

SANTA CRUZ METROPOLITAN TRANSIT DISTRICT

METRO PUBLIC MEETING

FORMAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

May 11, 2016

Davenport Volunteer Fire & Rescue, Co. 37

75 Marine View Avenue, Davenport, CA 95017

1           ERIC GROSS: I would like to say that I am  
2 pleased with the way this is -- this current version of  
3 the plan is maintaining weekday service to Davenport,  
4 because I work at the school and a lot of our kids come  
5 from Santa Cruz on the METRO bus to attend school. And  
6 there -- in this version of the plan, there's a route  
7 that comes at a time that will be perfect for dropping  
8 your kids off at school. And there's another one that  
9 would pick them up after school lets out. So that works  
10 very well for us

11           If there is money in the future to add back  
12 routes, it would also be nice to add back a later route.  
13 I'm not sure of the right time, but 5:30 or six. So the  
14 kids who go to town for after school events like sports  
15 or lessons could return to town on the bus.

16           The bus stop right in front of the school is  
17 perfect. I hope -- it appears that though that's  
18 continuing. So I like that.

19           I guess that's all I have to say. This looks  
20 good. Thank you.

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1           ROGER KNAPP: I'm a Davenport resident and I'm  
2 also a school board member for Pacific Elementary School  
3 District.

4           So what I wanted to say was that at Pacific  
5 school, more than half of our students come from the  
6 city of Santa Cruz, and the majority -- so that's a  
7 majority of our students. And there's a large  
8 percentage of those people that take the bus in the  
9 morning. And it's a -- our school starts at 8:30. And  
10 that's a route that is meant to be eliminated. So that  
11 will eliminate accessibility for parents and students  
12 coming from Santa Cruz to school here.

13           And currently, there's a return trip that they  
14 can make after school is over; and it looks like that  
15 route is going to be eliminated as well.

16           And I think that that's a waste of gas and it  
17 causes more traffic and unnecessary trips up the coast  
18 for parents. And it's a hardship for our students.

19           And I think that they should make a route that  
20 allows students to come from Santa Cruz up to the  
21 elementary school up here and arrive on time and leave  
22 shortly after school is out.

23           There is an additional need that seems to be  
24 covered here for kids that live up here to go down to  
25 Mission Hill and Santa Cruz High, but that need was

1 taken into consideration. But the need for kids coming  
2 from Santa Cruz to Pacific school doesn't seem to have  
3 been addressed. And I think if they did the numbers,  
4 they would find that more kids come up to Pacific school  
5 and use the bus to go back and forth than go the  
6 opposite direction to junior high and high school.

7           And I think we need that service.  
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1           RACHAEL SPENCER: I live at 600 Swanton Road in  
2 Davenport, California.

3           I think we need to increase our bus service and  
4 I would support a gas tax, say 10 cents a gallon to  
5 subsidize the METRO.

6           If we don't have increased service, the people  
7 in Davenport and on the north coast will be isolated.

8           Also, the more people that take the bus, are  
9 doing all of us a favor, because they're -- it's more  
10 violator tally correct if you have a mass transit. So  
11 they're doing us a favor and they should be heavily  
12 subsidized. 25 cents a ride.

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1                   ROBERTA K. SMITH: This is just from my  
2 perspective. I'm now elderly and I am facing quitting  
3 driving, myself. And thus, in part at least, being  
4 dependent on public transportation. And I've been  
5 driving since I was 16. And since I left LA, I've never  
6 taken public transportation anywhere. But that's why  
7 I'm here.

8                   And thus, for me, I don't like -- now, this  
9 doesn't mean I couldn't do it, but it's not -- doesn't  
10 feel convenient to start at the earliest time mentioned,  
11 nor arrive back at the latest time. And ideally for me,  
12 there would be a bus going from here, however it got  
13 here in the morning, into town. And I am mostly  
14 interested in being on Mission Street. So most of the  
15 buses that go in, I assume go down Mission Street. And  
16 most of what I do, my doctor, and where I like to eat  
17 out, and where I shop for food, and drugstore, they're  
18 all on Mission. And that's deliberate on my part.

19                   And for me, mid-morning, leaving here, would be  
20 good. And coming back around 2:00 to 3:00 would be  
21 good. So that's just my -- and I suppose if I have to  
22 make tradeoffs, I don't mind going through Bonny Doon,  
23 but I wouldn't do that by choice. But with tradeoffs, I  
24 would accept that a lot more than if it were way up to  
25 the end of Bonny Doon, at the end of Empire Grade or

1 something like that, which would take a lot longer,  
2 because it just goes to the school.

3 The schedule is not convenient for me in the  
4 afternoon if I had an appointment, say, 3 o'clock.

5 I would like to add this, that I'm 84 years  
6 old, so I don't hop on and off of buses real readily.  
7 So that's why I'm now looking at buses. Because I've  
8 always driven since I was 16. And I'm thinking that I'm  
9 going to have to stop, which doesn't make me happy.

10 My overall comment would be I would like to see  
11 more service. And I realize that's self-serving to say  
12 that, but it is true. Like at one time, the bus went up  
13 to the county line and then you could, at the county  
14 line, get the SamTrans, San Mateo County bus.

15 My late ex-husband occasionally would take that  
16 route, because he worked in Menlo Park to go to work.  
17 Because, otherwise, he'd drive. You know, and it would  
18 be six of one and half a dozen of the other. Except it  
19 took longer to take the bus. But it was kind of  
20 entertaining once in awhile.

21 Our bus took people to the park and Año Nuevo,  
22 and the bottom end of Big Basin State Park. So it was  
23 convenient.

24 And then, also, when there were children, there  
25 was a time when there was a small bus that picked up

1 children for -- who live on Last Chance Road and that's  
2 a nine-mile road. And there are quite a few people that  
3 live out there. But now they have to get into  
4 Santa Cruz in order to get the bus. So a lot of those,  
5 they're parents or they have organized groups.

6           But that's not for me, but that's a fact that  
7 there are really unserved people in the county. And if  
8 we ever got to such a point where there would be the  
9 money to move in that direction, it could be a big help  
10 to a goodly number of people.

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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

I, CAMMI R. BOWEN, Certified Shorthand Reporter  
in and for the State of California, hereby certify:

That said statements were taken down by me in  
shorthand, and were thereafter transcribed under my  
direction into typewriting; and that the foregoing is a  
full, complete, and true record of said proceedings.

I further certify that I am not in any way  
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CAMMI R. BOWEN, CSR 13492  
5/11/2016