



September 24, 2017

Regional Transit Board of Directors
Henry Li, General Manager/CEO
1400 29th Street
Sacramento, CA 95816

Re: Board Item 11 – Lifetime Senior Pass

Dear Board of Directors and Mr. Li:

The Sacramento Transit Riders Union (SacTRU) is writing to support the creation of a Lifetime Senior Pass. We support bringing dignity and mobility to the seniors in our community that have limited transportation options.

At the board meeting on September 9th, General Manager/CEO Henry Li said that staff was working on bringing back the lifetime pass for seniors, which riders lost during the economic recession. We were disappointed to read the staff analysis that it would be financially infeasible and statutorily impossible to bring back the discounted fare for seniors. We would like to see the cost analysis that staff used to come up with their cost estimates for the implementation of this ticket fare.

Staff has identified the San Francisco Muni as operating a free pass for seniors and all disabled persons that meet certain levels of low-income thresholds. We request staff to provide a cost analysis of this model applied to Regional Transit. We believe that the estimated increase of 100,000-225,00 additional boardings is worth pursuing. This discounted fare is an invaluable resource to individuals who are transit dependents and living on low or fixed incomes.

SacTRU requests staff to provide additional information on the cost and ability to implement a free fare comparable to the one identified in San Francisco Muni. Please include this letter in the public record.

Sincerely,

SacTRU