

## **Executive Summary**

This transit planning document update has been prepared for Sacramento County and the City of Galt to update the existing management tool and policy guidelines adopted in February 2008. The report includes recommendations and implementation plans intended to improve the farebox recovery ratio for the South County Transit Link system through the strengthening of connections on existing lines, reduction of redundant service, and introduction of a service to increase ridership amongst choice riders. It also aims to increase access to education, employment, medical services, and recreational opportunities. Additionally, this report serves to record previously undocumented agreements between Isleton and the City of Rio Vista, an outside jurisdiction, to provide transit service.

The report analyzes services provided by SCT/Link—the Delta Route, the Highway 99 Service—and services previously recommended for implementation. It examines the existing fare structure and proposes a modified structure to encourage ridership and increase revenue. Lastly, it recognizes the need for a public outreach/marketing plan to publicize the system improvements.

### **Public Outreach**

To assess the interest in modifying the Highway 99 Service and implementing the proposed commuter service to Sacramento, a survey was distributed to SCT/Link transit riders on the Highway 99 Service for one week in November 2010. Another survey was created and disseminated during the month of February 2011 to learn about Galt residents' interest in the proposed commuter service and in changing the transit stops on the Highway 99 Service. The results from both surveys were applied to the analysis of and subsequent recommendations for the Highway 99 Service and the proposed commuter service.

### **Highway 99 Service**

An analysis was performed on the existing Highway 99 Service to determine if it was possible to strengthen ridership beyond the existing levels. The recommendation was developed using information from the transit-rider and public surveys and discussions with the contract operator, City of Galt and County of Sacramento staff, and elected officials from both jurisdictions. It is recommended to move the Elk Grove Boulevard transit stop to Cosumnes River College and to move the Florin Mall Transit Center stop to the Kaiser Hospital in South Sacramento.

### **Proposed Commuter Service**

A commuter service connecting Galt with Downtown Sacramento was proposed in the most recent SRTP. The route recommended in this report provides access not only to employment along 9<sup>th</sup>, L, I, and Q Streets, but also provides access to medical shuttles from the 29<sup>th</sup> Street light rail station and connects with routes that access California State University, Sacramento. To encourage ridership by commuters and other Galt residents, the service is recommended to operate with three runs per weekday: one morning, one midday, and one evening.

### **Delta Route**

The Delta Route is a low-performing rural route connecting communities in the Delta with the City of Galt and the City of Lodi. An analysis was performed on the Delta Route to determine if it was possible to strengthen ridership beyond the current levels. The recommended method to improve ridership and farebox recovery ratio is to eliminate the direct link between Isleton and Lodi while increasing the frequency of connections between Isleton and Galt. Additionally, it is recommended that the service operate on a demand-responsive basis to eliminate occurrences of zero-passenger runs.

### **Fare Structure**

Fare structure was examined for each of the routes studied (Highway 99 Service, proposed commuter, and Delta Route). The recommended fares are presented as an alternative to the current Delta Route fare and the current fare structure for the Highway 99 Service, and for the proposed commuter route to downtown Sacramento. The recommended fares are aimed at improving ridership along with the improved service connections to begin to build a lasting base ridership to increase the farebox recovery rate of the system.