


To: James L. App, City Manager
From: Mike Compton, Director of Administrative Services 
Subject: Transit Fares
DATE: April 20, 1999

Need:

For the City Council to consider modifications to transit fares for both dial-a-ride and fixed route services..

Facts:

1. The current fare for dial-a-ride (DAR) is \$1.50 per one way for trip for persons taller than forty inches (40") and \$050 for children less than forty inches (40") tall who can access bus without assistance (non-infants). The City still provides a fare discount on the purchase of ticket books. A book of ten tickets can be purchased for \$12.50.
2. The current fare for fixed route service(FRS) is \$0.75 per one way trip. No discount is provided for the purchase of ticket books and all passengers except infants pay full fare.
3. The last fare increase was approved by the Council on July 1, 1997 and the current fares went into effect August 1, 1997.
4. The Council recently provided direction to staff to undertake the following actions:
 - a. Increase FRS fares to \$2.00 per one way trip.
 - b. Expand FRS to Saturday.
 - c. Using current DAR service as a "core" service level, issue Request for Proposals (RFP) to provide extended demand response transit service from 6:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m., Monday through Saturday.
5. The purpose of the rate increase was to reduce the current fare subsidy and at least partially fund the expanded Saturday service for PR CATS and the demand response (DAR) hours from 6:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m., Monday through Saturday.

Analysis and
Conclusions:

The FRS increase was planned to coincide with implementation of Saturday service. While working out the implementation details, it was both staff's and the transit operator's conclusion that the significant increase in FRS fares, 167%, without an increase in DAR fares may prove problematic. The increase in FRS fares would likely result in passengers "fleeing" FRS for the less costly DAR service. However, there is little, if any, capacity on DAR to accommodate increased ridership unless additional capacity is provided.

In order to minimize the impact of a rate increase for FRS, staff would recommend that the Council consider raising DAR fares concurrently with FRS fares. Furthermore, the

Council may wish to consider increasing the FRS fare incrementally over time. For example: concurrently with implementation of Saturday FRS, increase the fare to \$1.00; four months later increase the fare to \$1.25; and four months later increase the fare another \$0.25. The Council may consider stopping the rate increase when the total fare reaches \$1.50 or continue raising the fare \$0.25 every four months until the total fare reaches the previously designated rate of \$2.00.

With regard to DAR fares, staff would recommend elimination of the discount for purchasing a book of ten tickets and raise the fare to \$3.00 per one way ride. This fare would still be considerably less than a taxi cab fare and is identical to the fare currently being charged for by SCAT for its senior and handicapped subsidized taxi cab service.

Any fare increase will likely result in a temporary decline in ridership but generally returns to "pre-increase" levels with time. Given the size of the proposed fare increases, it would not be surprising if the City lost some ridership permanently or that it might take longer to return to "pre-increase levels. Staff will need to closely monitor the impact and report to the Council on a regular basis.

The Council consideration, two different resolutions are attached. One, takes the DAR fare to \$3.00 and the CATS fare to \$1.50 incrementally; and a second resolution taking the fare to \$2.00 incrementally.

Fiscal
Impact:

The cost to provide regular FRS on Saturday is estimated at \$36,000 annually. The estimated cost through the balance of the current fiscal year is \$6,500. This assumes that Saturday service will start May 1st, providing nine days of service. This should provide ample opportunity to determine the success of providing Saturday FRS service.

The cost estimates provided above for Saturday service assumes that there will be no increase in the current hourly rate being paid to the contractor. Staff is confident that this will be the case, but the contractor may not agree.

Assuming that Saturday ridership will offset the decline in ridership as the result of the fare increase, at current ridership levels, the incremental fare increase as described above would generate an additional \$2,500 in fare revenues through June 30, 1999. On an annual basis, a fare increase, as outlined above, would generate \$37,000 if the total fare increase was capped at \$1.50 or \$40,000 if capped at \$2.00.

With regard to DAR, during the first eight months of the fiscal year, the City experienced a fare box ratio of nearly 19%. The average gross cost per paid fare was \$10.18 and the average gross revenue per paid fare was \$1.90. The reason the revenue per paid fare exceeds the maximum fare of \$1.50 is due to sales of ticket books.

Assuming a 20% decline in DAR ridership as the result of a fare increase to \$3.00, it is estimated that the City would realize a revenue increase of \$12,000 annually which would push the fare box ratio to 30%.

Options:

- a. That the City Council consider approval of the attached resolution to increase transit fares; or
- b. Amend, modify or reject any of the options above.

