

To: Board of Directors

Date: 7/9/2019

From: Ruby Horta, Director of Planning, Marketing & Innovation **Reviewed by:** *W.C.*

SUBJECT: Final Bishop Ranch Service Restructure Proposal

Background:

County Connection implemented major services changes in Spring 2019. Proposed changes to routes serving Bishop Ranch were separate due to the contractual partnership between County Connection and Sunset Development. At the March 21st Board meeting, staff was authorized to proceed with the public hearing process for the Bishop Ranch service restructure, which included new weekend service in San Ramon (Route 335).

Staff conducted two public hearings in April, in Walnut Creek and San Ramon and accepted public comments via mail, email, telephone and on the County Connection website.

Rider Feedback on Original Service Plan:

During the public hearing process, passengers expressed concerns about the proposed elimination of Route 97X. Staff analyzed travel times for Route 35 and although the end to end travel times to the San Ramon Transit Center (SRTC) were comparable, the travel time would nearly double for Chevron and BR1 passengers. Secondly, staff received complaints that stemmed from confusion about the original proposal's plan to eliminate Route 95X. Passengers were assured service to the Danville Park and Ride would continue under the new proposal. Lastly, the support for a weekend 335 between San Ramon and Dublin BART via Bollinger Canyon was very popular.

Final Bishop Ranch Service Plan:

Given the feedback received, staff updated the O&S committee with a proposal to proceed with the implementation of Route 335 in the Fall 2019 bid and conduct further review of the express routes to Bishop Ranch. After further review, staff recognized the importance of Route 97X for passengers connecting at the Dublin BART station from the Oakland direction as well as the Central Valley. Staff amended the original proposal and reviewed the changes with Sunset Development for concurrence.

The amended proposal includes retaining Route 95X between Walnut Creek BART and the SRTC via the northern part of Bishop Ranch, with additional service to the Danville Park and Ride.

Route 96X with service between Walnut Creek and SRTC will serve Chevron and the southern part of Bishop Ranch. The final proposal modified the plan to retain one express bus for Route 97X from Dublin BART. The 97X alignment will serve the southern part of Bishop Ranch, including Chevron and BR1, with the SRTC as the terminus.

This proposal will increase frequency from the Walnut Creek BART station to Bishop Ranch and retain the express trips most heavily utilized between Dublin BART and Bishop Ranch. The amended changes do not constitute a major service change and were made in direct response to the public's comments, thus could be implemented under the General Manager's authority. However, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) provides partial funding for Route 96X and require committee review as part of their request for a corrective action plan (CAP) to meet their performance measures.

Given the support from the public and Sunset Development, staff proposes to implement the proposed changes this year as pilot projects, which provides the flexibility to finalize all Title VI requirements within the next year.

Financial Implications:

The remaining restructure of the Bishop Ranch routes (95X, 96X, and 97X) has been designed to be revenue neutral.

Recommendation:

The O&S Committee and staff recommend Board approval of the revised proposal for the Bishop Ranch service restructure as outlined in this memo, for implementation in November.

Action Requested:

The O&S Committee and staff request Board approval of Resolution 2020-003.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-003

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS CENTRAL CONTRA COSTA TRANSIT AUTHORITY
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

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IMPLEMENTING 95X, 96X AND 97X ROUTE CHANGES

WHEREAS, the County of Contra Costa and the Cities of Clayton, Concord, the Town of Danville, Lafayette, Martinez, the Town of Moraga, Orinda, Pleasant Hill, San Ramon and Walnut Creek (hereinafter "Member Jurisdictions") have formed the Central Contra Costa Transit Authority ("County Connection"), a joint exercise of powers agency created under California Government Code Section 6500 *et seq.*, for the joint exercise of certain powers to provide coordinated and integrated public transportation services within the area of its Member Jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, County Connection's Board of Directors (Board), at its meeting of January 17, 2019, approved implementation of major services changes;

WHEREAS, proposed changes to routes serving Bishop Ranch (Routes 95X, 96X, and 97X) were separated from the major service change process due to the contractual partnership between County Connection, Sunset Development and Chevron;

WHEREAS, at the March 21, 2019 Board meeting, staff was authorized to proceed with the public hearing process for the Bishop Ranch service restructure, which included new weekend service in San Ramon;

WHEREAS, staff conducted two public hearings in April, in Walnut Creek and San Ramon and accepted public comments via mail, email, telephone and on the County Connection website;

WHEREAS, staff has analyzed the comments received and has developed a revised proposal to incorporate such comments, with the understanding that the service restructure will be on a "pilot" basis until the required Title VI Equity Analysis is complete and presented to the Board for approval;

WHEREAS, the Operations and Scheduling Committee recommends the Board approve the services restructure described herein, for implementation in November 2019; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the Central Contra Costa Transit Authority hereby authorizes the General Manager to implement the pilot service restructure for Routes 95X, 96X, and 97X, with the changes to be effective November 1, 2019, and with the understanding that the final proposal will be brought back to the Board following the completion of the Title VI process.

Regularly passed and adopted this 18th day of July 2019, by the following vote.

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTENTIONS:

ABSENT:

Sue Noack, Chair, Board of Directors

ATTEST:

Lathina Hill, Clerk to the Board