

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF TULARE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

IN THE MATTER OF MODIFYING THE)
TULARE COUNTY AREA TRANSIT) Resolution No. 2018-0638
POLICIES FOR THE SENIOR DISCOUNT)
FARE AND FOR SERVICE LEVELS)
OFFERED ON CERTAIN HOLIDAYS)

UPON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR CROCKER, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR ENNIS, THE FOLLOWING WAS ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, AT AN OFFICIAL MEETING HELD JULY 31, 2018, BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: SUPERVISORS CROCKER, VANDER POEL, SHUKLIAN, WORTHLEY,
AND ENNIS
NOES: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: NONE



ATTEST: MICHAEL C. SPATA
COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER/
CLERK, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BY: Milany Rodello
Deputy Clerk

1. Held a Public Hearing in accordance with Government Code Section 54986 to consider the adoption of modifications to Tulare County Area Transit policies for holiday service levels and the minimum age for the Senior fare discount; and
2. Adopted the new minimum age of 65 years or older for individuals to qualify for the Tulare County Area Transit Senior Discounted Fare and authorize the Resource Management Agency Director and/or his designee to implement the fare change beginning August 4, 2018; and
3. Adjusted the service level offered on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Presidents' Day, Veterans Day, the Day after Thanksgiving, and Christmas Eve from Saturday-level service to Sunday-level service.



**RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT AGENCY
COUNTY OF TULARE
AGENDA ITEM**

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

KUYLER CROCKER
District One

PETE VANDER POEL
District Two

AMY SHUKLIAN
District Three

J. STEVEN WORTHLEY
District Four

MIKE ENNIS
District Five

AGENDA DATE: July 31, 2018

Public Hearing Required	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
Scheduled Public Hearing w/Clerk	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
Published Notice Required	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advertised Published Notice	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
County Counsel Sign-Off	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meet & Confer Required	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Electronic file(s) has been sent	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
Budget Transfer (Aud 308) attached	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Personnel Resolution attached	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Agreements are attached and signature line for Chairman is marked with tab(s)/flag(s)	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CONTACT PERSON: Celeste Perez PHONE: (559) 624-7010				

SUBJECT: Modifying the Tulare County Area Transit Policies for the Senior Discount Fare and for Service Levels Offered on Certain Holidays

REQUEST(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Hold a Public Hearing in accordance with Government Code Section 54986 to consider the adoption of modifications to Tulare County Area Transit policies for holiday service levels and the minimum age for the Senior fare discount; and
2. Adopt the new minimum age of 65 years or older for individuals to qualify for the Tulare County Area Transit Senior Discounted Fare and authorize the Resource Management Agency Director and/or his designee to implement the fare change beginning August 4, 2018; and
3. Adjust the service level offered on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Presidents' Day, Veterans Day, the Day after Thanksgiving, and Christmas Eve from Saturday-level service to Sunday-level service.

SUMMARY:

At the request of staff from the Tulare County Association of Governments ("TCAG"), the various transit agencies in Tulare County reviewed various policies throughout the County to determine where confusion could be eliminated and uniform policies amongst the different transit agencies could be adopted. One of the policies identified was the age at which the senior discount applies for the various services. A comparison of the transit agencies shows that most agencies use a minimum age of 65 for the senior discount, while the County uses a minimum age of 60 and Dinuba Transit uses a minimum age of 62.

As a result, staff is proposing that Tulare County Area Transit (TCaT) modify its senior

SUBJECT: Modifying the Tulare County Area Transit Policies for the Senior Discount Fare and for Service Levels Offered on Certain Holidays

DATE: July 31, 2018

citizen discount age policy to conform to the majority of other transit providers in the County. It will also further the goal of creating uniformity throughout the County and reduce confusion among riders, which is important as TCaT acts as a regional provider serving many points throughout the county and connecting in the cities including Visalia, Porterville, and Tulare.

The following chart shows the age of eligibility for the discount on each of the County services:

Provider	Minimum Age for Senior Discount
Tulare County Area Transit - Existing	60
Tulare County Area Transit -Proposed	65
Dinuba Area Regional Transit (DART)	62
Porterville Transit (PT)	65
Tulare Intermodal Express (TIME)	65
Visalia Transit (VT)	65

Public notice of the adjustments to the fare structure were published in local newspapers of general circulation (Visalia Times Delta/Tulare Advanced Register, Porterville Recorder & Dinuba Sentinel) in Tulare County on July 3, 2018 and July 17, 2018.

The proposed fare adjustment would take effect on August 4, 2018, which is when the County has historically implemented fare and service changes.

Based on the characteristics of the system and the nature of the change in fare policy, it is not expected that the change in minimum age for the senior discount will noticeably impact ridership or the fare box recovery (transit revenue).

Staff also reviewed the policy surrounding transit operations on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Presidents' Day, Veterans Day, the Day after Thanksgiving, and Christmas Eve. TCaT currently offers a Saturday-level of service on these holidays. All of these holidays falls on either a Friday or a Monday, except for Veterans Day and Christmas Eve, which fall on fixed dates. Under this service policy, TCaT may be required to provide additional service on Christmas Eve and Veterans Day when either of these holidays falls on a Sunday. Currently, Saturday-level service and Sunday-level service are identical except for Route 50 (Dinuba–London–Traver–Delft Colony), which is offered on Saturdays but not Sundays. Route 50 operates from 9:30 to 3:20 on Saturdays and service was added on Saturdays as part of the Unmet Needs process. Route 50 experiences very little ridership on these holidays, and operations on these days does not typically meet any of the standard metrics for service. For these reasons, staff are recommending that the service level be reduced to Sunday-level service for the above listed holidays.

