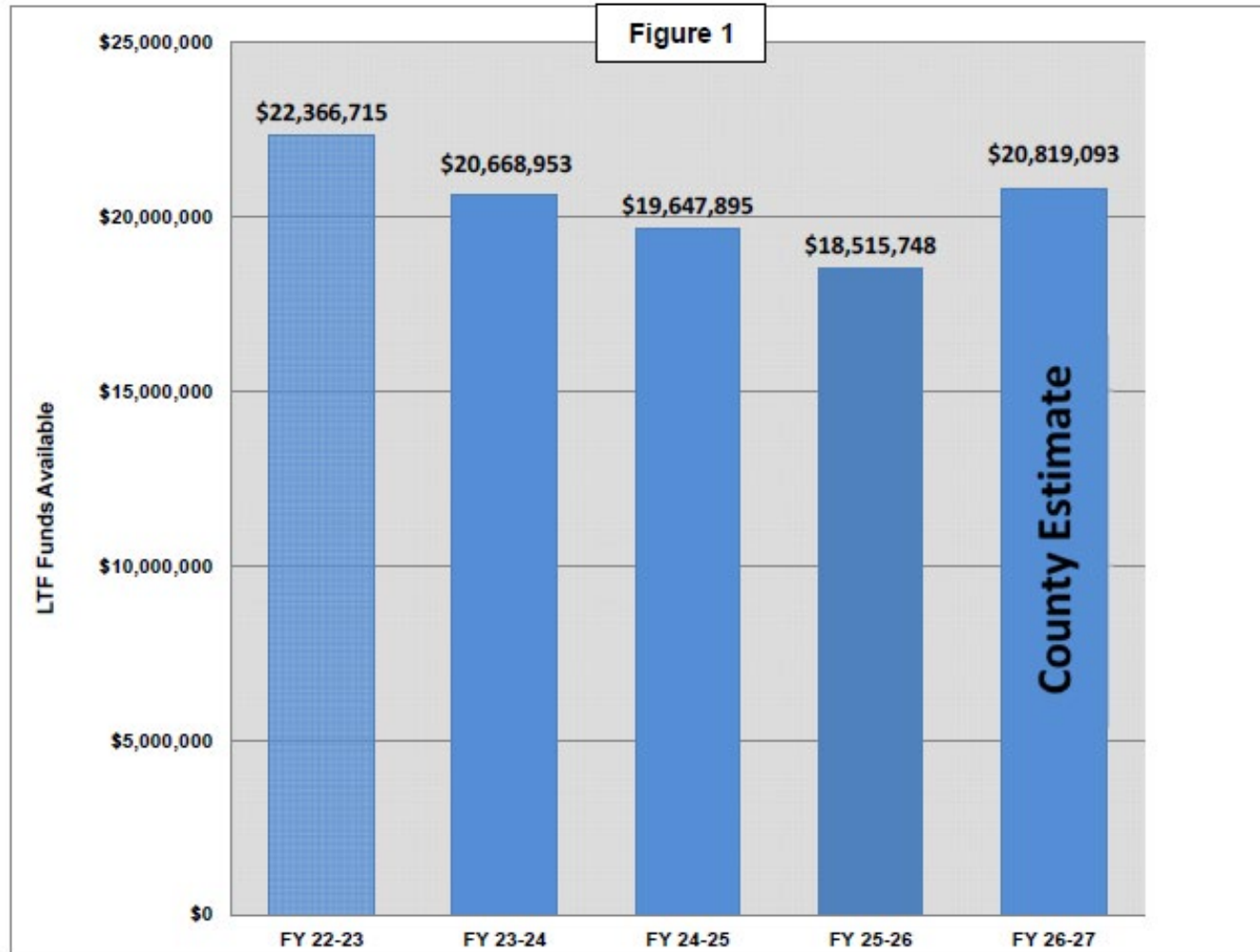
## Key Issue #3 and #4

3. State Transit Assistance (STA) funds are projected to be down compared to the original FY25-26 allocation.
4. Local Transportation Funds (LTF) used for operating purposes are projected to be slightly up; staff will continue to maximize all other funding sources before determining the need for LTF

Agenda item B-2 at the April 1, 2026 SLOCOG meeting:  
**“2026/27 Local Transportation Fund (LTF) - \$20,819,093**  
(12.4% increase in LTF available for distribution)

