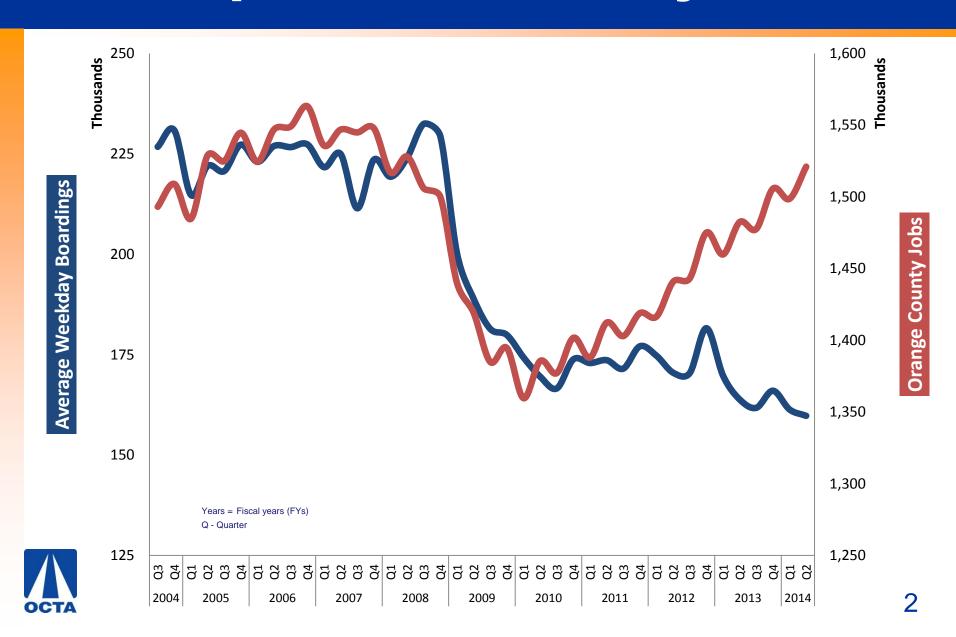
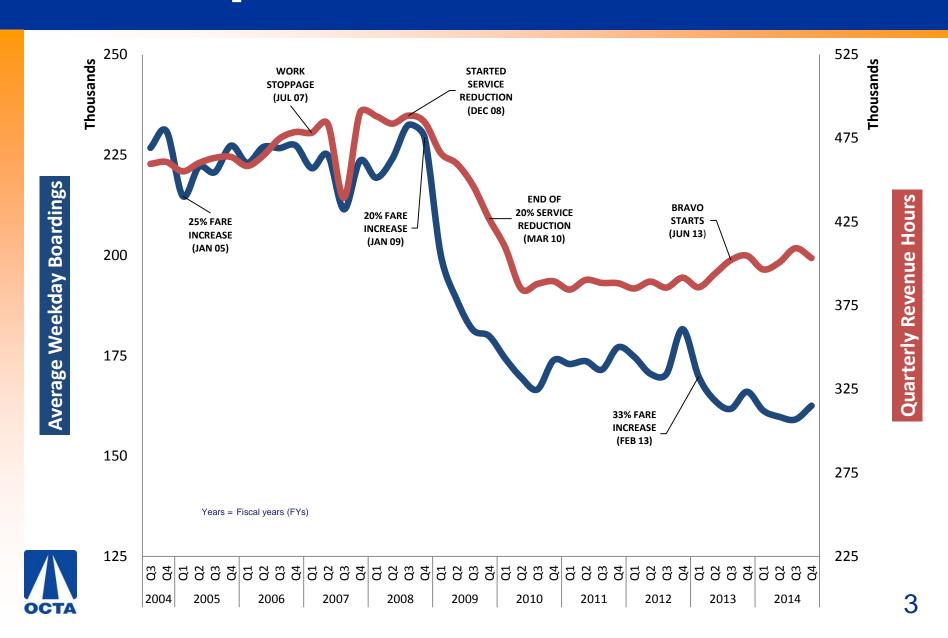
Bus Ridership Growth Issues and Strategies

