

**AC TRANSIT DISTRICT
Board of Directors**

GM Memo No. 11-203

Meeting Date: October 12, 2011

Committees:

Operations Committee
External Affairs Committee

Planning Committee
Finance and Audit Committee

Board of Directors

Financing Corporation

SUBJECT: Consider setting a public hearing on November 16, 2011 at 4:00 p.m. at AC Transit's General Offices in Oakland, California regarding the Service Restructuring Plan for the Dumbarton Express Service.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Briefing Item Recommended Motion

Consider setting a public hearing on November 16, 2011 at 4:00 p.m. at AC Transit's General Offices in Oakland, California regarding the Service Restructuring Plan for the Dumbarton Express Service.

Budgetary/Fiscal Impact:

This action, being taken at the direction of the Dumbarton Bridge Regional Operations Consortium (DBROC), will result in no fiscal impact for AC Transit and the Districts' overall contribution to the DBROC will remain consistent with budgeted expectations.

Background/Discussion:

The Dumbarton Express service consists of three lines connecting the South Bay to the East Bay via the Dumbarton Bridge. Service on the Dumbarton Express is DBROC, comprising five agencies; AC Transit, BART, VTA, SamTrans and Union City Transit. AC Transit is the designated administrator of the DBROC service and in accordance with the Dumbarton Bridge Express Service Cooperative Agreement; all service changes are to be implemented consistent with AC Transit's current practices.

The Dumbarton Express service will be operated by a private contractor as of December 2011. As part of this transition the Consortium has looked at the effectiveness of the routes and has agreed upon certain restructuring of the service. Under District Board Policy 163, a public hearing is required to provide the public with an opportunity to comment upon the proposed service changes. Proposed changes to the service are as follows:

Eastbound Proposed Changes

Line	Origin of trip	Description of change	Old leave time	New leave time	Passenger Impact*
DB	Deer Creek	Trip shift	6:32a	6:23a	13
DB3	Deer Creek	Trip Elimination	7:10a	n/a	1
DB3	Deer Creek	Trip Elimination	7:46a	n/a	3
DB3	Deer Creek	Trip Elimination	8:19a	n/a	2
DB3	Deer Creek	Trip Elimination	8:47a	n/a	1
DB3	Deer Creek	Trip Elimination	9:34a	n/a	4
DB	Deer Creek	Trip Elimination	9:52a	n/a	8
DB	PA Caltrain	Trip shift	10:35a	10:33a	6
DB	PA Caltrain	Trip shift	1:37p	1:30p	18

DB	Deer Creek	Trip Elimination	6:00p	n/a	24
DB	Deer Creek	Trip shift	6:15p	6:10p	16
DB1	Deer Creek	Trip Elimination	7:20p	n/a	6

Total passengers impacted for eastbound trip changes = 102.

Westbound Proposed Changes

Line	Origin of trip	Description of change	Old leave time	New leave time	Passenger Impact*
DB	Union City BART	Trip shift	9:46a	9:45a	21
DB	Union City BART	Trip shift	11:21a	11:19a	27
DB	Union City BART	Trip shift	12:52a	12:39a	13
DB3	Union City BART	Trip Elimination	2:13p	n/a	6
DB	Union City BART	Trip shift	2:23p	2:17p	8
DB	Union City BART	Trip shift	2:54p	3:00p	10
DB	Union City BART	Trip Elimination	3:20p	n/a	10
DB3	Union City BART	Trip Elimination	3:40p	n/a	5
DB	Union City BART	Trip shift	3:47p	3:40p	8
DB	Union City BART	Trip shift	4:06p	4:00p	8
DB3	Union City BART	Trip Elimination	4:45p	n/a	7
DB	Union City BART	Trip shift	5:02p	5:01p	11
DB	Union City BART	Trip shift	5:43p	6:03p	5
DB3	Union City BART	Trip Elimination	6:05p	n/a	5

*Average Passenger numbers from September to November 2010

The major change related to the restructuring plan involves the elimination of all eight trips on line DB3. These are all reverse-commute directions in the morning and afternoon and correspondingly the ridership is very low; the westbound PM trips carry 23 passengers and the eastbound AM trips total 11 passengers per day. For comparison purposes, the relative patronage per line, per revenue hour is:

- Line DB – 15.5 passengers per revenue hour
- Line DB1 – 25.5 passengers per revenue hour
- Line DB3 – 4.5 passengers per revenue hour

Changes to the DB and DB1, while affecting 212 passengers, will mainly shift trip times by a few minutes and eliminate four of the least productive trips. Given that the majority of the service changes to these lines are limited to minimal trip shifting, it is not anticipated that there will be significant passenger impacts resulting in potential passenger loss.

Environmental Review

Although the proposed service restructuring potentially falls within the wide ambit of what constitutes a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the potential impacts upon passengers and vehicle traffic of the proposed service

restructuring are negligible. Because it can be stated by staff that there is no possibility that the proposed restructuring would have a significant effect on the environment, the project falls within the “common sense” exemption from CEQA.

Title VI Compliance Review

Similar to other service changes, staff has completed a cursory review of potential Title VI implications regarding the trip shifting/restructuring and DB3 eliminations and does not find any disparate impacts associated with the proposed service changes. A final Title VI report will be prepared and presented to the Board prior to final consideration and adoption of the proposed service changes.

Implementation Schedule

The proposed implementation schedule associated with the consideration of the service changes for the Dumbarton Express service is shown below.

Task	Completion Date
Set Public Hearing	October 12, 2011
Public Comment Period	October 14, 2011 through November 16, 2011
Public Hearing	November 16, 2011
Board Consideration	November 16, 2011
Implementation	December 19, 2011

Final Recommendations

AC Transit staff agrees with the restructuring plan and consequently requests Board approval to set a public hearing on November 16, 2011 at 4:00 p.m. at AC Transit's General Offices in Oakland.