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF EL PASO DE ROBLES
APPROVING AN INCREASE IN TRANSIT FARES
EFFECTIVE MAY 1, 1999

WHEREAS, the Council is desirous of expanding fixed route transit services and demand response transit services; and

WHEREAS, the Council is also desirous of reducing the tax subsidy by increasing the fare box ratios; and

WHEREAS, the only effective means of accomplishing both goals is to increase revenues.

THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of El Paso de Robles that the following transit fares are hereby approved:

Dial-a-Ride	May 1, 1999	\$3.00	Adults
Dial-a-Ride	May 1, 1999	\$1.00	Children < 40" tall
Dial-a-Ride	May 1, 1999	\$8.00	Adult - after 8:00 p.m.
Fixed Route	May 1, 1999	\$1.00	Adults
Fixed Route	May 1, 1999	\$0.50	Children < 40" tall
Fixed Route	September 1, 1999	\$1.25	Adults
Fixed Route	September 1, 1999	\$0.50	Children < 40" tall
Fixed Route	January 1, 2000	\$1.50	Adults
Fixed Route	January 1, 2000	\$0.75	Children < 40" tall
Fixed Route	May 1, 2000	\$1.75	Adults
Fixed Route	May 1, 2000	\$0.75	Children < 40" tall
Fixed Route	September 1, 2000	\$2.00	Adults
Fixed Route	September 1, 2000	\$1.00	Children < 40" tall

◆ infants ride free on both systems

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of El Paso de Robles this 20th day of April, 1999 by the following vote:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:

Duane Picanco, Mayor

Attest:

Madelyn Paasch, City Clerk

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Fixed Route	September 1, 1999	\$1.25	Adults
Fixed Route	September 1, 1999	\$0.50	Children < 40" tall
Fixed Route	January 1, 2000	\$1.50	Adults
Fixed Route	January 1, 2000	\$0.75	Children < 40" tall

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ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:

Duane Picanco, Mayor

Attest:

Madelyn Paasch, City Clerk

CITY OF PASO ROBLES
TOTAL TRANSIT RIDERSHIP - ALL SYSTEMS
Historical Ridership Data

	FY 1999	%	FY 1998	%	FY 1997	%	FY 1996	%	FY 1995	%	FY 1994	%	FY 1993	%	FY 1992	%	FY 1991
	Total	Incr.	Total	Incr.	Total	Incr.	Total	Incr.	Total	Incr.	Total	Incr.	Total	Incr.	Total	Incr.	Total
	Ridership	(Decr.)	Ridership	(Decr.)	Ridership	(Decr.)	Ridership	(Decr.)	Ridership	(Decr.)	Ridership	(Decr.)	Ridership	(Decr.)	Ridership	(Decr.)	Ridership
July	7,461	-1.28%	7,558	27.13%	5,945	18.38%	5,022	24.52%	4,033	-18.46%	4,946	-4.15%	5,160	31.70%	3,918	n/a	0
August	5,878	3.10%	5,701	-3.75%	5,923	3.80%	5,706	25.52%	4,546	-0.89%	4,587	8.90%	4,212	10.46%	3,813	n/a	0
September	6,489	2.30%	6,343	4.77%	6,054	18.38%	5,114	-8.38%	5,582	16.90%	4,775	-9.50%	5,276	45.75%	3,620	102.01%	1,792
October	6,341	-16.08%	7,556	2.48%	7,373	21.13%	6,087	2.18%	5,957	23.82%	4,811	-11.40%	5,430	25.06%	4,342	91.53%	2,267
November	6,003	13.31%	5,298	-19.58%	6,588	12.29%	5,867	9.09%	5,378	6.79%	5,036	2.67%	4,905	32.28%	3,708	40.94%	2,631
December	6,284	3.85%	6,051	-4.81%	6,357	29.15%	4,922	-7.93%	5,346	17.31%	4,557	-7.30%	4,916	28.09%	3,838	25.18%	3,066
January	5,951	6.90%	5,567	-25.62%	7,485	24.63%	6,006	30.62%	4,598	-9.47%	5,079	-1.11%	5,136	16.09%	4,424	14.94%	3,849
February	5,950	7.89%	5,515	-25.07%	7,360	25.53%	5,863	-3.79%	6,094	24.24%	4,905	-14.49%	5,736	45.47%	3,943	12.82%	3,495
March	0		6,676	-14.20%	7,781	24.02%	6,274	-9.13%	6,904	20.55%	5,727	-19.18%	7,086	48.52%	4,771	29.12%	3,695
April	0		5,905	-28.01%	8,202	29.70%	6,324	9.22%	5,790	29.91%	4,457	-28.29%	6,215	40.48%	4,424	-5.04%	4,659
May	0		5,899	-32.21%	8,702	22.18%	7,122	6.54%	6,685	36.71%	4,890	-15.49%	5,786	46.74%	3,943	-3.76%	4,097
June	0		6,519	-12.46%	7,447	35.67%	5,489	-7.39%	5,927	26.27%	4,694	-20.55%	5,908	23.83%	4,771	34.70%	3,542
YTD Totals	50,357	1.55%	74,508	63.12%	85,217	22.09%	69,796	4.42%	66,840	14.33%	58,464	-11.10%	65,766	32.82%	49,515	49.62%	33,093

