

AGENDA ITEM 7 A
Action Item

MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 7, 2008

TO: El Dorado County Transit Authority

FROM: Mindy Jackson, Transit Director

SUBJECT: Transfer agreement between El Dorado County Transit Authority and Sacramento Regional Transit District.

REQUESTED ACTION:

BY MOTION, Authorize Transit Director to negotiate an amendment to the transfer agreement between El Dorado County Transit Authority and Sacramento Regional Transit District to discontinue free rides for employees of both agencies

BACKGROUND

The El Dorado County Transit Authority (El Dorado Transit) adopted a transfer agreement with Sacramento Regional Transit (RT) that allows El Dorado Transit to operate service in Sacramento County and the City of Sacramento and provides opportunities to facilitate the coordinated transfer of passengers. The transfer agreement allows El Dorado Transit to sell, issue and accept RT transfers and monthly passes; allows RT employees to ride El Dorado Transit for no fare and El Dorado Transit employees to ride RT bus and light rail for no fare. The agreement includes methodology for revenue sharing in conjunction with a college student access program. The attached Summary of Fees details the current transfer program.

The second amendment to the transfer agreement includes the following provision:

- F. Acceptance of Employee Identification Cards: Employees of both RT and TRANSIT shall be allowed free passage on either system, provided that valid employee identification cards are presented upon boarding. This provision is not extended to family or dependent individuals.

Negotiations for the initial agreement included consensus by both agencies to support public transit by allowing employees to ride at no charge on both systems. Six (6) regional transit

operators including El Dorado Transit offer trips to RT employees for no charge: Amador Regional Transit Systems; E-tran (Elk Grove); Folsom Stage; Placer County Transit; and Yolobus. Regional operators that do not offer the RT employee discount include: Capital Corridor; Fairfield/Suisun Transit; Roseville Transit; San Joaquin Regional Transit District; South County Transit and Yuba-Sutter Transit.

The initial agreement was adopted on November 4, 1999 and includes two (2) amendments dated February 3, 2005 and September 7, 2005.

Two (2) current studies may affect the existing transfer agreement. RT is reviewing the structure of all discounted fare programs including transfer agreements. There may be RT board action within the next few months that could impact the transfer agreement.

El Dorado Transit is working with the Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) and several transit operators on the feasibility of a universal fare card for the region. A new transfer agreement would be developed if El Dorado Transit opts to participate in a universal fare card program.

DISCUSSION

During the eighteen (18) month period July 2006 through December 2007 El Dorado Transit staff rode the RT system four (4) times. El Dorado Transit provided 1,812 trips with a value in terms of potential fare revenue of \$7,231.50 for RT employee worksite transportation during this same eighteen (18) month period.

The total value of fares for all trips provided under the transfer agreement from July 2006 through December 2007 is \$13,506. The attached Summary of Fees states the four (4) types of fares and fare media accepted by El Dorado Transit under the existing transfer agreement.

El Dorado Transit staff is preparing the preliminary budget for fiscal year 2008/2009 and recommends negotiating an amendment to discontinue the employee transportation provision of the transfer agreement with a projected effective date of July 1, 2008. The three (3) remaining fare stipulations would remain intact. Neither El Dorado Transit nor RT receives full reimbursement for transferring passengers and student trips however; there are shared revenues for these trips. The transfer agreement does not provide a reimbursement of any portion of fares for RT or El Dorado Transit employee transportation.

El Dorado Transit staff is requesting authorization for the Transit Director to negotiate a third amendment to the existing transfer agreement to discontinue free employee transportation.

**SUMMARY OF FEES FOR
SACRAMENTO REGIONAL TRANSIT (RT) FARE MEDIA ACCEPTED ON
EL DORADO COUNTY TRANSIT AUTHORITY BUS ROUTES**

EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 1, 2007

COMBINATION EL DORADO TRANSIT AND RT PASSES

Accepted by both systems for the following services:

- Monthly Sacramento Commuter/RT Pass \$170.50
- Monthly Iron Point Connector/RT Pass \$122.50

RT Transfers

Note: RT transfers are issued but not accepted on Iron Point Connector

- Fare when RT transfer is *issued* on El Dorado Transit buses 0.25¢
- Fare when RT transfer is *accepted* on El Dorado Transit buses \$3.00

CSUS AND LOS RIOS COLLEGE DISTRICT STUDENT TRANSIT PASS

- El Dorado Transit Sacramento Commuter and Iron Point Connector Routes
 - \$1.00 discount off one-way fare with current pass/ID
- El Dorado Transit Local County Fixed Routes
 - No Charge with current pass/ID

EMPLOYEE PASSES/BADGES

- Valid El Dorado Transit and RT employee passes or badges allow holder free transportation on both systems