



MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Directors

DATE: November 11, 2010

FROM: David Melko, Senior Planner
Solvi Sabol, Alternative Transportation
Manager & Freeway Service Patrol
Coordinator

SUBJECT: STATUS REPORT

1. TDM & Freeway Service Patrol (FSP) Report

After consulting with the FSP tow drivers on patrol in Placer County with concurrence from the California Highway Patrol (CHP), changes to the FSP schedule during the holidays, will be implemented. Specifically, two tow trucks will run from 5:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. the day after Thanksgiving and the day after Christmas. The goal is to mitigate the holiday shopper traffic that occurs during these mornings. Typically FSP has a holiday break during the week between Christmas and New Year however it was recommended that two tow vehicles run in the afternoons from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. December 26th – 30th. To offset some of the costs, FSP will not run on other holidays, i.e. Caesar Chavez and Lincoln's Birthday.

2. Capitol Corridor Update

Ridership increased by 3.1 percent in October compared to the same month in 2009. Ridership at the three Placer stations declined, although at a significantly reduced rate compared to prior months: 2.7 percent at Auburn; 12.1 percent at Rocklin; and 15.7 percent at Roseville. The Capitol Corridor continues to be the third busiest Amtrak route in the nation, with ridership at 1.58 million for the previous 12 months.

To respond to the weak travel market, the Capitol Corridor marketing campaign is targeting commuter and business travel as well as mid-day discretionary travel, with discounts for seniors and school groups, and has restarted the Kids Ride Free on Weekends. The Capitol Corridor and PCTPA are jointly developing an online advertising plan to promote the fall/winter outreach campaign in Placer County.

October 2010 revenue increased 7.2 percent compared to August 2009, and declined 1.3 percent compared to the adopted Business Plan.

October fare recovery was 51.0 percent, exceeding the State and Business Plan goal of 50.0 percent. Year-to-date fare recovery is at 49.0 percent.

October on-time performance averaged 96.0 percent, continuing the reliability trend that began with the completion of the tie-renewal programs (from mid-January through mid-March and two days in early June). The Capitol Corridor remains number one as the most reliable route in the Amtrak national system with its on-time performance.

The FRA issued its formal award announcements for the High Speed Intercity Passenger Rail (HSIPR) grant on October 28. FRA received grant applications from 32 states requesting nearly \$8.66 billion in funds for a \$2.24 billion program. Unfortunately, the two CCJPA grant applications were not included on the list of awarded grants for FY 2010. The FRA allocated the largest allotments to bullet train projects. The California and Florida High Speed Rail projects received \$902 million and \$802 million, respectively; and the Iowa and Michigan intercity passenger services received \$230 million and \$161 million respectively.

The FRA subsequently briefed CCJPA as to the reasons why the two projects were not selected. While the application materials were technically eligible, there was scarce funding and intense competition for the available funding. The FRA further felt that the benefits of the two CCJPA projects were not as worthwhile or as strong as other applications. To help make future applications more competitive, the FRA suggested that the CCJPA refine the benefits of the UPRR-partnership projects, such as expanding service to/from Auburn.

3. South Placer Transportation Call Center Update

The Board at the October 27 meeting requested a report back on the Call Center remodel details, including equipment and the interim trailer; expressed a need to better understand the purpose for various aspects of the Call Center remodeling effort; and further expressed concern regarding the overall estimated cost of the project.

The City of Roseville is currently completing a Request for Proposal for the project, including a detailed scope-of-work, which will be used for the bidding process. As part of this effort, the City is evaluating whether to bid directly, bid as a design-build, or bid a design-assist-build. PCTPA staff will provide a copy of the RFP and scope-of-work to the Board at the January 2011 meeting.