Prior Relevant Board Actions/Policies:

None

Attachments:

Attachment A – Public Hearing Announcement

Attachment B – Memo from DBROC meeting July 21 2011

Approved by: Mary V. King, Interim General Manager
Carol Babington, Interim General Counsel
Cory LaVigne, Director of Service Development and Planning

Prepared by: Linda Morris, Transportation Planner

Date Prepared: October 6, 2011

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District

RESTRUCTURING OF BUS SERVICE

The Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District (AC Transit) Board of Directors will consider the restructuring of the Dumbarton Express lines in southern Alameda County, specifically Fremont and Newark, California. **The reduction of transit service shall not exceed 3,073 annual service hours.**

Notice is hereby given that the AC Transit Board of Directors will hold a Public Hearing on **Wednesday, November 16, 2011, at 4:00 p.m.** at the Board of Directors Chambers, AC Transit General Offices, 1600 Franklin Street, Oakland California to receive public comment on the proposed service restructuring of the Dumbarton Express lines as more specifically described below under "PROJECT DESCRIPTION".

The proposed bus service elimination is detailed on AC Transit's website at www.actransit.org, and available in printed format at the District's General Offices, located at 1600 Franklin Street, Oakland, California, and at a variety of other locations, including main county and city offices as well as the main libraries located within the District's service area. For information on exact locations where the documents are available in your specific area, please telephone (510) 891-4764.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Dumbarton Express service connects the South Bay to the East Bay via the Dumbarton Bridge. Service restructuring will include the elimination of Line DB3 and some trip eliminations and schedule changes to lines DB and DB1.

If approved by the Board of Directors, the service restructuring on the Dumbarton Express will be implemented on December 19, 2011.

Your Comments Are Invited

Public Comment on the proposed elimination of bus service is invited either in writing or at the public hearing scheduled for Wednesday, November 16, 2011 at 4:00 p.m. at the Board of Directors Chambers in the AC Transit General Offices, 1600 Franklin Street, Oakland, CA 94612. The public is urged to submit **written comments** by letter, facsimile, or email, which must be received no later than Monday, November 14, 2011 at 5:00 p.m. in order for the comments to be copied and provided to the Board of Directors for review. Written comments will receive the same attention as verbal comments received at the Public Hearing. Please address written comments to the AC Transit Board of Directors, 1600 Franklin Street, Oakland, California, 94612; by facsimile at (510) 891-7157; or by email to planning@actransit.org. Comments may also be submitted by voicemail at (510) 891-7201. For the Spanish-language notice, call (510) 891-7291, and for the Chinese-language notice, call (510) 891-7292.

Meeting site is wheelchair accessible.

Upon request, a sign language interpreter will be present at the hearing. Foreign language interpreters can be provided, if needed. Please contact the District Secretary's Office at (510) 891-7201 by Thursday, November 10, 2011, at 5:00 p.m., to make arrangements. For TDD for hearing impaired, call 711, California Relay Service, and specify (510) 891-4700.

Transit to the Hearing Site

All AC Transit bus lines serving downtown Oakland stop within walking distance of the public hearing site. For trip-planning, visit www.actransit.org or call 511 (and say, "AC Transit"). The site can also be reached via BART to the 19th St. Oakland station. For trip planning, visit www.actransit.org or call 511 (and say, "AC Transit").

Please do not wear scented products to the meeting.



Service Development and Planning Department
Service and Operations Planning

Memorandum

Date: July 21, 2011
To: DBROC
From: Sean Diest Lorgion, AC Transit
Re: Agenda Item 5d –Service Changes

Background/Discussion

The base agreement between AC Transit and the Dumbarton Bridge Regional Operations Committee (DBROC) to operate and maintain the Dumbarton Express (DBX) bus service expired on Jun 30, 2010. This agreement has been extended until service is transitioned to a new operator on December 19, 2011.

As part of the transition, changes will be made to the existing schedule that should result in more effective service. Changes can be categorized into two types: Trip shifts & trip eliminations. There are no westbound peak-direction eliminations. There are, however, two eastbound peak-direction eastbound trip eliminations. In addition, all DB3 trips will be eliminated.

Eastbound changes

Line	Origin of trip	Description of change	Old leave time	New leave time	Passenger Impact*
DB	Deer Creek	Trip shift	6:32a	6:23a	13
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DB	Deer Creek	Trip Elimination	6:00p	n/a	24
DB	Deer Creek	Trip shift	6:15p	6:10p	16
DB1	Deer Creek	Trip Elimination	7:20p	n/a	6

Total passengers impacted for eastbound trip changes = 102.

Westbound changes

<i>Line</i>	<i>Origin of trip</i>	<i>Description of change</i>	<i>Old leave time</i>	<i>New leave time</i>	<i>Passenger Impact*</i>
DB	Union City BART	Trip shift	9:46a	9:45a	21
DB	Union City BART	Trip shift	11:21a	11:19a	27
DB	Union City BART	Trip shift	12:52a	12:39a	13
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DB	Union City BART	Trip shift	5:02p	5:01p	11
DB	Union City BART	Trip shift	5:43p	6:03p	5
DB3	Union City BART	Trip Elimination	6:05p	n/a	5

*Average Passenger numbers from September to November 2010

Total passengers impacted for westbound trip changes = 144.

Total passengers impacted for all trip changes = 246.

Next Steps

AC Transit Board Policy requires a public hearing to facilitate the outright elimination of a line. Should the DBROC ratify the elimination of the DB3 service effective December 2011, AC Transit will coordinate public hearing activities commensurate with this change.