

TO: James L. App, City Manager  
FROM: Mike Compton, Director of Administrative Services  
SUBJECT: Annual Transit Report  
DATE: January 7, 2003

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Needs: To present the results of transit operations for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2002.

Facts:

1. The City operates two transit services, demand response, commonly referred to as dial-a-ride (DAR), and a fixed route system called Paso Robles City Area Transit System (CATS).
2. DAR services were initiated in September, 1991 and CATS was initiated in August, 1994 and expanded in December, 1995.
3. DAR operates Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. and CATS operates Monday through Saturday from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
4. DAR fares are \$2.00 until 6:00 p.m. and \$3.00 till 8:00 p.m. Seniors (65+) and disabled ridden for \$1.00 except between 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. when normal fare is required. Children to age 4, when accompanied by adult, ride for free.
5. CATS fares are \$1.00 except for seniors and disabled who ride for \$0.50. Children to age 4, when accompanied by adult, ride for free.
6. Transit operations are funded from Transportation Development Act (TDA) funds and fares. TDA funding is derived from  $\frac{1}{4}$  of 1% of the sales tax rate and is basically distributed upon a population basis.
7. During fiscal year 2002, the City received \$473,812 in local TDA transit funds (including \$117,102 paid to SLORTA for regional transit services); \$53,423 in State Transit Assistance funds (STA); \$86,790 in fares and \$11,548 in interest earnings.

Analysis  
and  
Conclusion:

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2002, the City spent \$687,642 for transit services including \$46,320 for depreciation expense and \$190,983 for the purchase of three new buses. Operating revenues (fares) totaled \$86,067 as compared to last year's revenue collections of \$75,454. Total ridership was 97,074 as compared to 82,303 representing an 18% increase.

For the year just ended, the City's fare box ratio was 19.1%, down slightly from the prior year's ratio of 20.9%. Fare box ratios represent that portion of operating costs before depreciation that is covered by fare box revenues. TDA rules generally require public transit systems to maintain a 10% fare box ratio. A 20% ratio is considered excellent by industry standards. Other efficiency measurements include cost per rider and cost per service hour. With the dramatic increase in ridership, the cost per rider was lowered significantly. The net cost per rider (systemwide) for

fiscal year 2002 was \$3.76 as compared to the prior cost per rider of \$4.40. The cost per service hour (systemwide) improved in spite of an increase in service hours. For fiscal year 2002, the cost per service hour was \$33.96 as compared to \$35.46. The last efficiency measurement is cost per in-service mile. In fiscal year 2002, the cost per in-service mile was \$2.72 as compared to the prior year cost of \$2.79.

The City continues to provide transit services for special events; i.e. weddings, receptions and wine tours, etc. Said services are limited to the north county region (no service south of the Cuesta Grade). The City charges \$25 per hour. Service is based upon availability of buses (City service has priority).

Goals identified for last year included:

1. Upgrading all fixed route bus stops with signage and installation of shelters and/or benches at the more highly used stops.
2. Publication and distribution of a new transit brochure.
3. Implementation of a marketing program.
4. Expansion of fixed route service to serve Twin Cities medical facilities and North County Cuesta College (eliminating DAR service to Twin Cities).

During the year, a new shelter w/bench and trash receptacle was installed at 1<sup>st</sup> Street between Oak and Spring Streets. Thirteen additional trash receptacles were installed at existing shelters that had none. The new transit brochure was completed (in English and Spanish) and was widely distributed. Improvements to the City's marketing program have not been accomplished due to time constraints. And lastly, the expansion of fixed route services as noted above was accomplished.

Goals for this year include continuing bus stop improvements by improving signage, installation of additional transit benches and improve the marketing program.

Fiscal

Impact:

None.

Options:

- a. Receive and file; or
- b. Amend, modify, or reject the above option.

