# Summary of San Mateo County Transit District's (District) Liaison Report – Meeting of August 6, 2014

#### The Community Relations Committee and Board

Tina Dubost, Manager, Accessible Transit Services, said she recently attended a Coastside Transportation Committee meeting. The committee is very pleased with the recent changes to the bus schedule that is increasing transit access to senior housing.

Mike Levinson, Paratransit Coordinating Council (PCC) Chair, thanked staff for allowing the PCC to be part of the Request for Proposals process for the new Redi-Wheels contract. The PCC will be participating in an education panel to discuss transportation options within the County on August 19.

Peter Ratto, Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) Chair, said the CAC received a presentation on the San Mateo County Transportation Authority Strategic Plan at the July 30 meeting.

Chester Patton, Director, Bus Transportation, presented the Mobility Management Report: Fixed-Route Bus Service (attached).

Chuck Harvey, Deputy CEO, provided the multimodal ridership report. Average Weekday Ridership – June 2014 Compared to June 2013

Bus: 39,220, an increase of 4.5 percent.

All modes: 112,540, an increase of 11.1 percent.

### The Finance Committee and Board

- Accepted the Quarterly Investment Report and Fixed Income Market Review and Outlook for the Quarter Ended June 30, 2014.
- Authorized Approval and Ratification of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2015 District Insurance Program for a Total Premium Cost of \$1,774,325.
- Authorized Amending the FY2015 Operating Budget by \$1.5 Million for a New Total of \$133,090,358. This amendment reflects the first year of the three-year negotiated contract with the Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1574.
- Authorized Award of Contract to Alcohol and Drug Testing Services, LLC to Provide Specimen Collection Services for Drug and Alcohol Analysis for an Estimated Amount of \$208,638 for a Five-Year Term.
- Authorized Award of Contract to Peterson Hydraulics, Inc. (dba Ferris Hoist and Repair) to Overhaul In-Ground Hydraulic Bus Lifts at a Total Cost of \$669,342.
- Received Information on the Statement of Revenues and Expenses for June 2014.
- Received an Update on the Execution of the FY2015 Fuel Hedge Program.
   Barclays Bank PLC was the only bidder who met all the requirements detailed in
   the Fuel Hedge Policy. The District hedged 1.2 million gallons, approximately
   70 percent of the District's expected annual fuel consumption at a price cap of
   \$2.95 per gallon.

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#### The Legislative Committee and Board

#### State Update

The State Legislation is near the end of the current session and staff expects all priority bills to pass before the deadline at the end of August. Staff has been working to help inform the administration as it develops guidance for the award of Cap and Trade funds. Staff will be participating in a series of meetings starting on August 14 to provide the Strategic Growth Council with input about how the program that will help implement the Sustainable Communities Strategies at the regional level will be awarded. Staff is working with the California Transit Association to help develop guidance and inform the administration about how guidance should be structured for transit and rail funding that is going to be available next year, which is separate from the Sustainable Communities Strategy funding.

The lower court decisions on high-speed rail were overturned at the Appellate level. Staff is still awaiting another decision at the lower court by the same judge who will review the second part of one of the cases that was overturned on appeal, which deals with whether the blended system is in alignment with Proposition 1A.

#### Federal Update

There is an extension of authorization for Highway Trust Fund spending. There were some differences between the House and Senate and basically the Senate wanted to have a shorter extension so that a lame duck Congress would hopefully approve a multi-year spending bill. The House wanted to extend the bill to 2015 when the new Congress would deal with this issue. This clears the way for the Senate to possibly pass appropriations, but more likely it will be a continuing resolution that would match the date the authorization of funding was extended to.

#### **Board of Directors**

Michael Scanlon, General Manager/CEO, reported:

- Thanked the Board for convening in special session in July and approving the Amalgamated Transit Union contract.
- Fixed-route service averaged 24,000 miles and Redi-Wheels averaged 30,000 miles between service calls in June.
- Five part-time bus operators were temporarily shifted to MV Transportation to help fill runs.
- Staff is beginning to analyze operational and ridership data for possible changes and improvements for the next runbook in January.
- Staff is working with the city of San Francisco as they do streetscape improvements along Folsom Street.
- Accessible Services staff completed the Lifeline fare assistance annual recertification process. There were 1,138 customers who were certified for this fare. This is 15 percent of the 7,628 customers who are certified eligible for Redi-Wheels and Redi-Coast service and accounts for nearly 50 percent of the total transit trips provided.

