



BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT

MEETING DATE: APRIL 7, 2026 **AGENDA ITEM #:** 8

TYPE: ACTION ITEM

PREPARED BY: PLANNING AND MARKETING MANAGER HILLARY BLACKERBY

REVIEWED BY: GENERAL MANAGER JERRY ESTRADA

SUBJECT: MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR CONNECTING FIRST/LAST MILE TRANSIT SERVICE FOR PEAK HOUR RAIL WITH SBCAG

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the Board authorize the General Manager to continue negotiations with SBCAG regarding the operation of connecting transit service to support peak hour Pacific Surfliner rail service; and approve non-substantive and legal revisions and finalize the terms of the MOU as necessary to ensure timely implementation of service starting May 2026.

DISCUSSION:

Santa Barbara MTD and SBCAG previously had an MOU for providing first mile/last mile connecting bus service for peak hour rail trips in 2018. That rail trip was eventually discontinued in 2019, and the connecting service ended at the same time.

Recently, SBCAG and the LOSSAN Rail Corridor Agency (responsible for operating the Pacific Surfliner rail service) have worked together to bring an additional peak hour morning trip to serve commuters living in Ventura County and working in Santa Barbara County. This service is expected to begin in May 2026 and is funded by Measure A.

MTD has worked with SBCAG staff to plan the connecting bus service, with three routes serving key locations in Santa Barbara and Goleta. The service will connect to the morning train arrivals at 7:56 a.m. in Santa Barbara and 8:11 a.m. in Goleta. The routes will connect riders to the afternoon train which leaves Goleta at 4:25 p.m. and 4:40 p.m.

Attachment:

- Attachment 1 - Draft MOU SBCAG Provide Connecting Transit Service for Peak Hour Pacific Surfliner Rail Service