



MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Directors **DATE:** February 8, 2011

FROM: David Melko, Senior Transportation Planner

SUBJECT: **PUBLIC TRANSIT OPERATOR FARE REVENUE RATIOS**

ACTION REQUESTED

Adopt Resolution No. 11-09 setting the required Transportation Development Act (TDA) fare revenue ratios for public transit operators serving western Placer County, effective July 1, 2011.

BACKGROUND

One of the key responsibilities under the TDA for Regional Transportation Planning Agencies (RTPAs) such as PCTPA is to establish fare revenue ratios for all public transit systems operating in western Placer County. Each public transit operator is required to maintain one of the following minimum fare revenue ratios, unless the operator achieved a higher ratio in the Act's FY 1978/79 base year:

- 20% for an operator serving an urbanized area per the last federal census;
- 10% for an operator serving a non-urbanized area;
- 10% for an operator providing service for the exclusive use of elderly and disabled individuals;
- An intermediate or "blended" percentage for an operator providing service in both urbanized and non-urbanized areas; or
- 15% for an operator serving an urbanized area in a county with a population less than 500,000, which may be set by the RTPA, provided the agency makes findings specifying the reasons for its action.

According to the 2000 Census, the cities of Auburn, Rocklin, and Roseville, the Town of Loomis, and approximately two-thirds of Placer County Transit's service area lie within the boundaries of the Sacramento urbanized area. Public transit operators serving an urbanized area in a county with less than 500,000 population may be subject to a 15% minimum fare revenue ratio instead of the standard urbanized ratio of 20%, provided PCTPA makes findings specifying the reasons for its action. The State Department of Finance estimates the population for western Placer County, excluding the Tahoe Basin, as of January 1, 2010, at 333,789.

DISCUSSION

Exhibit "A" summarizes the required TDA fare revenue ratios and provides finding supporting these ratios for each public transit operator. The fare revenue ratios shown in Exhibit "A" are intended to apply systemwide - i.e., to the transit operator's entire service area including areas served under contract; and to its combined services (fixed route bus and dial-a-ride). The ratios will vary by operator depending upon whether the service area is located in the Sacramento urbanized area, the non-urbanized area, or both; and based on the type of transit services provided.

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The cities of Colfax and Lincoln, and one-third of Placer County Transit's service area lie outside the urbanized area and are considered rural. Public transit operators serving a rural or non-urbanized area are subject to a 10% minimum fare revenue ratio. Lincoln Transit's ratio may need to be updated after the completion of the 2010 Census, as the City may be incorporated into the Sacramento urbanized area.

Placer County Transit serves both urbanized and rural areas of Placer County. Under TDA, if an operator serves both areas, PCTPA can determine what portion of transit services serve the urbanized area and non-urbanized areas to determine the required ratio. The 2009 Triennial Performance Audit for Placer County Transit estimated that approximately two-thirds of the service area lies within the Sacramento urbanized area and one-third of the area as rural. Factoring the service area proportions by the applicable minimum fare revenue ratios provides a "blended" ratio for Placer County Transit at 13.3%. Placer County Transit's ratio may need to be updated after the completion of the 2010 Census, as a larger portion of the County may be incorporated into the Sacramento urbanized area.

The Western Placer CTSA provides services exclusively to the elderly and to individuals with disabilities. The ratio for such services is 10%.

Under TDA, PCTPA must submit the fare revenue ratios to Caltrans for approval no later than April 1 proceeding the fiscal year for which they will take effect. Staff recommends approval of the required TDA fare revenue ratios for public transit operators serving western Placer County. The ratios are intended to become effective July 1, 2011. The TAC concurred with this recommendation at its January 11, 2011 meeting.

PLACER COUNTY TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AGENCY

**IN THE MATTER OF: SETTING TDA
FARE REVENUE RATIOS FOR PUBLIC
TRANSIT OPERATORS SERVING
WESTERN PLACER COUNTY**

RESOLUTION NO. 11-09

The following resolution was duly passed by the Placer County Transportation Planning Agency at a regular meeting held February 23, 2011 by the following vote on roll call:

Ayes:

Nose:

Absent:

Signed and approved by me after its passage.

Placer County Transportation Planning Agency
Chairman

Executive Director

WHEREAS, the Placer County Transportation Planning Agency has been designated by the Secretary as the transportation planning agency for Placer County, excluding the Lake Tahoe Basin, in accordance with the Transportation Development Act, as amended; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent and policy of the Placer County Transportation Planning Agency to promote and improve public transportation services in Placer County; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation Development Act establishes fare revenue ratio requirements for public transportation services; and

WHEREAS, the Placer County Transportation Planning Agency may approve a minimum fare revenue ratio of 15 percent for public transit operators serving an urbanized area in a county with less than 500,000 provided the Agency makes findings specifying the reason for its action; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Placer County Transportation Planning Agency:

THAT, the required Transportation Development Act minimum fare revenue ratios for public transit operators serving western Placer County shall be as shown in Exhibit "A."

THAT, the written findings supporting the minimum fare revenue ratios are identified in Exhibit "A," consistent with the applicable Public Utilities Code sections cited therein, and are hereby approved.

THAT, the Executive Director is authorized to submit the fare revenue ratios to Caltrans for approval.

THAT, the fare revenue ratios will become effective July 1, 2011.

Exhibit “A” to Resolution No. 11-09

TDA FARE REVENUE RATIOS FOR PUBLIC TRANSIT OPERATORS SERVING WESTERN PLACER COUNTY Effective July 1, 2011

Public Transit Operator	Systemwide Fare Revenue Ratio	Findings	PUC Section
Auburn Transit	15%	Serves the City of Auburn located within the Sacramento urbanized area in western Placer County; a county which has a population of less than 500,000.	99268.12
Lincoln Transit	10%	Serves the City of Lincoln located within the non-urbanized area of western Placer County.	99268.2
Placer County Transit	13.3%	Serves both the Sacramento urbanized area (2/3) and the non-urbanized area (1/3) of western Placer County; a county which has a population of less than 500,000. The service area includes contract services provided for the cities of Colfax and Rocklin and the Town of Loomis.	99268.2, 99268.12 & 99270.1
Roseville Transit	15%	Serves the City of Roseville located within the Sacramento urbanized area in western Placer County; a county which has a population of less than 500,000.	99268.12
Western Placer CTSA	10%	Serves both the Sacramento urbanized area and the non-urbanized areas of western Placer County for the exclusive use of elderly and disabled individuals; a county which has a population of less than 500,000.	99268.5

Notes:

1. The systemwide ratio applies to a public transit operator’s entire service area, including areas served under contract service. The systemwide ratio is calculated combining fixed route and dial-a-ride services, as applicable.
2. The Sacramento urbanized area is defined per the 2000 federal census. Definitions for urbanized and non-urbanized areas are consistent with TDA.
3. Western Placer County excludes the Tahoe Basin within Placer County, as defined by the State Department of Finance.
4. The State Department of Finance estimates the population for western Placer County, excluding the Tahoe Basin, as of January 1, 2010, at 333,789.
5. Following the 2010 Census, the City of Lincoln may be incorporated into the Sacramento urbanized area; and a larger portion of Placer County Transit’s service area may also be incorporated into the urbanized area. Lincoln Transit’s and Placer County Transit’s fare revenue ratios may require an update at that time.