

**Summary Minutes
Operations & Scheduling Committee
Wednesday, April 3, 8:00 a.m.**

Directors: Robert Storer, Jim Diaz

Staff: Bill Churchill, Melody Reeb, John Sanderson, Pranjal Dixit, Rosa Noya, Laura Corona

Public: None

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 8:00 a.m. by Director Storer.

1. Approval of Agenda

The Committee approved the agenda.

2. Public Communication

None.

3. Approval of Minutes of March 6, 2024

The Committee approved the minutes.

4. Go San Ramon Update

Mr. Dixit provided an update on the Go San Ramon Program. The project is in its Pilot phase and provides a 50% fare subsidy (up to \$5) for rideshare trips on Uber and Lyft within the designated service area. LAVTA currently administers the program, and the City of San Ramon covers the costs of the fare subsidies and administrative fee. He noted that ridership has grown 78% from the previous year and 69% of these constituted as commuter trips i.e. trips either originated or ended at a BART station. He informed the Committee that staff will collaborate with the City to explore extension options, considering the availability of Measure J funding to cover the subsidies for commuter trips.

5. Summer Bid Update

Mr. Dixit provided an update on the upcoming service changes for Summer. He informed that adjustments to schedule and runtimes are being made on seven routes to improve the on-time performance along with changes to service levels to better align with ridership. He also noted that although ridership has been growing, weekend and school ridership recovery have been more pronounced compared to weekday local and express routes.

6. Automated Driving Systems (ADS) Demonstration Project Update

Mr. Sanderson informed the Committee that the Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) is developing an Automated Driving System (ADS) pilot project in Martinez. County Connection is partnering with CCTA to provide in-kind services, including staff to operate the autonomous vehicles.

He added that the project will address two needs. First, it will offer round-trip transportation for Medicare/Medicaid patients to access pharmacies, grocery stores, and food banks. Second, it will provide evening and weekend on-demand rides for the general public via a smartphone app, filling a gap when fixed-route buses aren't running. County Connection will initially provide three full-time operators, with additional personnel potentially funded by CCTA.

7. Monthly Ridership Reports

Mr. Dixit shared that the ridership in February was up about 13% compared to a year ago. He also noted that productivity was higher, and there was a reduction in missed trips with a corresponding increase in operator numbers. Clipper usage also increased, which could be result of increased subsidy for Clipper START and elimination Express fares starting in Jan 2024. Ms. Reeb added that with the rollout of Clipper 2.0, passengers will be able to use bank contactless cards for paying fare and that our buses have already been equipped with newer clipper machines.

Ms. Noya shared that there was a slight increase in ridership in January compared to January. She highlighted that productivity fell slightly below the standard of 1.5 passengers per hour and on-time performance well above the standard of 92%. Furthermore, Ms. Noya reported that one accident was reported in February.

8. Committee Comments

None

9. Future Agenda Items

None

10. Next Scheduled Meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for May 1 at 8:00 a.m. at Supervisor Andersen Office located at 309 Diablo Rd, Danville, CA.

11. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 9:08 a.m.

Minutes prepared and submitted by: Pranjali Dixit, Manager of Planning