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- District is in receipt of two proposals for the Redi-Wheels (paratransit) contract which will be awarded in October.
- District is in receipt of two shuttle proposals for the contract which will be awarded in July 2015.
- Ana Chavez, Superintendent, Bus Transportation, will be hosting the local chapter of the Women's Transportation Seminar at North Base on August 28.
- The reading file contained the new issue of *Rider's Digest*, system map, and quarterly list of ads run on bus and shelters.

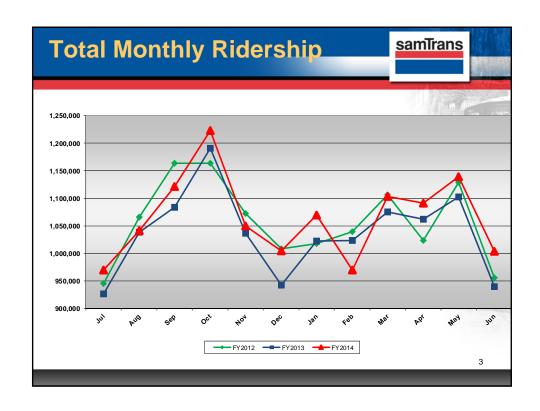
#### The Board met in closed session:

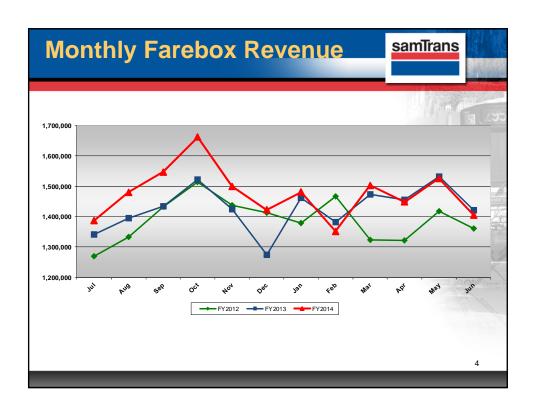
- Regarding pending labor negotiations with the Teamsters Union.
- Regarding the matter of Ling La versus SamTrans.
   No action was taken on either matter.

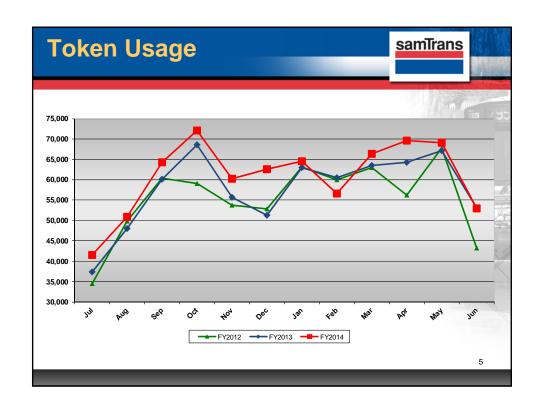
The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for Wednesday, September 3, 2014 at 2 p.m.

