BCT Line 109
Cost Sharing Proposal: Fiscal Year 2019-20
May 2019

Service Overview

Beach Cities Transit operates the Line 109 route with agency partners, including Redondo Beach, Hermosa Beach, Manhattan Beach and El Segundo. The partner agencies share operating costs for Line 109.

Update

City staff is continuing efforts to implement real time information services on BCT buses to enable riders to get bus arrival times on their mobile phones or other computer systems. A real time information service RFP will be issued and the service implementation is planned for FY 2019-20. BCT distributed free TAP cards on buses to encourage riders to use the regional smart card system and take advantage of transfer fare policies.

Statistics: Ridership in FY 2018-19 continues to trend downward, consistent with regional and national transit agencies. BCT has participated in regional studies, and coordinate efforts with other Los Angeles County transit operators to improve ridership trends. BCT Line 109 passenger trips decreased in FY 2017-18 with 11,048 fewer trips from the prior year. Fare revenues decreased by $2,833.

Actual Service Statistics History of BCT Line 109

	FY 14-15	FY 15-16	FY16-17	FY2017-18
Service Hours	20,235	20,343	20,290	20,265
Operating Cost	$1,173,517	$1,172,600	$1,195,038	$1,260,936
Fare Revenues	$149,765	$150,103	$144,030	$141,197
Passenger Trips	206,198	200,993	190,068	179,020

Transit Funding

As fare revenues continue to decrease, new fund sources have alleviated the negative impact, covering costs related to BCT transportation services. Two new transportation funding sources (Measure M and SB1- State Transit Assistance) provided additional transit program funding in FY 2019 and resulted in the full funding for BCT 109 service for FY 2020. The additional Transit funding will be used towards BCT transit operations and facility improvements, and the transit center facility maintenance and operations. Metro's annual transit formula funding allocations to municipal transit operators is based on sales tax revenue receipts. Metro based Regional funding estimate increases for FY 2020 by 3.4% based on several economic forecasts.

Cost Estimates Fiscal Year 2020

The expenses included in the cost sharing estimates for BCT Line 109 are the operating expenses incurred by the transit contractor and fuel expenses. In addition, the estimate includes the projected cost to purchase and install real-time information capital equipment and systems, and related operation expenses.

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The total cost is expected to be $1,429,400 for the operation of 20,280 projected annual service hours. Cost increases are the result of increased fuel expenses, the transit contractor annual operating increases, and new real-time information system expenses.

Cost Sharing Allocation History

The cost sharing allocations, is based on the percent of average route miles. Redondo Beach will pay more than the other Cities' allocated percentage, in order to cover increased costs over costs that exceed estimates. The projected costs in the table below for FY2018-19 excludes real-time information cost estimates.

CITY	% INVESTMENT (avg route miles/ total route miles)	FY2015-16 actual	FY2016-17 actual	FY2017-18 actual	FY2018-19 Projected operations
Redondo Beach	34.95%	$33,349	$36,438	$39,817	$20,731
Hermosa Beach	10.89%	$10,391	$11,354	$12,407	$6,460
Manhattan Beach	16.05%	$15,314	$16,733	$18,285	$9,521
El Segundo	38.11%	$36,363	$39,732	$43,417	$22,606
TOTAL SHORTFALL	100%	$95,417	$104,258	$113,926	$59,318

Investment Estimates

Based on the preliminary transit formula allocation fund marks issued by Metro in April 2019, the City estimates FY 2019-20 BCT Line 109 operations will be fully-funded. In addition, planned expenditures for the real time information costs will be funded with other State and transit formula allocation funds.

BCT Estimated Cost Sharing Contract Allocations

CITY	% INVESTMENT (avg route miles/total route miles)	FY 2018-19 INVESTMENT ESTIMATE	FY 2019-20 INVESTMENT ESTIMATE
Redondo Beach	34.95%	$20,731	**None- Funded by Transit Formula Funds**
Hermosa Beach	10.89%	$6,460	**None- Funded by Transit Formula Funds**
Manhattan Beach	16.05%	$9,521	**None- Funded by Transit Formula Funds**
El Segundo	38.11%	$33,606	**None- Funded by Transit Formula Funds**
Total	**100%**	**$59,317**	**None- Funded by Transit Formula Funds**

Proposal Assumptions:
- *20,280 annual service hours*
- *No change in route mile distribution to Cities*

Estimated Expenditures BCT Line 109
Fiscal Year 2019-20

The expenses included in the cost sharing estimates for BCT Line 109 are the operating expenses incurred by the transit contractor, and fuel expenses. In addition, the City proposes to include the estimated cost to purchase and install Real-Time Information (RTI) capital equipment and systems, and related operation expenses.

The estimated cost of the RTI system will be distributed to both the Line 102 and 109 operations, with approximately 60% allocated to Line 109, which is 60% of the transit operations total service hours. The actual cost of the RTI service will not be final until after the RFP is issued and a vendor/system is determined. If the RTI costs by the selected vendor are lower than the estimated proposed costs, the City will review the budget to adjust the payment amounts. The RTI project will be billed to the Cities after the vendor agreement is awarded.

The total cost of the BCT Line 109 service inclusive of the RTI system is projected at approximately $1,429,400 for the operation of 20,280 projected annual service hours.

Estimated Line 109 Costs		Estimated Transit Funding	
Operations	$1,114,400	Operation Funding FAP	$1,369,400
Fuel	$255,000	Fare Revenues	$120,000
RTI Capital/Ops	$60,000	RTI Funding- State	$60,000
Total Estimate	$1,429,400	Total Estimated Revenues	$1,429,400
		Net Shortfall	*None*

The RTI Fact Sheet that follows on the next page provides an explanation of the benefits of real time information systems on transit buses.

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Real Time Passenger Information Fact Sheet

What is Real Time Passenger Information?

Real Time Passenger information allows passengers to receive real-time, up to date transit information. It is provided by a vehicle tracking system which uses global positioning satellite information and a historical algorithm to predict when the next vehicle will arrive at any given transit stop, thereby reducing wait times and the reliance on schedules.

What are the benefits?

Benefits realized from deploying real-time bus arrival information systems include improved customer service, increased customer satisfaction, and improved visibility of transit in the community.

Transit agencies can also use the system as an oversight tool to monitor and control schedule adherence, customer inquiries and operations management.

How is the information received?

Real time passenger information is usually available through a variety of mediums depending on the vendor. Mediums include phone, website, smartphone applications and SMS text messaging.

In addition, transit staff will be requiring vendors to provide a solution for real-time transit updates to users of Google Maps (GTFS-RT). These updates include live arrival and departure times to bus stops and service alerts.

What is the cost?

Price varies among real time information vendors. The range is $25,000-$100,000 depending on system requirements and operational needs. The range provides a comprehensive estimate for the project:

1. Real Time Equipment
2. Passenger/Admin Interface
    a. Visual tracking of bus and arrival/departure times.
3. Host GTFS-RT feed on Contractor Server
4. Launch and Manage GTFS-RT
    a. Administrative data reports.

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