

**To:** Operations and Scheduling Committee  
**From:** Anne Muzzini, Director of Planning and Marketing  
**Reviewed By:**

**Date:** October 28, 2010

**SUBJECT: Route #98X Service Change**

**SUMMARY OF ISSUES:**

The Committee has discussed ways to address the fact that the 98X, a RM2 funded route, is not meeting MTC's farebox ratio of 20% and is at risk for loss of funding. Public hearings were held to gather input on one option; elimination of the route. After hearing how vital and irreplaceable this route is, planning staff and committee members were reluctant to take this action.

MTC staff has concluded their mid- year analysis, and determined that if the route #98X doesn't show some improvement by March, they will recommend that the funding be stopped. For this reason, the following service changes are recommended for implementation at the Winter bid, December 26<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

1. Reduce the number of service hours deployed on this route and thus reduce the frequency of service. The proposed schedule will operate on 45 minute headways all day long.
2. Pursue through the A&F Committee a change in the way Express Bus fares are collected in order to increase the average fare per passenger on these routes. Currently the monthly pass and other discounted media are good on both local and express bus routes even though the fare is \$2.00 on a local route and \$2.25 on Express Bus routes. The Committee will be evaluating two options; a) collect an additional \$0.25 when passengers board with a monthly pass, or b) institute a new fare payment mechanism – an Express Bus Monthly pass.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Staff recommends that the Committee support a change in the schedule to reduce service hours effective at the Winter bid.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:** Cost savings will occur and the farebox ratio will increase.

**OPTIONS:**

1. Support staff recommendation
2. Other action as determined by the Committee

**ATTACHMENT:**

Analysis of Current versus Proposed Schedule