

Transportation Commission

October 23, 2013

Item 5E

Action

Estuary Crossing Shuttle Proposed Route Change

Background

The Estuary Crossing Shuttle service started on August 15, 2011, and currently is funded until August 14, 2015. The free service has 30-minute frequency, and uses one 40-foot bus with capacity for 10 bicycles. The City of Alameda, in cooperation with the City of Oakland, the Peralta Community College District and Bike Walk Alameda, won three Bay Area Air Quality Management District (Air District) Transportation Fund for Clean Air (TFCA) Regional Fund program grants to operate the Estuary Crossing Shuttle for four years. Alameda County Transportation Commission's Vehicle Registration Fee for Transit also funds the shuttle as of August 2013. These funding sources require that the shuttle service have a 30-minute frequency. The local match is the Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Fund in which Wind River contributes and Alameda County Measure B.

Currently, the shuttle travels between the cities of Alameda and Oakland stopping at the College of Alameda (COA), Marina Village/COA satellite campus (860 Atlantic Avenue), Wind River and Lake Merritt BART (near Laney College) during the weekday hours of 7:00 a.m. to 12:07 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. The Estuary Crossing Shuttle has an average of 400 daily boardings so far this fall, which is an increase from the first year of service at an average of 141 daily boardings and the second year at an average of 268 daily boardings. Boardings with bicycles have increased from a daily average of 23 in the first year, to 38 in the second year and over 60 in the third year so far. The City won a federal Lifeline grant to eliminate the midday gap and to provide multi-lingual outreach; however, the Department of Labor did not certify this Lifeline cycle. Metropolitan Transportation Commission staff is regrouping to figure out the next steps.

Discussion

The Estuary Crossing Shuttle bus can no longer make its required 30 minute loop due to increased shuttle usage and congestion (Figure 1 and Exhibit 1). According to state requirements, the driver needs to have rest breaks, which is not happening adequately. Public Works Department staff is proposing to (Figure 2 and Exhibit 2):

- Eliminate Appezato/College of Alameda shuttle stop.
- Add shuttle stop on Atlantic Avenue at Webster Street (at bus stop by Starbucks).
- Add shuttle stop on Atlantic Avenue at Constitution Way (across the street from Starbucks).

Staff reached out to the key partners on this shuttle route change, and received one comment from a Bike Walk Alameda member who requested that the the shuttle frequency stay at 30 minutes or below.

Figure 1: Current Estuary Crossing Shuttle Route



Figure 2: Proposed Estuary Crossing Shuttle Route



The state requirement – Industrial Welfare Commission Order No. 9-2001 Regulating Wages, Hours and Working Conditions in the Transportation Industry - for rest periods reads as follows:

12. REST PERIODS

(A) Every employer shall authorize and permit all employees to take rest periods, which insofar as practicable shall be in the middle of each work period. The authorized rest period time shall be based on the total hours worked daily at the rate of ten (10) minutes net rest time per four (4) hours or major fraction thereof. However, a rest period need not be authorized for employees whose total daily work time is less than three and one-half (3 1/2) hours. Authorized rest period time shall be counted as hours worked for which there shall be no deduction from wages.

(B) If an employer fails to provide an employee a rest period in accordance with the applicable provisions of this order, the employer shall pay the employee one (1) hour of pay at the employee's regular rate of compensation for each workday that the rest period is not provided.

The proposed change will have the following expected **positive impacts**:

- Provides adequate shuttle driver rest breaks totaling 8 minutes for every 30 minute loop during uncongested times, which exceeds the state and federal requirements.
- Provides for a more reliable service, which allows the shuttle bus to catch up every 30 minutes when congestion exists.
- Allows College of Alameda (COA) affiliates to take the shuttle from the main campus (Atlantic Avenue at Webster Street proposed stop) to the satellite campus (Atlantic Avenue at Challenger Drive existing stop) without having to go to Oakland as presently occurs with the current schedule allowing for students to more easily meet class schedules.
- Allows COA affiliates who are headed to the main campus to be dropped off as the first stop after traveling from Oakland as opposed to the third stop as currently occurs.
- Allows Estuary Crossing Shuttle and AC Transit passengers to choose between Line 31 and the shuttle since the proposed shuttle stops on Atlantic Avenue share the Line 31 bus stop. AC Transit has agreed to share these Line 31 bus stops; however, did not agree to sharing these bus stops when the shuttle service began. AC Transit does not agree to sharing the adjacent bus stop on Webster Street at Atlantic Avenue towards Oakland because this stop already serves multiple AC Transit lines. Instead, staff is recommending to use the shuttle stop on Atlantic Avenue at Constitution Way before going to Oakland.
- Allows Estuary Crossing Shuttle passengers to use other AC Transit lines going to Oakland that are around the corner on Webster Street at Atlantic Avenue.

