



**ADA PARATRANSIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
QUARTERLY MEETING
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2015 AT 3:00 P.M.
SIMI VALLEY SENIOR CENTER
3900 AVENIDA SIMI, SIMI VALLEY, CA 93063**

AGENDA

1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Welcome
2. Roll Call
3. Agenda Review
4. Approval of Minutes: July 16, 2015
5. Report of ADA Paratransit Advisory Committee Chair
6. Representative Reports
 - A. City Council Liaison
 - B. Director of Community Services
 - C. Deputy Director/Transit

7. Public Statements

This time is allotted for any person who wishes to make a public statement or comment on matters within the subject matter and jurisdiction of the ADA Paratransit Advisory Committee. Comments are limited to five minutes per speaker, to allow everyone the opportunity to be heard.

8. Reports
 - A. Update on ADA/DAR Capacity and Service Improvements

ADA Paratransit Advisory Committee Agenda
October 15, 2015

- B. Review of CONNECT InterCity Service
 - C. ADA/DAR Performance Statistics
 - D. Travel Training Committee
- 9. New Business
 - A. Discussion of Proposed Changes to Transit Fares and Senior Service Age
 - 10. ADA Committee Coordinator's Report
 - 11. Committee Member Comments
 - 12. Agenda Item Suggestions for the Thursday, January 21, 2016, meeting
 - 13. Adjournment: Thursday, January 21, 2016, 3:00 p.m., at the Simi Valley Senior Center

/s/
Sommer Barwick, Director
Department of Community Services

If any interested individual has a disability that may require accommodation to participate in this meeting, please contact Simi Valley Transit's Dial-A-Ride services at (805) 583-6464. Upon advance notification of the need for accommodation, reasonable arrangements will be made to provide accessibility to the meeting.

ADA PARATRANSIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
QUARTERLY MEETING
JULY 16, 2015

DRAFT MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Chair Rosalie Berger called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. A quorum was present.

2. Roll Call

Rosalie Berger	P
Alexis Chen	P
Dorothy Hall	A
Marie Harvey	P
Rebecca McCann	P
Pauline Cabal (alternate)	P
Frank Gambaro (alternate)	A

P: Present A: Absent V: Vacant

Staff: City Council Member Mike Judge, Sommer Barwick, Director of Community Services, Chuck Perkins, Deputy Director/Transit, Christopher Latham, Transit Supervisor, Patricia Burns, Transit Operations Assistant and Eric Molina, Transit Dispatcher

3. Agenda Review

The agenda was approved, as presented.

4. Approval of Minutes

Marie Harvey moved to approve the April 16, 2015, ADA Paratransit Advisory Committee meeting minutes. Rebecca McCann seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved, as presented.

5. Report of the ADA Paratransit Advisory Committee Chair: None

6. Representative Reports

- A. City Council Liaison: None
- B. Director of Community Services: None
- C. Deputy Director/Transit

Chuck Perkins announced that the new paratransit vehicles were due to arrive in November 2015.

7. Public Statements

A member of the public had a question about the 45-minute window and ride negotiations.

A member of the public wanted to thank the Transit Supervisor who returned the phone that she had lost on a Dial-A-Ride van.

8. Presentations

A. Update on Status of ADA Certification In-person Evaluations

Chuck Perkins reported that the Mobility Management Partners (MMP) contract was renewed for another five years. The contract renewal requires in-person evaluations.

9. New Business

A. Discussion of Proposed Committee Member Attendance Requirements

Chuck Perkins expressed the importance of having a quorum to be able to vote on issues. The Committee did not take any action on the proposal.

B. Discussion and Recommendation on Proposed InterCity CONNECT – ADA/Dial-A-Ride Service Implementation

Chuck Perkins informed the committee that the InterCity CONNECT service would be implemented on August 3, 2015. The per trip fare is \$5.00 regardless of distance. The senior eligibility age is 65 for CONNECT services. Alexis Chen moved to recommend that the City Council authorize the ADA/DAR InterCity CONNECT service for Simi Valley residents. Pauline Cabal seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

C. ADA Paratransit Advisory Committee Orientation

a. Introduction of newly-appointed Committee Members

Christopher Latham introduced Rebecca McCann and Frank Gambaro as new Committee Member and Alternate Member, respectively.

b. Distribution of Meeting Dates

The next four meeting dates were distributed to the Committee.

c. Review of Mission Statement

Christopher Latham reviewed the Committee's mission statement with the members. He encouraged them to keep the mission statement in mind during the course of their terms.