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Dial-a-Ride Transit Services

	<u>Operator Contract</u>	<u>Vehicle M & O</u>	<u>Operating Expenses</u>	<u>Total Expenses</u>	<u>Fare Revenues</u>	<u>Net Cost</u>	<u>Fare Box Ratio</u>
July	\$ 6,143.29	\$ 3,075.02	\$ 800.00	\$ 10,018.31	\$ 1,578.79	\$ 8,439.52	15.76%
August	5,499.23	2,029.99	322.78	7,852.00	1,287.67	6,564.33	16.40%
September	5,663.06	2,492.78	467.22	8,623.06	1,698.11	6,924.95	19.69%
October	5,775.72	1,825.72	694.89	8,296.33	1,576.37	6,719.96	19.00%
November	5,592.06	5,203.39	338.65	11,134.10	1,259.58	9,874.52	11.31%
December	5,870.31	1,523.65	392.10	7,786.06	1,742.60	6,043.46	22.38%
January	5,336.14	1,689.05	541.01	7,566.20	2,442.43	5,123.77	32.28%
February	5,387.83	1,516.02	473.02	7,376.87	1,206.14	6,170.73	16.35%
March				-		-	
April				-		-	
May				-		-	
June				-		-	
Total	\$ 45,267.64	\$ 19,355.62	\$4,029.67	\$ 68,652.93	\$12,791.69	\$ 55,861.24	18.63%

Fixed Route Transit Services

	<u>Operator Contract</u>	<u>Vehicle M & O</u>	<u>Operating Expenses</u>	<u>Total Expenses</u>	<u>Fare Revenues</u>	<u>Net Cost</u>	<u>Fare Box Ratio</u>
July	\$ 12,548.01	\$ 3,958.66	\$ 100.00	\$ 16,606.67	\$ 3,605.93	\$ 13,000.74	21.71%
August	11,404.16	3,256.30	50.00	14,710.46	2,928.06	11,782.40	19.90%
September	11,503.51	2,538.01	220.58	14,262.10	3,146.04	11,116.06	22.06%
October	11,988.25	2,959.90	269.77	15,217.92	3,255.74	11,962.18	21.39%
November	11,299.53	4,800.97	222.04	16,322.54	2,861.35	13,461.19	17.53%
December	12,258.47	3,010.17	223.29	15,491.93	3,618.19	11,873.74	23.36%
January	10,889.56	3,731.85	220.21	14,841.62	3,132.10	11,709.52	21.10%
February	10,879.02	1,861.09	237.78	12,977.89	2,469.44	10,508.45	19.03%
March				-		-	
April				-		-	
May				-		-	
June				-		-	
Total	\$ 92,770.51	\$ 26,116.95	\$1,543.67	\$ 120,431.13	\$25,016.85	\$ 95,414.28	20.77%

Total ALL Transit Services

	<u>Operator Contract</u>	<u>Vehicle M & O</u>	<u>Operating Expenses</u>	<u>Total Expenses</u>	<u>Fare Revenues</u>	<u>Net Cost</u>	<u>Fare Box Ratio</u>
July	\$ 18,691.30	\$ 7,033.68	\$ 900.00	\$ 26,624.98	\$ 5,184.72	\$ 21,440.26	19.47%
August	16,903.39	5,286.29	372.78	22,562.46	4,215.73	18,346.73	18.68%
September	17,166.57	5,030.79	687.80	22,885.16	4,844.15	18,041.01	21.17%
October	17,763.97	4,785.62	964.66	23,514.25	4,832.11	18,682.14	20.55%
November	16,891.59	10,004.36	560.69	27,456.64	4,120.93	23,335.71	15.01%
December	18,128.78	4,533.82	615.39	23,277.99	5,360.79	17,917.20	23.03%
January	16,225.70	5,420.90	761.22	22,407.82	5,574.53	16,833.29	24.88%
February	16,266.85	3,377.11	710.80	20,354.76	3,675.58	16,679.18	
March	-	-	-	-	-	-	
April	-	-	-	-	-	-	
May	-	-	-	-	-	-	
June	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Total	\$ 138,038.15	\$ 45,472.57	\$5,573.34	\$ 189,084.06	\$37,808.54	\$ 151,275.52	20.00%

6.847894394 1.369279299 5.478615095

Note: Operating expenses do NOT include depreciation.