Ridership and the Economy



Ridership and Resources

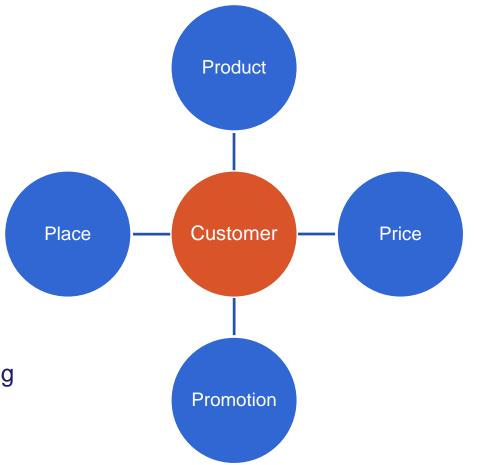


Ridership Growth Framework

 Customers want improved travel times

Focus on customer with changes in:

- Product
 - Types of services
- Price
 - Fares
- Promotion
 - Branding/targeted marketing
- Place
 - Fare media and channels





All changes must meet state/federal requirements.

Short-Term Improvements



(within 6-8 months)

- Goal: Improve travel times
 - Offer new limited-stop service to improve in-vehicle travel time (cost-neutral)
 - Roll savings into more frequent service where possible
 - Possible corridors: Beach Boulevard, Bristol Street/ State College Boulevard
 - Early rollout: October 2015 for one pilot route



Short-Term Improvements

(within 6-8 months)



- Stop consolidation
 - Consolidate stops on routes with short-stop spacing to save running time on local service
 - Low cost and improved travel time for most riders
 - Outreach program recommended
 - Early rollout: Early 2016 for two pilot routes (TBD)

TBD - To be determined



Longer-Term Improvements



- Additional Bravo routes with service expansion
 - 2014 Long-Range Transportation Plan included eight new rapid lines
 - Requires new vehicles and expansion resources
- On-demand, flexible services
 - Vanpools, "flex" routes, partnerships with private providers



Short-Term Price Changes



- Goal: Attract and retain young riders
- Reduce youth pass cost by 50 percent (June 1 to September 30)
 - Evaluate program in August 2015
 - Consider continuation based on evaluation and funding availability





Longer-Term Pricing Strategies



- Goal: Recommend pricing policies that balance efficiency and effectiveness
- Conduct a comprehensive evaluation of bus system fare structure starting in July 2015
- Early results: December 2015



Market Evaluation



- Goal: Gain an understanding of future and former customers
 - Gauge general awareness and perception about bus service
 - Identify changes that would attract high-potential market segments
 - Understand why former customers stopped riding
- Early results: Summer 2015



Marketing and Promotion



- Goal: Generate awareness and interest
 - New branding
 - Route promotion
 - High-frequency and special service
 - Targeted marketing
 - Millennials/students
 - Ethnic groups
 - Seniors
 - Employers/employees









Fare Media



- Goal: Expand convenient access to fare media (sold at over 173 locations today)
- Recent jump in smart phone ownership presents new opportunities
- Mobile ticketing app under development now
- Early rollout/results: 2016 for pilot program

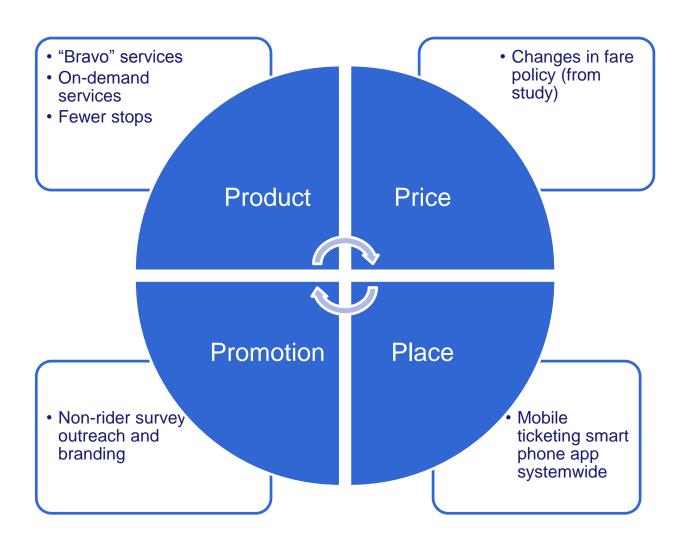


Short-Term Recommendations





Longer-Term Strategies





Next Steps

- American Public Transportation Association peer review report
- Non-rider survey completion
- Return in fall 2015 with update