- d. City of Simi Valley Code of Ethics and Conduct for Elected Officials and Members of Appointed Boards, Commissions and Committees

Christopher Latham reviewed and distributed the Code of Ethics and Conduct. He advised the Committee members of their responsibilities while serving as appointees of the City Council. All Committee members are required to sign a commitment to this code.

10. Liaison and Ad Hoc Committee Reports

A. Travel Training Committee

Christopher Latham reported that travel training is being scheduled quarterly and provides hands-on training to riding the City's fixed-route bus system.

B. System Safety Report

Christopher Latham reported on accidents/incidents during this quarter.

C. Performance Statistics

Eric Molina reported that senior ridership decreased in the last quarter, while ADA ridership increased.

D. Project Updates

Christopher Latham reported that Simi Valley Transit would be implementing phone system improvements. Sommer Barwick reported that the Committee would be asked to make recommendations on proposed increases to Simi Valley Transit's fares and senior service age at a future meeting.

11. Announcements

The next meeting of the Americans with Disabilities Act Paratransit Advisory Committee is scheduled to take place at 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 15, 2015, at the Simi Valley Senior Center in Room #106.

12. Agenda Item Suggestions for the Thursday, October 15, 2015, meeting

There were no suggestions.

13. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 4:57 p.m.

CITY OF SIMI VALLEY • MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 15, 2015

TO: Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) Paratransit Advisory Committee

FROM: Sommer Barwick, Director of Community Services

SUBJECT: Discussion of Proposed Changes to Transit Fares and Senior Service Age

Staff is soliciting public input relative to proposed changes to Transit fares and Senior service age.

Issue

As a result of state legislative changes, the City of Simi Valley is now required to recover 20% of fixed-route operating expenses, and 10% of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Paratransit/Dial-a-Ride (DAR) operating expenses through fare revenue. The consequence of not meeting these mandates is a loss of transportation funding, which could impact current service levels. Currently, these mandates are not being met (Table 1). The last increase to Transit fares was made in 2003. A public hearing is tentatively planned for November 2015, for the City Council to consider adjustments to fares and senior service age.

Table 1 – State Mandated Fare Box Recovery Ratios

	State Mandate	Estimate Simi Valley	Difference
Fixed-Route	20%	12.1%	7.9%
ADA/DAR	10%	2.7%	7.3%

Process

The City hired a consultant, who prepared a cost/revenue and market study, and provided proposed increases to the fares and senior service age. Community input is currently being solicited, and alternatives will be presented to the City Council during a public hearing this fall 2015. Staff is also seeking the Council On Aging's recommendation for proposed changes to fixed-route and ADA/DAR fares and senior service age.

Senior Service Age

Most Transit agencies in Ventura County have a senior eligibility age of 65, as does the new East County Transit Alliance (ECTA) InterCity Connect travel (Table 2). Simi Valley currently has an eligibility age of 60. Riders must be seniors or ADA certified to receive

ADA/DAR services. The consultant proposed that the eligibility age for senior riders be increased to 65. This would provide consistency with other area transit agencies, and reduce confusion for riders, while creating greater reliability of access to public transportation for seniors, and assist in balancing out the supply and demand capacity issues in the ADA/DAR services.

Table 2 - Definition of a Senior in Ventura County Transit Agencies

Agency	Senior Eligibility Age
ECTA InterCity	65
Gold Coast Transit	65
County of Ventura	65
VCTC InterCity	65
Oxnard Harbor DAR	65
City of Thousand Oaks	65
Ojai Transit	65
City of Moorpark	65
City of Simi Valley – Current	60
City of Simi Valley – Proposed	65
City of Camarillo	55

Senior Service Age Options -

1. Maintain existing senior service age of 60;
2. Increase senior age requirement to 65 for all DAR and fixed-route riders;
3. Increase senior age requirement to 65 for DAR and fixed-route riders, however allow existing registered DAR seniors under the age of 65 to maintain their eligibility;
4. Provide other recommendations to the City Council.

