

To: O&S Committee  
From: Rick Ramacier  
General Manager

Date: June 24, 2016

Reviewed by:

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### **SUBJECT: Bus on Shoulder (BOS) Service Status**

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#### **Background**

As you know, the recently completed Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) I-680 Transit Improvement & Congestion Relief Study made BOS service in the corridor, one of four key recommendations. The plan assumes that County Connection will operate such a service by building on and improving the services it now provides in the corridor.

To that end, the draft Transportation Expenditure Plan (TEP) contains funding for a BOS project in the I-680 corridor. So, a strong commitment to BOS service in the corridor is emerging. However, before such a service can be implemented, a couple of things need to occur.

First, legislation is required to give County Connection the authority to seek concurrence from the local CHP and Caltrans divisions. Under existing state law and under anticipated changes to state law, a transit operator like County Connection would need to receive the approval of a specific service(s) from the local CHP division as well as the regional Caltrans division before a BOS service could be operated. Current pending legislation could- or could have provided this (AB1746 which County Connection is on record as supporting).

Opposition to legislation authorizing additional BOS services has been expressed by the employee association groups both within the CHP and Caltrans. Thus, concerns about AB1746 have been raised by Senate Transportation Committee Chair, Jim Beall.

Second, because BOS transit service is relatively new to California, many key partners are unfamiliar with just how safe and effective it is. Staff believes we are at a time where we need to proactively inform our key partners as to where BOS has worked, how it is made safe, and why it is a very cost effective approach to use. This information effort should be used to help bolster support for BOS services. As we undertake this effort, we will provide this Committee with updates. And, we will be perhaps calling on select Board members to provide support where it makes sense.