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TCaT currently does not offer service on New Year's Day, Easter Sunday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day and this policy proposal would not affect these holidays.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

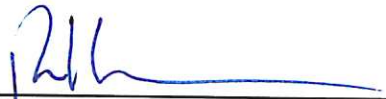
No Net County Cost.

Based on the characteristics of the system and the nature of the change in fare policy, it is not expected that the change in minimum age for the senior discount will noticeably impact the fare box recovery for the system. The change in service level on Saturdays would result in a negligible savings of approximately \$700 per year but would help improve certain transit performance metrics, including riders per hour and farebox recovery ratio.

LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF TULARE STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN:

This program links to Strategic Initiative 1: Safety and Security includes the goal of improving and maintaining adequate transportation infrastructure. The proposed action meets this initiative by encouraging greater uniformity between transit providers throughout the County.

ADMINISTRATIVE SIGN-OFF:



Reed Schenke, P.E.
Director

Cc: Auditor-Controller
County Counsel
County Administrative Office (2)



Transit Policy Changes: Senior Discount Fare & Holiday Service Levels

Presented by the
Tulare County Resource Management Agency
July 31, 2018



Current Fare Structure

TCaT Fixed Route Fares:

General	\$2.00
Discounted*	\$1.00
First 2 Children (6 y.o. & under)	Free
Each Additional Child	\$2.00

TCaT Dial-A-Ride Fares:

Dial-A-Ride – General	\$3.00
Dial-A-Ride – Discounted*	\$2.00
ADA Cardholders	\$1.00
First 2 Children (6 y.o. & under)	Free
Each Additional Child	\$3.00

*Discounted fares available to Seniors, the Disabled, and Medicare Cardholders. Military/Veterans also get the discount under a TCAG program.



Senior Fare Policy - Comparison

Minimum Age for Senior Discount – Tulare County Agencies

- Tulare County Area Transit - Existing 60
- Tulare County Area Transit -Proposed 65
- Dinuba Area Regional Transit (DART) 62
- Porterville Transit (PT) 65
- Tulare Intermodal Express (TIME) 65
- Visalia Transit (VT) 65
- Woodlake Dial-A-Ride 65

Minimum Age for Senior Discount – Other Systems

- Fresno Area Express 65
- Fresno County Rural 65
- Kern County Transit 62
- Clovis Stageline 65
- Kings Area Rural Transit 65



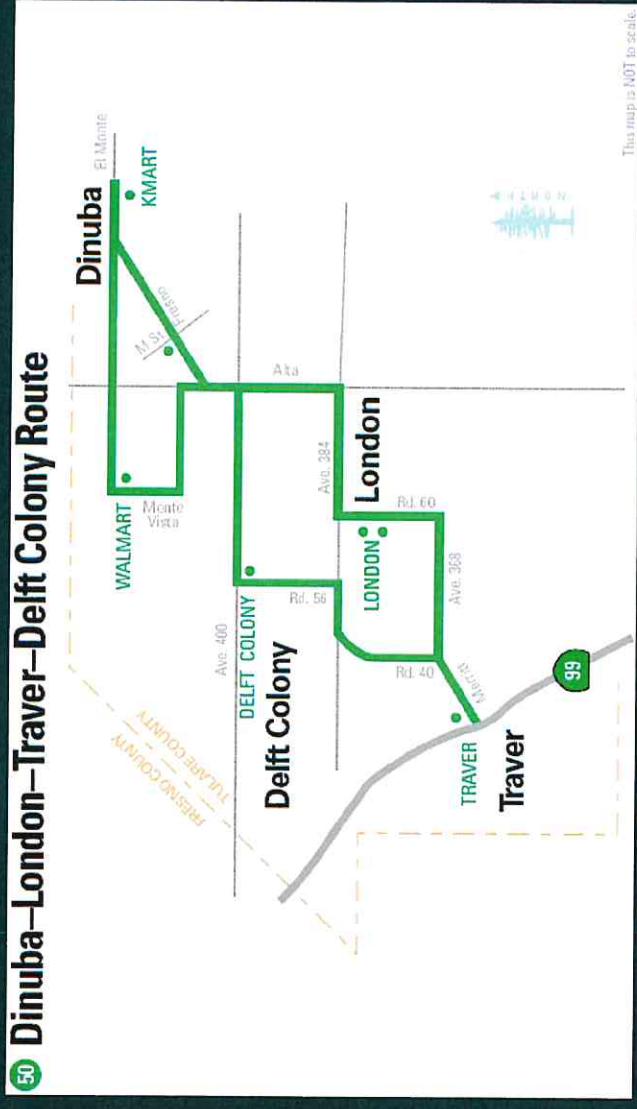
Holiday Schedule

Limited Service Holidays:

- Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- Presidents' Day
- Veterans Day
- Day after Thanksgiving
- Christmas Eve

Impacts:

- Only Route 50 Affected
- 4 Service Runs On Saturday Schedule
- No Service on Sunday Schedule
- Limited Ridership on Holidays





Requests

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2. Adopt the new minimum age of 65 years or older for individuals to qualify for the Tulare County Area Transit Senior Discounted Fare and authorize the Resource Management Agency Director and/or his designee to implement the fare change beginning August 4, 2018; and
3. Adjust the service level offered on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Presidents' Day, Veterans Day, the Day after Thanksgiving, and Christmas Eve from Saturday-level service to Sunday-level service.

Questions, Comments, and Discussion