**City of El Paso de Robles**

**TRANSIT RIDERSHIP REPORT  
All Transit Services  
Fiscal Year 2001-02**

**Total ALL Transit Services**

	<u>Operator</u> <u>Contract</u>	<u>Vehicle</u> <u>M &amp; O</u>	<u>Operating</u> <u>Expenses</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>Expenses</u>	<u>Fare</u> <u>Revenues</u>	<u>Net</u> <u>Cost</u>	<u>Fare Box</u> <u>Ratio</u>
July	\$ 26,191.26	\$ 7,262.62	\$ 3,549.19	\$ 37,003.07	\$ 5,905.00	\$ 31,098.07	15.96%
August	27,437.43	6,989.63	1,099.29	35,526.35	6,492.77	29,033.58	18.28%
September	25,305.79	8,191.58	5,760.68	39,258.05	5,982.09	33,275.96	15.24%
October	27,437.13	7,762.53	1,982.33	37,181.99	9,406.65	27,775.34	25.30%
November	26,175.25	5,726.40	9,399.38	41,301.03	6,849.72	34,451.31	16.58%
December	25,933.64	5,266.07	1,695.04	32,894.75	5,706.08	27,188.67	17.35%
January	26,846.28	6,487.54	1,112.67	34,446.49	8,702.20	25,744.29	25.26%
February	24,840.21	6,224.81	1,292.63	32,357.65	6,183.39	26,174.26	19.11%
March	26,620.50	6,532.21	823.78	33,976.49	6,287.27	27,689.22	18.50%
April	25,854.64	6,360.02	5,905.61	38,120.27	8,920.95	29,199.32	23.40%
May	31,762.97	12,443.63	2,100.21	46,306.81	7,084.96	39,221.85	15.30%
June	30,930.20	9,185.56	3,052.14	43,167.90	8,545.69	34,622.21	19.80%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 325,335.30</b>	<b>\$ 88,432.60</b>	<b>\$ 37,772.95</b>	<b>\$ 451,540.85</b>	<b>\$ 86,066.77</b>	<b>\$ 365,474.08</b>	<b>19.06%</b>

**Fixed Route Transit Services**

	<u>Operator</u> <u>Contract</u>	<u>Vehicle</u> <u>M &amp; O</u>	<u>Operating</u> <u>Expenses</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>Expenses</u>	<u>Fare</u> <u>Revenues</u>	<u>Net</u> <u>Cost</u>	<u>Fare Box</u> <u>Ratio</u>
July	\$ 17,343.14	\$ 6,178.96	\$ 1,756.10	\$ 25,278.20	\$ 4,617.00	\$ 20,661.20	18.26%
August	18,118.33	6,302.45	492.19	24,912.97	5,002.92	19,910.05	20.08%
September	16,925.23	7,438.20	2,811.64	27,175.07	4,719.59	22,455.48	17.37%
October	18,121.27	7,050.06	930.78	26,102.11	7,211.13	18,890.98	27.63%
November	17,326.95	5,472.15	8,738.41	31,537.51	5,310.95	26,226.56	16.84%
December	17,337.20	4,748.10	755.21	22,840.51	4,661.10	18,179.41	20.41%
January	17,764.11	5,345.92	513.47	23,623.50	6,623.41	17,000.09	28.04%
February	16,945.56	5,008.50	522.30	22,476.36	4,872.62	17,603.74	21.68%
March	18,652.87	6,317.52	354.36	25,324.75	5,307.27	20,017.48	20.96%
April	19,103.65	5,946.96	3,160.96	28,211.57	6,805.63	21,405.94	24.12%
May	24,732.45	10,946.46	1,093.10	36,772.01	5,600.96	31,171.05	15.23%
June	24,401.55	7,122.21	1,745.93	33,269.69	6,547.69	26,722.00	19.68%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 226,772.31</b>	<b>\$ 77,877.49</b>	<b>\$ 22,874.45</b>	<b>\$ 327,524.25</b>	<b>\$ 67,280.27</b>	<b>\$ 260,243.98</b>	<b>20.54%</b>

**Dial-a-Ride Transit Services**

	<u>Operator</u> <u>Contract</u>	<u>Vehicle</u> <u>M &amp; O</u>	<u>Operating</u> <u>Expenses</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>Expenses</u>	<u>Fare</u> <u>Revenues</u>	<u>Net</u> <u>Cost</u>	<u>Fare Box</u> <u>Ratio</u>
July	\$ 8,848.12	\$ 1,083.66	\$ 1,793.09	\$ 11,724.87	\$ 1,288.00	\$ 10,436.87	10.99%
August	9,319.10	687.18	607.10	10,613.38	1,489.85	9,123.53	14.04%
September	8,380.56	753.38	2,949.04	12,082.98	1,262.50	10,820.48	10.45%
October	9,315.86	712.47	1,051.55	11,079.88	2,195.52	8,884.36	19.82%
November	8,848.30	254.25	660.97	9,763.52	1,538.77	8,224.75	15.76%
December	8,596.44	517.97	939.83	10,054.24	1,044.98	9,009.26	10.39%
January	9,082.17	1,141.62	599.20	10,822.99	2,078.79	8,744.20	19.21%
February	7,894.65	1,216.31	770.33	9,881.29	1,310.77	8,570.52	13.27%
March	7,967.63	214.69	469.42	8,651.74	980.00	7,671.74	11.33%
April	6,750.99	413.06	2,744.65	9,908.70	2,115.32	7,793.38	21.35%
May	7,030.52	1,497.17	1,007.11	9,534.80	1,484.00	8,050.80	15.56%
June	6,528.65	2,063.35	1,306.21	9,898.21	1,998.00	7,900.21	20.19%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 98,562.99</b>	<b>\$ 10,555.11</b>	<b>\$ 14,898.50</b>	<b>\$ 124,016.60</b>	<b>\$ 18,786.50</b>	<b>\$ 105,230.10</b>	<b>15.15%</b>

*Note: Operating expenses do NOT include depreciation.*