MANAGEMENT & LEADERSHIP

Tackling the Ridership Challenge Through Bold and Innovative Leadership

CALIFORNIA TRANSIT ASSOCIATION'S 54TH ANNUAL FALL CONFERENCE & EXPO



Tackling the Ridership Challenge

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Where in the world is MST?



AREA SERVICE **MST**

What doesn't work





The experiment

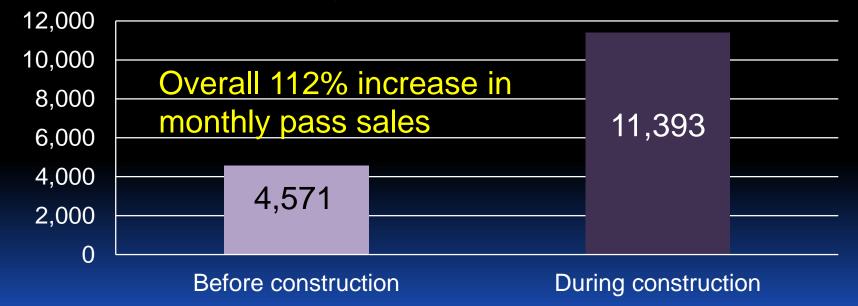




The result: cash to pass

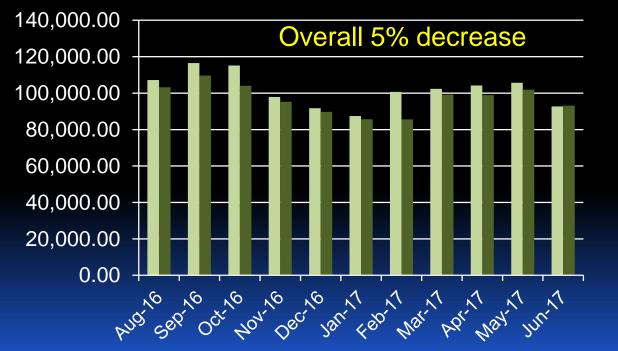


Total Monthly Pass Sales



Overall decrease in ridership

Ridership Comparison by Month



 Ridership Prior Year: August 2015-June 2016

 Ridership During Roundabout Construction: August 2016-June 2017

MST "Free" Services

Service	Who Pays Fare?	FY 2014 Riders	FY 2018 Riders	Change
Total Boardings	Mix of free and passengers	4,392,764	4,576,286	4.2%
MST Trolley	City Parking Fees and Aquarium	177,397	219,130	23.5%
CSU Monterey Bay	Student Fees and University Funds	209,149	281,604	34.6%
Military	Federal Transit Benefit	680,062	863,732	27.0%
Regular Fixed Route	Passenger	3,154,627	3,028,298	-4.1%

What happened to "regular" riders?







Lower vs "free" fares: which are better at increasing ridership?



Let's try that again with a twist



Introducing 'Ride the 40s on Us!'



Ride the 40's 41 on us! 42 45 49

It's Free! Weekends & Holidays

New through August 31, 2019

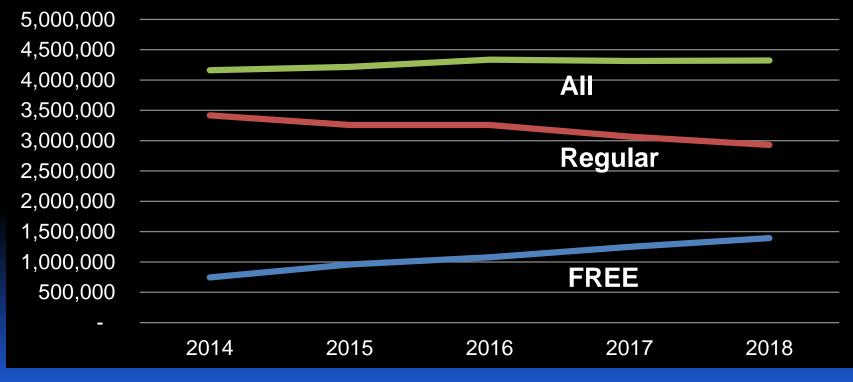
Funding provided by California Climate Investment Grants



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Ridership increases on FREE lines!

FREE vs Regular Ridership



When it's free, perceived value increases



Key takeaways?

- Making transit look free = ridership increase!
- Increased ridership may increase formula funds offsetting farebox losses
- Impacts to ADA services

Contact info

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