# Key Issue #4 (continued)

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

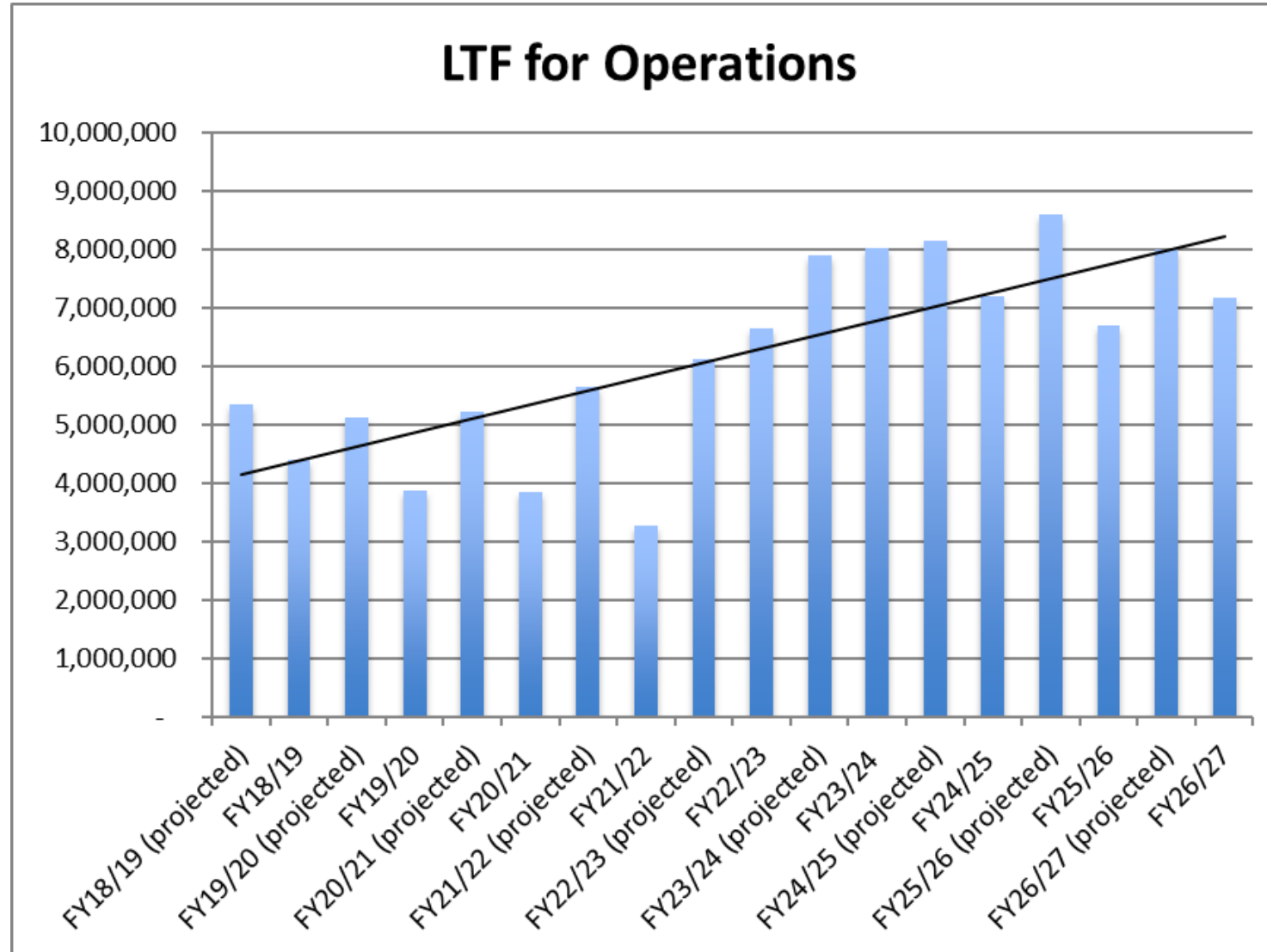


## Key Issue #4 *(continued)*

Proposed budget includes LTF of \$7,173,680 for operations and \$458,060 for capital (total of \$7,631,740)

- No longer have 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 #4 (continued)



## Key Issue #5

5. FTA Section 5307 Formula Funds projected to be in line with the amount projected for FY26-27 when the FY25-26 budget was adopted in May 2025

## Key Issues #6 and 7

6. Implementation of the SRTP financially constrained recommendations, including fare structure adjustments and enforcement of the discounted fare policy
7. Assist SLOCOG officials in addressing Senior-WAV service levels

# Revised Expense Assumptions

Administration Expense is up by approximately 1%

Service Delivery cost is up by roughly 6%

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

# Capital and Planning Program

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

- Some of the FY25-26 capital funds for fully funded projects, are not carried over to the proposed FY26-27 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 FY26-27 budget to the Board for approval at the May 6<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

## RTAC Recommendation

*Meeting held but a quorum was not present.*

# Staff Recommendation

Adopt the fiscal year 2026-2027 budget as presented.

**SAN LUIS OBISPO  
REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY  
MAY 4, 2026**

**AGENDA ITEM: C-2**

**TOPIC: RTA Contingency Fleet Plan**

**PRESENTED BY: Geoff Straw**

**RECOMMENDATION: Approve**



# Contingency Fleet Vehicles

- Identifies retired or inactive vehicles
- Must have met their minimum service life
- Must document the activation process and storage locations

## CONTINGENCY FLEET LIST OF VEHICLES

Fleet ID #	Model Year	Manuf	Model & Description	VIN#	Plate	Mileage @ Move to CF
1303	2013	Gillig	Low-Floor 40' Diesel	15GGD2718D1182293	1328739	633,960*
1306	2013	Gillig	Low-Floor 40' Diesel	15GGD2713D1182296	1328741	608,982*
1307	2013	Gillig	Low-Floor 40' Diesel	15GGD2715D1182297	1328742	628,398*

*\*Vehicles added to Contingency Fleet on May 6, 2026.*

# Staff Recommendation

Approve the RTA Contingency Fleet Plan.