The proposed change will have the following expected **negative impacts**:

- Requires COA affiliates to cross the Webster Street/Atlantic Avenue intersection to board the shuttle bus.
- Requires passengers adjacent to the current shuttle stop at COA on Ralph Appezato Memorial Parkway to walk farther to board the shuttle east of Webster Street on Atlantic

Avenue by Starbucks or across the street from Starbucks. The new Alameda Landing shuttle will provide some relief for Bayport/Alameda Landing residents in that it travels between Target and downtown Oakland (Exhibit 3).

- Requires moving the shuttle service's second busiest stop, which averages almost 150 boardings per day, to the new shuttle stops on Atlantic Avenue.

Budget Considerations/Fiscal Impact

The shuttle service is funded for two additional years – until August 14, 2015 – by the Air District's TFCA Regional Fund, Alameda County Transportation Commission's Vehicle Registration Fee for Transit and a local match from the City's TDM fund and Measure B. The Air District is considering eliminating the TFCA Regional Fund for shuttle services. Public Works staff will be pursuing more monies from grants, developers and other key stakeholders including the Peralta Community College District and Legacy Partners to extend the shuttle service beyond the August 14, 2015 end date.

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Transportation Commission review and approve the proposed schedule change for the Estuary Crossing Shuttle.

**Exhibit 1: Estuary Crossing Shuttle – Current
Route/Schedule**

Mornings

(7:00 a.m. to 12:12 p.m.)

Atlantic/ Challenger	Wind River	COA Appezato	BART: Lake Merritt	
			Arrives	Departs
		7:00	7:12	7:15
7:22	7:25	7:30	7:42	7:45
7:52	7:55	8:00	8:12	8:15
8:22	8:25	8:30	8:42	8:45
8:52	8:55	9:00	9:12	9:15
9:22	9:25	9:30	9:42	9:45
9:52	9:55	10:00	10:12	10:15
10:22	10:25	10:30	10:42	10:45
10:52	10:55	11:00	11:12	11:15
11:22	11:25	11:30	11:42	11:45
11:52	11:55	12:00	12:12	drop-off only

Afternoons/Evenings

(3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.)

Atlantic/ Challenger	Wind River	COA Appezato	BART: Lake Merritt	
			Arrives	Departs
		3:30	3:42	3:45
3:52	3:55	4:00	4:12	4:15
4:22	4:25	4:30	4:42	4:45
4:52	4:55	5:00	5:12	5:15
5:22	5:25	5:30	5:42	5:45
5:52	5:55	6:00	6:12	6:15
6:22	6:25	drop-off only	no service	

Holidays

The shuttle does *not* run on:

New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Presidents' Day, Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving Day, Day After Thanksgiving Day, between Christmas Eve and New Year's Day

Bicycle Information

Bicyclists must secure, load and unload their own bicycles.

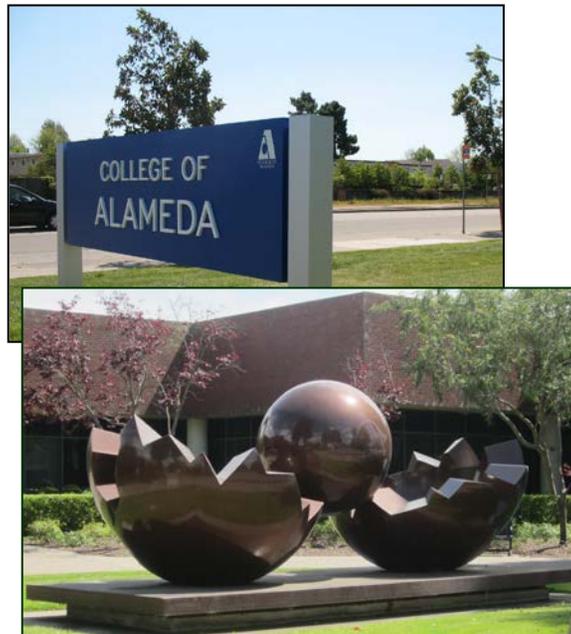
Bicyclists are responsible for the loss or damage to bicycles being transported on the Estuary Crossing Shuttle.

