

To: Board of Directors

Date: 12/04/2019

From: Ruby Horta, Director of Planning & Marketing

Reviewed by: WC.

SUBJECT: San Ramon Valley USD Transition Program – Midday Free Request

Background:

County Connection implemented new services and fares on March 10, 2019. One of the changes to the fare structure included the elimination of the Midday Free Program (10am-2pm), with Bridge Program users being exempted. The Bridge Program is based out of the Mt. Diablo Unified School District and is for persons 18-22 with disabilities, who have finished high school. Their goal is to provide individuals with the knowledge and skills they need in order to make a successful transit to adult life.

Since implementation, one other program RES Success based out of Martinez, has been approved for the same midday free exemption. RES Success provides adults with developmental disabilities interdisciplinary services in areas of academics, social skills, recreation, vocational training, and the arts. Their programs provide participants with opportunities to continue their growth in becoming productive members of the community.

San Ramon Valley USD Transition Program:

In recent weeks, County Connection staff was contacted by the San Ramon Valley Unified School District staff with the request to have the Midday Free Program extended to students in their transition program. The transition program is located at Del Amigo High School. School District staff indicates students access County Connection services daily in order to travel to Alamo, Walnut Creek, Danville and San Ramon. The program at Del Amigo High School serves approximately 70 students and 30 staff. Additionally, staff indicated that other high schools in the school district have approximately 85 students and 40 staff that access County Connection's services, occasionally.

Compared to the request from RES, the request from San Ramon Valley USD more than triples the midday free usage. RES assumed an average weekday usage of 30 passengers. The program at Del Amigo High School serves close to 100 students/staff, in addition to the occasional rides at the high schools, up to 125 students/staff.

Recommendation:

The A&F Committee and staff recommend that the Board authorize extending the Midday Free Program to the students/staff of the San Ramon Valley Unified School District Transition Program for the remainder of the school year. Given the recurring requests for the Midday Free Program, A&F directed staff analyze the sustainability of a Midday Free Program given the ongoing requests from school districts and nonprofit organizations.

Financial Implications:

Assuming an average weekday usage of 100 passengers, and \$1.75 for a senior/disabled day pass, County Connection's maximum fare loss would be approximately \$45,000.

Action Requested:

The A&F Committee and staff requests Board approved to extend the Midday Free Program to the San Ramon Valley Unified School District's Transition Program, for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year.