

# **Bus Service Reduction Program**

**COMMUNITY MEETINGS** 

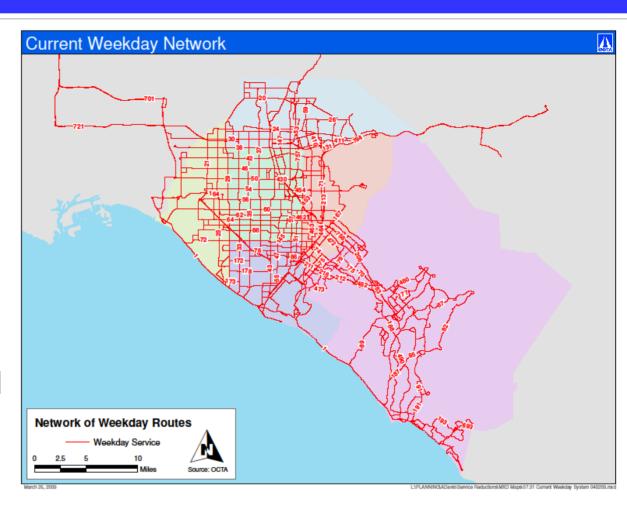
May 12, 13 & 14, 2009





# **Current OCTA Bus System**

- Daily countywide bus service
- 80 weekday routes
  - 45 Saturday routes
  - 42 Sunday routes
- 67.8 million annual boardings
- \$227 million annual operating cost\*



<sup>\*</sup> Fiscal Year 2008/2009 budget

# **Existing Service Levels**

Budget determines service levels and measured in revenue vehicle hours (RVH)

	Revenue Vehicle Hours (RVH)		
	Daily Hours	Annual Hours*	Annual Percent
Weekday	5,276	1,460,000	81.4%
Saturday	3,250	169,000	9.4%
Sunday	2,842	165,000	9.2%

Total Annual RVH

1,794,000

<sup>\*</sup>Service levels as of July 1, 2009

### **Paratransit Service**

- ACCESS paratransit for Americans with Disabilities Act
- Operates within ¾ miles of fixed routes
- Same days, times and service area as fixed routes
- 1.3 million annual boardings
- \$40 million annual operating cost\*





<sup>\*</sup> Fiscal Year 2008/2009 budget.

## When are peak travel times?

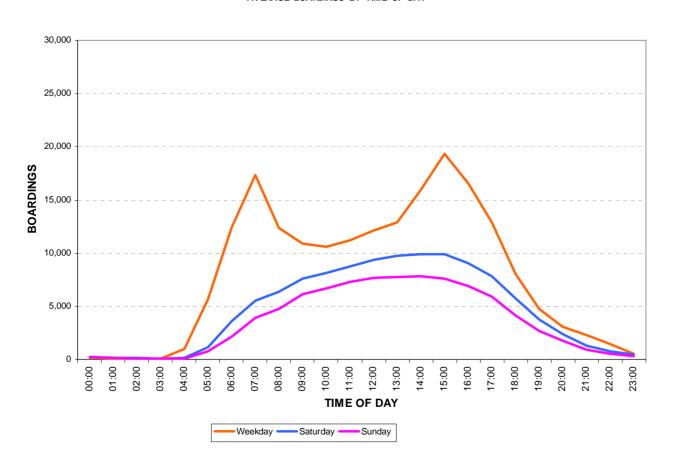
#### Weekdays

- Morning peak: 6 to 9 a.m.
- Afternoon peak: 3 to 6 p.m.

AVERAGE BOARDINGS BY TIME OF DAY

#### Weekends

- Later start
- Gradual peak



## Who rides the bus?

#### Our customers rely on transit

75% Are 18 to 44 years

8% Seniors (65+)