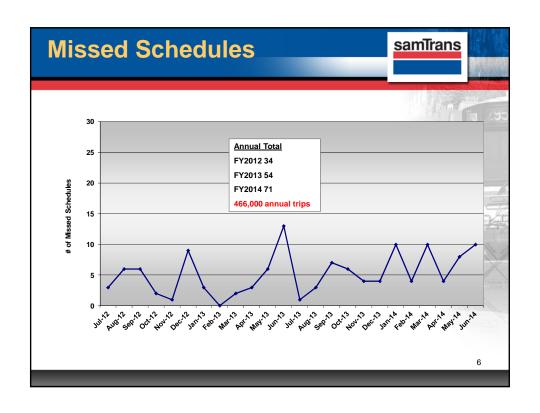


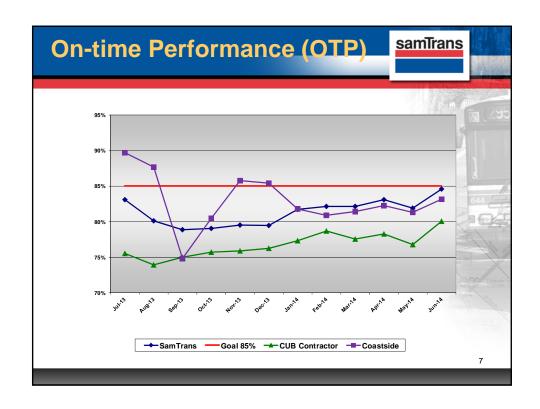


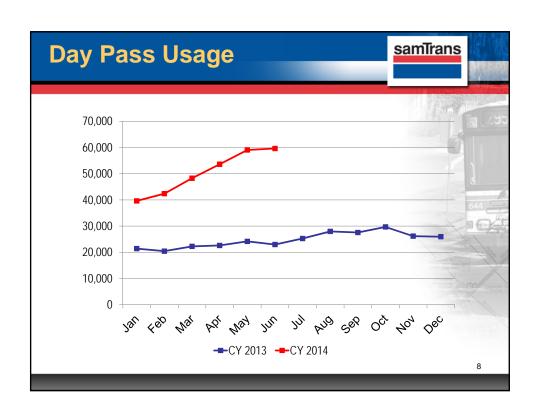


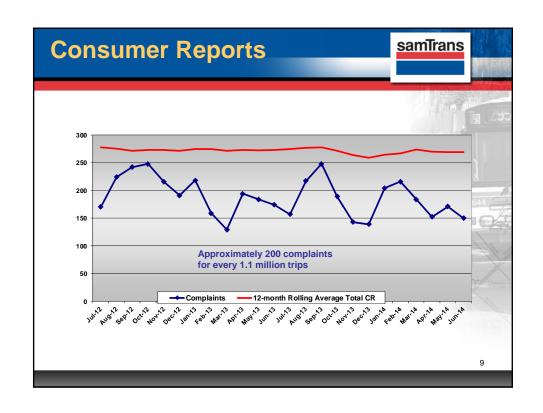


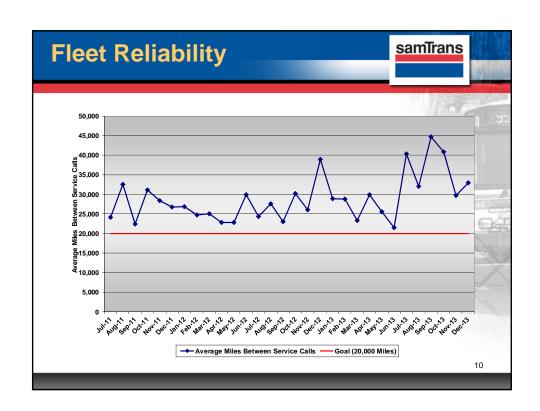




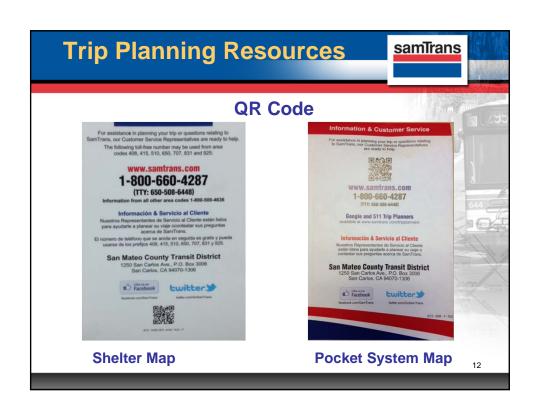






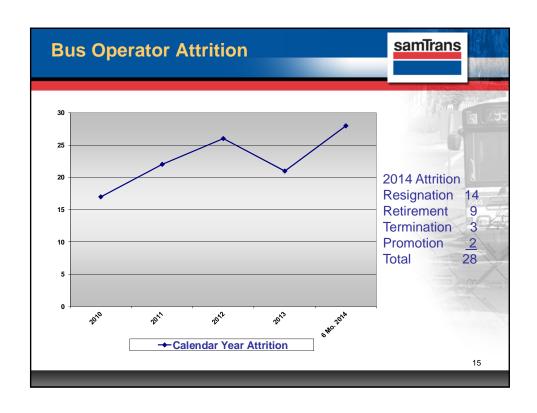












## **Continuous Improvement**

samTrans

Advanced Communication System (ACS)
Automatic Passenger Count (APC)

- ACS records 250,000 OTP electronic data points each month
  - Former manual system recorded ~ 5,000 OTP data points
- APC records riders boarding/alighting at each stop
- ACS electronic data allows for extensive analysis to improve route design and scheduling to improve customer service

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## **Summary**

samTrans

- Ridership is increasing
- Farebox revenue is moderately increasing, despite discounted Day Pass
- Service quality is high
- Trip planning resources enhanced
- Extensive training delivered in FY 2014
- Increased Bus Operator attrition and forecasted retirement in Maintenance will require focus on recruitment and skills development over the next several years

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