

# access

SPECIAL  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2018  
General Session: 11:00 to 11:30 a.m.

**ACCESS SERVICES HEADQUARTERS**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Conference Room**  
**3449 Santa Anita Avenue**  
**El Monte, CA 91731**

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

*Access Services promotes access to all modes of transportation and provides quality and safe ADA paratransit service on behalf of public transit agencies in Los Angeles County.*

Disabled Resources Center  
2750 Spring Street, Suite 100  
Long Beach, CA 90806

Los Angeles County Metro  
One Gateway Plaza  
24<sup>th</sup> Floor  
OMB Conference Room  
Los Angeles CA 90012

Foothill Transit  
100 South Vincent Ave.  
Suite 200  
West Covina, CA 91790

7233 Las Palmas Drive  
Fontana, CA 92336

3650 Fairland Blvd  
Los Angeles, CA 90043

	<u>DISPOSITION</u>
<b>1. CALL TO ORDER</b>	ACTION
<b>2. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT</b>	INFORMATION
<b>3. CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE ELECTION DAY FARE POLICY</b> (page 4) [Staff's Recommendation: Approve a policy that will allow Access riders and their companions to travel free of fare on trips to and/or from election poll sites on November 6, 2018.]	DISCUSSION/ POSSIBLE ACTION
<b>4. NEW BUSINESS SUBSEQUENT TO THE POSTING OF THE AGENDA</b>	DISCUSSION/ POSSIBLE ACTION
<b>5. ADJOURNMENT</b>	ACTION

Access Services does not discriminate on the basis of disability. Accordingly, Access Services seeks to ensure that individuals with disabilities will have an equal opportunity to participate in the range of Access Services events and programs by providing appropriate auxiliary aids and services to facilitate communication. In determining the type of auxiliary aids and services for communication that will be provided, primary consideration is given to the request of the individual with disabilities. However, the final decision belongs to Access Services. To help ensure availability of those auxiliary aids and services you require, please make every effort to notify Access Services of your request at least three (3) business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting in which you wish to utilize those aids or services. You may do so by contacting (213) 270-6000.

Note: Access Services board meetings are held pursuant to the Ralph M. Brown Act [Cal. Gov. Code §54950] and are open to the public. The public may view and obtain all written information supporting this agenda provided to the board both initially and supplementally prior to the meeting at the agency's offices located at 3449 Santa Anita Avenue, El Monte, California and on its website at <http://accessla.org>. Documents, including Power Point handouts distributed to Board Members by staff or Board members at the meeting will simultaneously be made available to the public. Three opportunities are available for the public to address the board during a board meeting: (1) before closed session regarding matters to be discussed in closed session, (2) before a specific agenda item is debated and voted upon regarding that item and (3) general public comment. The exercise of the right to address the board is subject to restriction as to time and appropriate decorum. All persons wishing to make public comment must fill out a yellow Public Comment Form and submit it to the Secretary to the Board. Public comment is generally limited to three (3) minutes per speaker and the total time available for public comment may be limited at the discretion of the Chairperson. Persons whose speech is impaired such that they are unable to address the board at a normal rate of speed may request the accommodation of a limited amount of additional time from the Chair but only by checking the appropriate box on

the Public Comment Form. Granting such an accommodation is in the discretion of the Chair.

The Board of Directors will not and cannot respond during the meeting to matters raised under general public comment. Pursuant to provisions of the Brown Act governing these proceedings, no discussion or action may be taken on these matters unless they are listed on the agenda, or unless certain emergency or special circumstances exist. However, the board may direct staff to investigate and/or schedule certain matters for consideration at a future Board of Directors Meeting and the staff will respond to all public comment in writing prior to the next board meeting.

["Alternative accessible formats available upon request."](#)

OCTOBER 23, 2018

**TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**FROM: F SCOTT JEWELL, DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION**  
**RE: CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE ELECTION DAY FARE POLICY**

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**ISSUE:**

On Thursday October 18, the Metro Board passed a motion to provide transit services free of fare on Tuesday November 6 to reduce barriers to voting for individuals that rely on Metro for mobility. A part of that motion also asked Access Services to consider providing enhanced and/or reduced fare services on that day.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Approve a policy that will allow Access riders and their companions to travel free of fare on trips to and/or from election poll sites on November 6, 2018.

**IMPACT ON BUDGET:**

Historically Access has not seen a variance in trips on election days. On average, Access recovers \$32,000 daily in fares of which 20% are from subscription trips. Staff plans to issue seat drops, change on-hold messaging and update the website to inform riders. Because of federal regulations that prohibit Access from asking the purpose of a trip, a rider will need to state they are taking a trip to and/or from an election poll site when they are making the reservation in order to travel free of fare.

**ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:**

The Board may choose not to approve the recommendation. Regular paratransit service would still be provided to election poll sites using the current fare structure.

**BACKGROUND:**

In an effort to reduce the barriers to voting for individuals that rely on Access for mobility, staff is recommending Access provide ADA paratransit services free of fare on the November 6, 2018 Election Day for trips to/from election pol sites.

In the June 2018 primary election, Los Angeles County saw a voter turnout of just 28 percent, which is the second-lowest election turnout of the 47 California counties that reported. Additionally, studies have shown that minority, low-income, persons with disabilities and youth voters have consistently lower turnout than the average. These populations are also the ones most reliant on public transportation for mobility. The Massachusetts Institute of Technology's 2016 Survey of the Performance of American Elections (SPAEE) found that approximately 30 percent of non-voters across the country claimed that the lack of transportation to the polls was a factor in deciding not to vote. In California, that number rose to 51 percent. To encourage voter turnout, transit operators across the country plan to provide free public transportation on Election Day. Participating cities include Houston, Dallas, San Antonio, Tampa, Kansas City and Durham. Metro took also action to participate in this event and has requested that Access also provide enhanced and/or reduced fare services on that day.