City of Laso Robles
Transit Ridership Report
Year to Date thru 2/28/99

Dial-a-Ride Transit Services										Fixed Route Transit Services															
Number of Operating Days	In-Service			Total			FY			In-Service			Total			FY			Total						
	Vehicle Miles	Vehicle Hours	Vehicle Miles	Free Fares	Paid Fares	Total Fares	DAR Fares	Total Fares	Total Fares	Vehicle Miles	Vehicle Hours	Vehicle Miles	Free Fares	Paid Fares	Total Fares	CARS Fares	Total Fares	Vehicle Miles	Vehicle Hours	Vehicle Miles	Free Fares	Paid Fares	Total Fares	All Fares	All FY Fares
July	4,119	245	1,042	44	1,086	2,095	1,086	2,095	6,217	500	5,852	523	6,375	5,463	7,451	7,558	7,451	6,217	500	5,852	523	6,375	5,463	7,451	7,558
August	3,405	219	939	49	988	1,597	988	1,597	5,624	473	4,445	445	4,890	4,104	5,878	5,701	5,878	5,624	473	4,445	445	4,890	4,104	5,878	5,701
September	3,449	226	863	54	917	982	917	982	5,687	459	5,011	561	5,572	5,361	6,489	6,343	6,489	5,687	459	5,011	561	5,572	5,361	6,489	6,343
October	3,433	230	843	18	861	1,103	861	1,103	5,956	478	4,994	486	5,480	6,453	6,341	7,556	6,341	5,956	478	4,994	486	5,480	6,453	6,341	7,556
November	3,019	211	689	19	708	908	708	908	5,420	435	4,827	468	5,295	4,390	6,003	5,298	6,003	5,420	435	4,827	468	5,295	4,390	6,003	5,298
December	3,269	234	823	21	844	999	844	999	5,976	478	4,953	487	5,440	5,052	6,284	6,051	6,284	5,976	478	4,953	487	5,440	5,052	6,284	6,051
January	3,170	213	733	48	781	927	781	927	5,431	434	4,622	548	5,170	4,640	5,951	5,567	5,951	5,431	434	4,622	548	5,170	4,640	5,951	5,567
February	3,191	215	811	29	840	906	840	906	5,416	453	4,713	397	5,110	4,609	5,950	5,515	5,950	5,416	453	4,713	397	5,110	4,609	5,950	5,515
March					0	0	0	0					0		0	0	0						0		0
April					0	0	0	0					0		0	0	0						0		0
May					0	0	0	0					0		0	0	0						0		0
June					0	0	0	0					0		0	0	0						0		0
Total - YTD	27,055	1,792	6,743	282	7,025	9,517	7,025	9,517	45,727	3,709	39,417	3,915	43,332	40,072	50,357	49,589	50,357	45,727	3,709	39,417	3,915	43,332	40,072	50,357	49,589
Average Per Month	3,382	224	843	35	878	1,190	878	1,190	5,716	464	4,927	489	5,417	5,009	6,295	6,199	6,295	5,716	464	4,927	489	5,417	5,009	6,295	6,199
Average Per Day	155	10	39	2	40	55	40	55	263	21	227	23	249	230	289	285	289	263	21	227	23	249	230	289	285
† Increase (decrease) YTD																									

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**CITY OF PASO ROBLES
COMMUNITY AREA TRANSIT SERVICES (CATS)
Historical Ridership Data**