IntraCity ADA/DAR Fares

The demand for IntraCity (within Simi Valley) ADA/DAR service is currently higher than the level of available service. For ADA/DAR services, as more passengers use the service, the City’s expenses increase making the fare recovery from all riders critical to maintain recovery requirements. Based on the cost/revenue and market studies, it is proposed to increase the IntraCity ADA fare from \$1.50 and the IntraCity senior fare from donation only, to \$2.00 for all riders. This provides consistency for all riders, and is comparable with other local agencies (Table 3), creating ease of use for riders on a regional basis. No changes are recommended for the newly established CONNECT InterCity (regional) fare, which was designed to meet the fare box recovery ratio.

Table 3 - ADA/DAR Fare Comparisons

Agency	IntraCity Fare	InterCity Fare
City of Camarillo	\$1.50	\$5.00 (CAT destinations)
City of Moorpark	\$2.00	\$5.00 (all ECTA destinations)
Gold Coast Transit	\$3.00	\$3.00 (GCTD destinations)
City of Thousand Oaks	\$3.00	\$5.00 (all ECTA destinations)
City of Simi Valley – Current	\$1.50	\$5.00 (all ECTA destinations)
City of Simi Valley - Proposed	\$2.00	\$5.00 (all ECTA destinations)

IntraCity ADA Fare Options -

1. Maintain current ADA fare of \$1.50;
2. Increase ADA fare to \$2.00
3. Increase ADA fare to \$3.00, consistent with Gold Coast Transit and the City of Thousand Oaks;
4. Provide other recommendations to the City Council.

IntraCity Senior DAR Fare Options -

1. Maintain donation-only fare for seniors;
2. Increase Senior DAR fare to \$2.00
3. Increase Senior DAR fare to \$3.00, consistent with Gold Coast Transit and the City of Thousand Oaks;
4. Restrict Dial-A-Ride to Americans with Disabilities Act eligible riders, eliminating the Senior Dial-A-Ride component of the program;
5. Provide other recommendations to the City Council.

Fixed-Route Fares

The more passengers that use the fixed-route service, the lower the City’s per passenger cost will be. Thus, increasing ridership will assist with maintaining the bulk pass and senior/disabled subsidies and fare box recoveries. Based on the cost/revenue analysis and a review of other local agency fares (Table 4), it is proposed to increase the adult/student fare from \$1.25 to \$1.50 and the senior/disabled fare from \$0.50 to \$0.75.

Table 4 – Fixed-Route Fare Comparisons

Agency	Regular Fare
City of Camarillo	\$1.00
City of Moorpark	\$1.00
Oak Park	\$1.00
VCTC VISTA	\$1.25
City of Thousand Oaks	\$1.50
Gold Coast Transit	\$1.50
City of Simi Valley – Current	\$1.25
City of Simi Valley - Proposed	\$1.50

Fixed-Route Fare Options -

1. Maintain existing fares of \$0.50 (Senior/Disabled) and \$1.25 (Adult/Student);
2. Increase Fixed-Route Adult/Student fare to \$1.50;
3. Increase the Senior/Disabled fare to \$0.75;
4. Allow Senior/Disabled to ride fixed route for free;
5. Provide other recommendations to the City Council.

Staff is soliciting the public input, as well as the COA's recommendations to the City Council and welcomes additional ideas and recommendations that may come up during the discussion.

Summary

Simi Valley Transit last revised fares in 2003. Due to changes in state legislation, the City is now required to recover a 20% portion of fixed-route operating expenses through fare revenue, and 10% of ADA Paratransit/DAR operating expenses through fare revenue. These requirements are currently not being met. The proposed fare and senior eligibility changes will allow Simi Valley Transit to provide comparable services and fares, creating consistency and ease of use for riders on a regional basis, and further the City's ability to meet mandated fare box recovery ratios.