67% Have no car available

70% Work full-time or part-time

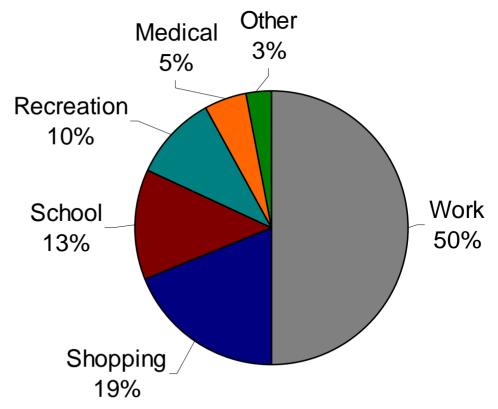
18% Ride to save money

Source: 2007 Bus Customer Satisfaction Survey

# **Trip Purpose**

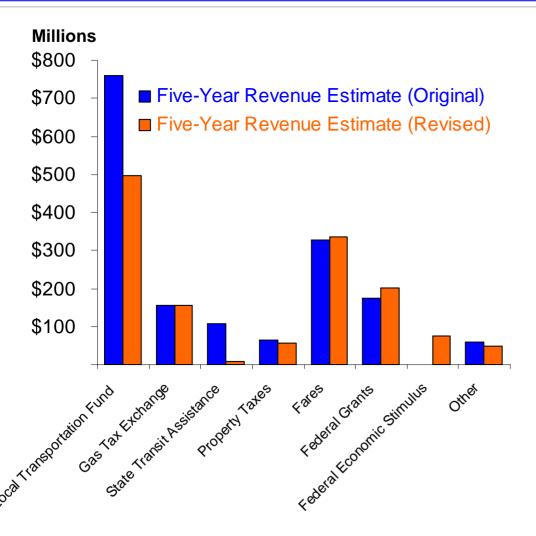


#### Many travel to and from work



Source: 2007 Bus Customer Satisfaction Survey

# **Five Year Financial Impact\***



## Two Major Funding Sources Down

- Local Transportation Fund: ¼ cent sales tax for bus down \$214 million
- State Transit Assistance loss \$99 million

## Federal Economic Stimulus for Bus Operation

\$76 million

#### **Overall Impact on Bus**

- Original estimate (2008) \$1.65 billion
- Revised estimate (2009) \$1.38 billion
- Shortfall \$ 272 million

<sup>\*</sup> Fiscal Years 2009-2013

## What about other transit systems?

AGENCY	IMPACT	
Riverside Transit Agency	Service cuts Reduce operations staff	
San Diego Metropolitan Transit System	Service cuts Raise fares	
LONG BEACH TRANSIT	Raise fares	
NORTH COUNTY TRANSIT DISTRICT WE MOVE PEOPLE	Service cuts	
Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority	Raise fares Change Paratransit service	
big bus	Service cuts	

# Steps Taken To Date

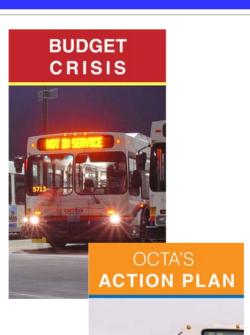


ACTION PLAN

- Reduced OCTA budget for current year
- Implemented hiring & salary freeze
- Proposed cuts to employee benefits
- Asked unions to re-negotiate contracts
- Raised transit fares January 2009
- Reallocated \$4 million per year from bikeways to buses
- Eliminate 133,000 RVH by July 2009
- Received \$76 million federal stimulus

## Balancing the FY 2009-2010 Budget

- Board direction to reduce cost equivalent of 400,000 RVH
- Equates to \$33 million
- About 22% service reduction
- Preserves more service in the long run





## Considerations

- Serve as many people as possible
- Geographic balance
- Bus rapid transit
- ACCESS paratransit service





## **Current Bus Service Utilization**

# 27 routesserve approximately82% of riderson fixed routes



15 Core bus routes



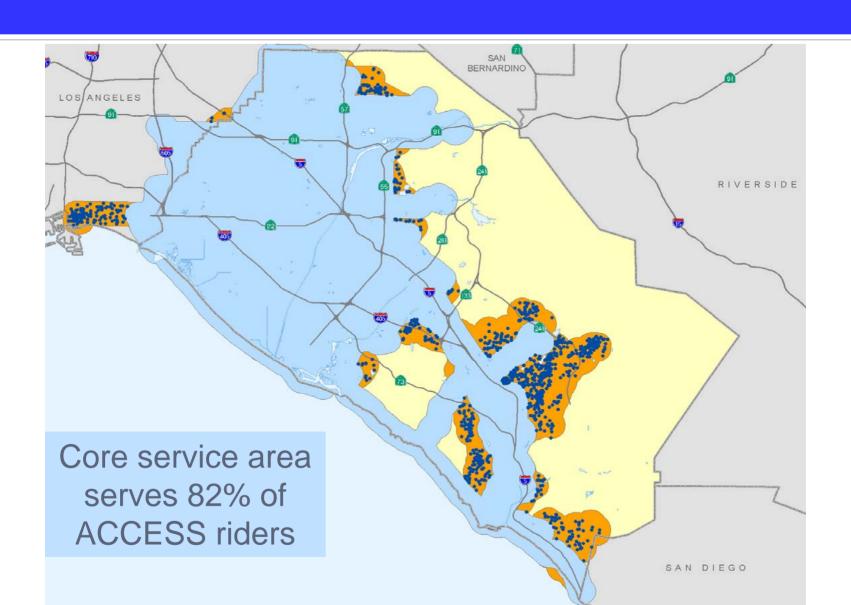
12 Connecting routes to the core



53 Less-productive bus routes



# Corresponding ACCESS Utilization



# Service Reduction Strategies

- Make service less frequent
- Eliminate certain trips
- Change hours of operation
- Delete route segments
- Discontinue entire routes
- Reduce service across most lines proportionally
- Discontinue days of service: holidays, weekends, etc.
- Increase fares to preserve more service