	FY 1999		FY 1998		FY 1997		FY 1996		FY 1995		FY 1994		FY 1993		FY 1992		FY 1991	
	Total Ridership	Incr. (Decr.)	Total Ridership	Incr. (Decr.)	Total Ridership	Incr. (Decr.)	Total Ridership	Incr. (Decr.)	Total Ridership	Incr. (Decr.)	Total Ridership	Incr. (Decr.)	Total Ridership	Incr. (Decr.)	Total Ridership	Incr. (Decr.)	Total Ridership	Incr. (Decr.)
July	1,086	-48.16%	2,095	-13.32%	2,417	-29.68%	3,437	-14.78%	4,033	-18.46%	4,946	-4.15%	5,160	31.70%	3,918	n/a		0
August	988	-38.13%	1,597	-37.05%	2,537	-29.94%	3,621	-2.71%	3,722	-18.86%	4,587	8.90%	4,212	10.46%	3,813	n/a		0
September	917	-6.62%	982	-63.36%	2,680	-17.67%	3,255	-30.31%	4,671	-2.18%	4,775	-9.50%	5,276	45.75%	3,620	102.01%		1,792
October	861	-21.94%	1,103	-65.14%	3,164	-13.81%	3,671	-23.44%	4,795	-0.33%	4,811	-11.40%	5,430	25.06%	4,342	91.53%		2,267
November	708	-22.03%	908	-66.18%	2,685	-22.29%	3,455	-21.19%	4,384	-12.95%	5,036	2.67%	4,905	32.28%	3,708	40.94%		2,631
December	844	-15.52%	999	-57.56%	2,354	-15.45%	2,784	-29.52%	3,950	-13.32%	4,557	-7.30%	4,916	28.09%	3,838	25.18%		3,066
January	781	-15.75%	927	-69.78%	3,068	-15.44%	3,628	8.92%	3,331	-34.42%	5,079	-1.11%	5,136	16.09%	4,424	14.94%		3,849
February	840	-7.28%	906	-67.47%	2,785	-13.72%	3,228	-29.90%	4,605	-6.12%	4,905	-14.49%	5,736	45.47%	3,943	12.82%		3,495
March			1,072	-62.86%	2,886	-13.77%	3,347	-39.15%	5,500	-3.96%	5,727	-19.18%	7,086	48.52%	4,771	29.12%		3,695
April			998	-68.70%	3,188	5.25%	3,029	-31.05%	4,393	-1.44%	4,457	-28.29%	6,215	40.48%	4,424	-5.04%		4,659
May			875	-73.17%	3,261	-3.38%	3,375	-34.29%	5,136	5.03%	4,890	-15.49%	5,786	46.74%	3,943	-3.76%		4,097
June			993	-60.38%	2,506	2.96%	2,434	-37.36%	3,886	-17.21%	4,694	-20.55%	5,908	23.83%	4,771	34.70%		3,542
YTD Totals	7,025	-26.18%	13,455	-59.87%	33,531	-14.60%	39,264	-25.08%	52,406	-10.36%	58,464	-11.10%	65,766	32.82%	49,515	49.62%		33,093

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CITY OF PASO ROBLES
COMMUNITY AREA TRANSIT SERVICES (CATS)
Historical Ridership Data

	FY 1999	%	FY 1998	%	FY 1997	%	FY 1996	%	FY 1995	FY 1994	FY 1993	FY 1992	FY 1991
	Total	Incr.	Total	Incr.	Total	Incr.	Total	Incr.	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total
	Ridership	(Decr.)	Ridership	(Decr.)	Ridership	(Decr.)	Ridership	(Decr.)	Ridership	Ridership	Ridership	Ridership	Ridership
July	6,375	16.69%	5,463	54.85%	3,528	122.59%	1,585		0	0	0	0	0
August	4,890	19.15%	4,104	21.20%	3,386	62.40%	2,085	153.03%	824	0	0	0	0
September	5,572	3.94%	5,361	58.89%	3,374	81.50%	1,859	104.06%	911	0	0	0	0
October	5,480	-15.08%	6,453	53.31%	4,209	74.21%	2,416	107.92%	1,162	0	0	0	0
November	5,295	20.62%	4,390	12.48%	3,903	61.82%	2,412	142.66%	994	0	0	0	0
December	5,440	7.68%	5,052	26.21%	4,003	87.23%	2,138	53.15%	1,396	0	0	0	0
January	5,951	28.25%	4,640	5.05%	4,417	85.74%	2,378	87.69%	1,267	0	0	0	0
February	5,110	10.87%	4,609	0.74%	4,575	73.62%	2,635	76.96%	1,489	0	0	0	0
March			5,604	14.48%	4,895	67.24%	2,927	108.48%	1,404	0	0	0	0
April			4,907	-2.13%	5,014	52.17%	3,295	135.86%	1,397	0	0	0	0
May			5,024	-7.66%	5,441	45.21%	3,747	141.90%	1,549	0	0	0	0
June			5,526	11.84%	4,941	61.73%	3,055	49.68%	2,041	0	0	0	0
YTD Totals	44,113	10.08%	61,133	28.80%	51,686	69.28%	30,532	111.53%	14,434	0	0	0	0

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