Bicycle Racks

Exterior: Bicycle racks are mounted on the front of the bus, and can hold up to two standard bicycles.

Interior – Leaning: Secure bicycles to the rack by stretching bungee cord across the bicycles and back toward the window. Bicycles should not extend into the aisle.

Front seats are reserved for seniors and individuals with disabilities. Please move if requested.



Alameda Shuttle Stops

#1) Marina Village - College of Alameda satellite campus
(Atlantic Ave. by Challenger Dr.)

#2) Wind River – 500 Wind River Way

#3) College of Alameda
(555 Ralph Appezato Memorial Parkway)

Public parking is not permitted at the Alameda stops.

Oakland Shuttle Stop

#4) Lake Merritt BART
(Madison St. betw 8th & 9th St., near Laney College)



Sponsored by:



FUNDING PROVIDED BY
BAY AREA
AIR QUALITY
MANAGEMENT
DISTRICT

WIND RIVER



In Partnership with:



Effective January 3, 2012



Estuary Crossing Shuttle

creating connections • linking communities

Cost: Free

Who Can Ride:

- General Public
- Commuters to BART
- Pedestrians – Tube alternate
- Bicyclists – fits 10 bicycles
- Students – travels between College of Alameda and Laney College

**Hours of Operation
(weekdays only):**

7:00 am – 12:12 pm

3:30 pm – 6:30 pm

Frequency:

Runs every 30 minutes

For more information:

www.EstuaryXINGshuttle.org

(510) 747-7936

(415) 513-5777 (emergency #)

**Exhibit 2: Estuary Crossing Shuttle – Proposed
Route/Schedule**

Mornings

(7:00 a.m. to 12:07 p.m.)

Atlantic/ Webster	Atlantic/ Challenger	Wind River	Atlantic/ Consti- tution	BART:	
				Lake Merritt Arrives	Lake Merritt Departs
			7:00	7:07	7:15
7:20	7:22	7:25	7:30	7:37	7:45
7:50	7:52	7:55	8:00	8:07	8:15
8:20	8:22	8:25	8:30	8:37	8:45
8:50	8:52	8:55	9:00	9:07	9:15
9:20	9:22	9:25	9:30	9:37	9:45
9:50	9:52	9:55	10:00	10:07	10:15
10:20	10:22	10:25	10:30	10:37	10:45
10:50	10:52	10:55	11:00	11:07	11:15
11:20	11:22	11:25	11:30	11:37	11:45
11:50	11:52	11:55	12:00	12:07	drop-off only



LAKE MERRITT

Afternoons/Evenings

(3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.)

Atlantic/ Webster	Atlantic/ Challenger	Wind River	Atlantic/ Consti- tution	BART:	
				Lake Merritt Arrives	Lake Merritt Departs
			3:30	3:37	3:45
3:50	3:52	3:55	4:00	4:07	4:15
4:20	4:22	4:25	4:30	4:37	4:45
4:50	4:52	4:55	5:00	5:07	5:15
5:20	5:22	5:25	5:30	5:37	5:45
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Alameda Shuttle Stops

- #1) Atlantic Ave. by Webster St.
- #2) Marina Village - College of Alameda satellite campus (Atlantic Ave. by Challenger Dr.)
- #3) Wind River – Wind River Way
- #4) Atlantic Ave. by Constitution Way

Public parking is not permitted at the Alameda stops.

Oakland Shuttle Stop

- #5) Lake Merritt BART (Madison St. betw 8th & 9th St., near Laney College)



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Effective November 1, 2013

Exhibit 3: Alameda Landing Shuttle Schedule

Alameda Landing to Oakland 12th Street BART Shuttle

STOP #1: Oakland BART
 Broadway at 11th in front of Marriott

12th

Broadway

Harrison

880

Oakland / Alameda Estuary

Mitchell Mosley

STOP #2: TARGET

5th Street

Webster

Mariner Square

Willie Stargell

AM

BART	Target
6:42	6:52
7:02	7:12
7:22	7:32
7:42	7:52
8:02	8:12
8:22	8:32
8:42	8:52
9:02	9:12
9:22	9:32
9:42	9:52

PM

BART	Target
	3:28
3:38	3:48
3:58	4:08
4:18	4:28
4:38	4:48
4:58	5:08
5:18	5:28
5:38	5:48
5:58	6:08
6:18	6:28
6:38	6:48
6:58	7:08