Southern California Transit in Crisis: Southern California’s Public Transit Services Face Existential Crisis in Coming Months Due to COVID-19

Southern California Transit Agencies Already Feeling Impacts

Transit in California faces an existential crisis due to the severe and adverse impacts of COVID-19. California’s local public transit agencies require $3.1 billion in new funding assistance this year to prevent additional devastating impacts. Transit agencies across Southern California have already been forced to suspend or dramatically reduce services due to the pandemic. These cuts could become permanent without state or federal action, and the ripple effects of a California without transit would be far-reaching and devastating to our state’s communities.

For more information, visit: caltransit.org/resources/coronavirus-awareness

Metro

CURRENT RIDERSHIP DECLINE: Metro Bus 75%  Metro Rail 85%

CURRENT WEEKLY REVENUE DECLINE: $5.75 million

OTHER FINANCIAL IMPACTS: Estimated losses over $800 million in sales tax revenue through September 2020. Overall impacts estimated at $1.8B through FY21.

REDUCTIONS IN SERVICE:
- Increased bus service throughout the system -- an increase from the modified Sunday schedule previously run during shelter-in-place.
- Additional $50 million estimated to be spent on PPE, cleaning, staffing and security.

OCTA

CURRENT RIDERSHIP DECLINE: 75%

CURRENT WEEKLY REVENUE DECLINE: $302,000

REDUCTIONS IN SERVICE:
- Change to modified Saturday service on 37 bus routes, reflecting only about 60% of regular service.
CURRENT RIDERSHIP DECLINE: Express Lines 87%

CURRENT WEEKLY REVENUE DECLINE: $387,000

REDUCTIONS IN SERVICE:
- Cutting service by 30%, maintaining peak routes and connections. Operating 115 trains per day vs usual 167.

OTHER OPERATIONAL IMPACTS:
- Fares will not be collected.
- 2 of the 4 Foothill Transit Stores are closed.

CURRENT RIDERSHIP DECLINE: 85%

CURRENT WEEKLY REVENUE DECLINE: $436,462

REDUCTIONS IN SERVICE:
- Cutting service by 30%, maintaining peak routes and connections. Operating 115 trains per day vs usual 167.

CURRENT RIDERSHIP DECLINE: 68%

CURRENT WEEKLY REVENUE DECLINE: $342,000

REDUCTIONS IN SERVICE:
- Cutting service by 50% on most lines.

OTHER OPERATIONAL IMPACTS:
- Resumed fare collection 6/1.

CURRENT RIDERSHIP DECLINE: 65%

CURRENT WEEKLY REVENUE DECLINE: $317,000

REDUCTIONS IN SERVICE:
- 6 bus routes canceled.

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