# **Next Steps**





- Gather public feedback
- Conduct public hearing
- Refine proposal
- OCTA finalizes plan
- Continue customer outreach
- Begin service reductions

April / May 2009 May 22, 2009 June 2009 June 2009 Summer 2009 September 2009



# Proposed September Service Change Program



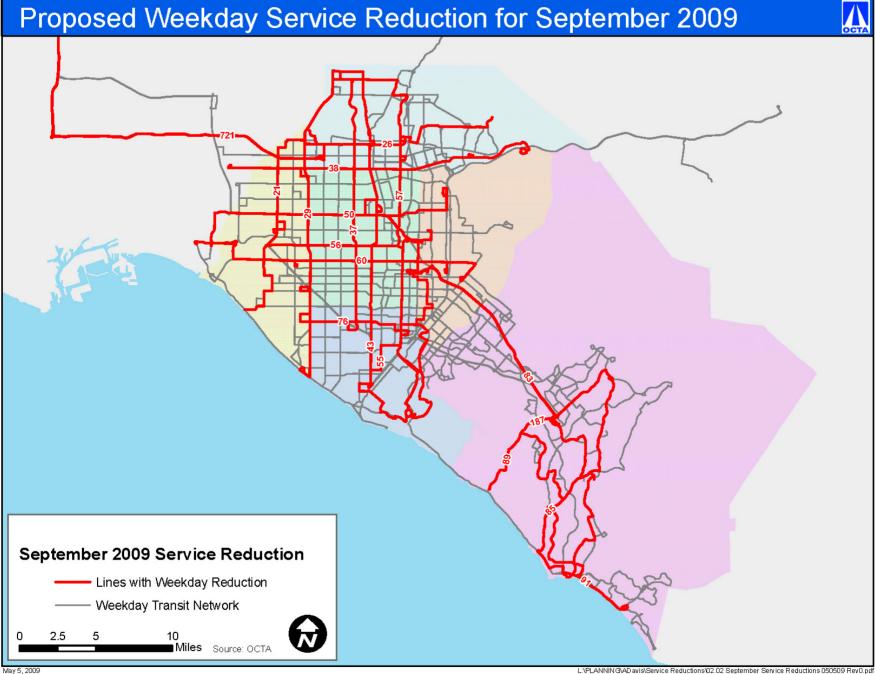


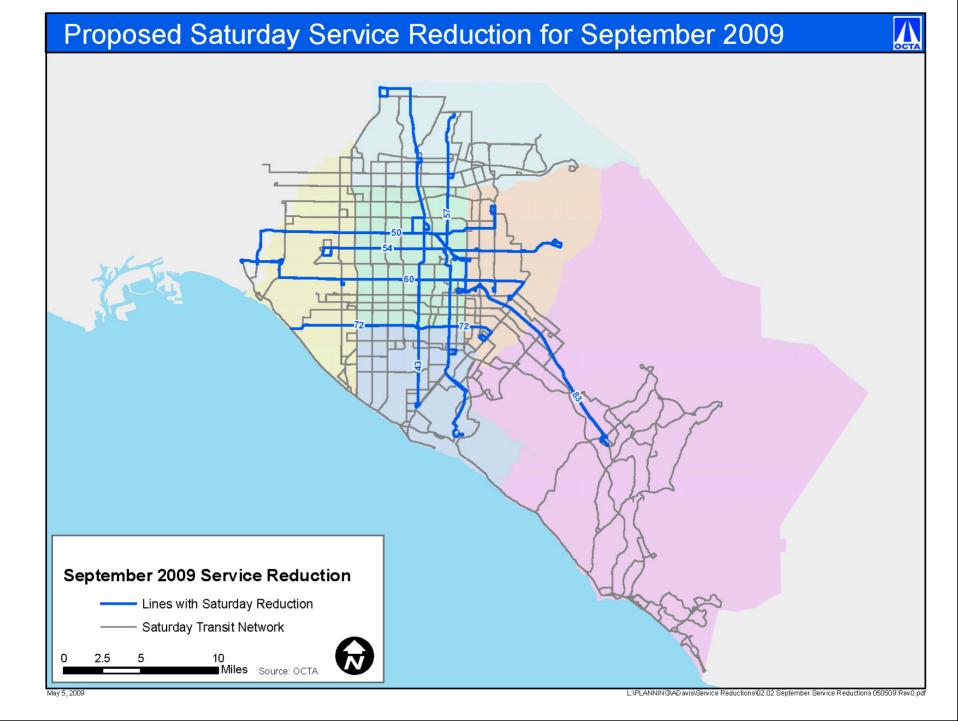
## **Proposed Changes Starting September**

- Discontinue Night Owl service
- Reduce service frequency
- Reduce service hours
- Reduce segments of routes
- Other options
  - Modify or discontinue weekend service
  - Modify or discontinue holiday service
  - Discontinue selected routes









#### Proposed Sunday Service Reduction for September 2009



