



CITY of CALABASAS
TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION AGENDA REPORT

DATE: FEBRUARY 23, 2023

TO: TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

FROM: TRA'A BEZDECNY, ASSISTANT ENGINEER

SUBJECT: TRANSIT SERVICE UPDATE

MEETING
DATE: FEBRUARY 28, 2023

BACKGROUND:

City began its transportation services in early 2000's and has expanded and improved ever since. Striving for efficiency, Staff identifies ways to enhance services and maximize available resources to better serve the Calabasas residents and Public Transit dependents.

DISCUSSION:

Public Transportation:

Peak-Hour:

The purpose of peak-hour routes (Lines 2-5) is to alleviate peak-hour traffic surrounding the schools in Calabasas. Ridership for this school year has gone up about 40% from last year. We are hoping that this number continues to increase throughout the school year as we return to pre-pandemic ridership numbers.

Line 1:

The fixed-route Line 1 provides public transportation throughout Calabasas. The route encompasses all major areas of the city and connects users to metro stops within Calabasas. The average Line 1 Ridership this year is 550 per month, 42% up from last year.

Shuttle Redesign:

In January our shuttles got a new design. This design came about due to our two newest shuttles not receiving a Calabasas design and concerned parents sending their children onto an unmarked shuttle. Staff received input from the entire Public Works Department and decided on a green design, incorporating the City's hawk symbol and our Walk to School logo. Since the redesign, our Line 1 has received more attention and we have received compliments from multiple residents.

Dial-A-Ride:

Dial-A-Ride is a service for seniors and those with disabilities that offers door-to-door transportation anywhere within Calabasas and to 10 locations outside of Calabasas. Since the last commission meeting we have added 9 new riders.

Demand-Response Program:

At our last meeting, Staff presented the Commission with a pilot program to create a weekend demand-response transit program open to the public. This program was approved by City Council on January 25th and the service began on February 19th.

At the January 25th Council Meeting, Staff was asked to research more innovative solutions. We are looking at microtransit options and the differences between different options, such as going with only software and continuing to provide the vehicles or contracting for both software and vehicles. We are also looking at our EV options with the hopes of having EV vehicles when the pilot ends. Staff has conducted preliminary research based on these opportunities and has met with multiple companies to begin to determine what would be an optimal solution for our community. In April, staff will present our final findings on options for the community.

Electrification:

Staff has begun to work with regional and federal groups to start the process of electrification for our Calabasas fleet. Staff has attended workshops in regards to numerous funding opportunities and has applied to one grant with the Local Transit System Subcommittee of Metro to receive 2 new electric shuttles and a dual charger. The results of this grant application should be known by June of this year.

Staff is also in the process of creating a Zero-Emission Vehicle (ZEV) rollout plan in accordance with the California Air Resources Board in order to help the City maintain compliance for the new Innovative Clean Transit (ICT) regulations. The new regulations will require the City to purchase only electric vehicles beginning in 2029. This rollout plan will be due in July 2023 and will require Council approval. Staff has provided a draft to the California Air Resources Board (CARB) for review and will present the report at the next TTC meeting for recommendation to Council.

FISCAL IMPACT / SOURCE OF FUNDING:

The City receives funds in Proposition A and C, Measure R and M Local Return, and Transportation Development Act Article 3 (TDA3) to fund its public transportation services. The City is subject to multiple annual audits conducted by Metro as well as the Federal Transit Administration to ensure compliance of capital and operation projects with respective guidelines. Staff monitors funds and expenditures regularly to ensure compliance prior to audits as well.

REQUESTED ACTION:

This is an informational item only and requires no action.