

**To:** Operations and Scheduling Committee

**Date:** 5/21/2019

**From:** Sean Hedgpeth – Manager of Planning

**Reviewed by:** *Ref*

---

**SUBJECT: BART Bus Bridge Ridership – April/May 2019**

---

**Background:**

County Connection has been providing Bus Bridges for BART since the 1990's. Given the extent of maintenance work required on BART tracks in 2019, BART staff requested bus bridges about every two weeks starting in April thru October. Work is scheduled primarily on weekends, with two Mondays that fall on Holidays. The first project includes work on a section of track between Concord and Pleasant Hill, which requires a series of bus bridges in between those two stations, from April to June. From August to October, three stations between Orinda and Walnut Creek will close to through traffic, requiring another series of bus bridges with an intermediate stop at Lafayette.

**BART Bus Bridges 2019**

Weekend	Days	Bus Service Hours	Bus Bridge
1	April 27-28	All day Saturday and Sunday	Concord-Pleasant Hill
2	May 11-12	All day Saturday and Sunday	Concord-Pleasant Hill
3	May 25-27	All day Saturday, Sunday and Monday	Concord-Pleasant Hill
4	June 8-9	All day Saturday and Sunday	Concord-Pleasant Hill
5	August 17-18	All day Saturday and Sunday	Orinda-Lafayette-Walnut Creek
6	August 31-Sept 2	All day Saturday, Sunday and Monday	Orinda-Lafayette-Walnut Creek
7	Sept 14-15	All day Saturday and Sunday	Orinda-Lafayette-Walnut Creek
8	Sept 28-29	All day Saturday and Sunday	Orinda-Lafayette-Walnut Creek
9	Oct 12-13	All day Saturday and Sunday	Orinda-Lafayette-Walnut Creek
10	Oct 26-27	All day Saturday and Sunday	Orinda-Lafayette-Walnut Creek

**April/May 2019:**

The first Bus Bridge took place on Saturday and Sunday, April 27-28th, to supplement a segment of closed track between Concord BART and Pleasant Hill BART. The second bus bridge was operated on May 11-12th, and May 25-27th including a Monday on Memorial Day in which BART operated a Sunday schedule. Service was provided free of charge to all passengers, with drivers operating on a load and go schedule match to each BART train arrival. The table on the previous page lists the schedule agreed to between County Connection and BART.

**Operations:**

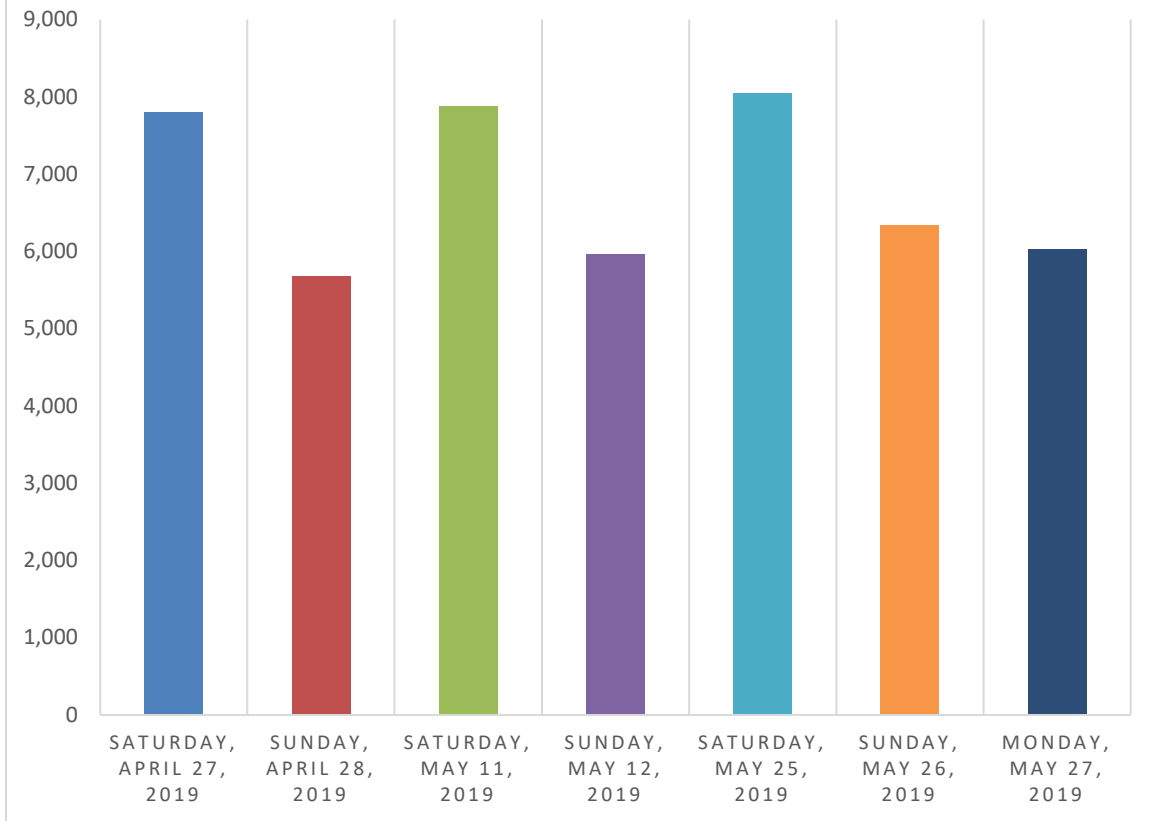
County Connection operated 15 to 22 buses, with operators who signed up for extra work providing the labor. These operators were supplemented by road supervisors, who provided logistical assistance to passengers and also assisted operators in recording accurate ridership and hours/miles operated in order to prepare invoices for BART. Ridership was collected manually via paper trip cards.

**Ridership Results:**

Daily ridership is visualized on chart on the following page. Saturdays, which have a longer BART span of service than Sundays, averaged 7,908 and Sundays averaged 5,997 including Memorial Day. BART marketing staff used social media to remind passengers of the disruption and to account for more travel time. BART also suggested parking at Pleasant Hill BART, if possible, to avoid the bus bridge.

Ridership on parallel lines may have been affected by this free bus bridge, especially for Route 311 which provides local service in between the two stations on weekends. The bus bridge ridership will be included in the total fixed route monthly ridership, but will not be included in the daily averages due to guidelines set by the Federal Transit Administration. Ridership per day is included on the following page.

## CONCORD TO PLEASANT HILL BART BUS BRIDGE



**Recommendation:**

None at this time. This item is informational only.

**Financial Implications:**

None. County Connection is reimbursed for all costs associated with the Bus Bridges listed above.