July 2, 2025

CAC Agenda Item 7.4 Continued From: New





## NAPA VALLEY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

# **Citizen Advisory Committee Agenda Memo**

**TO:** Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC)

FROM: Danielle Schmitz, Executive Director

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**SUBJECT:** Vine Transit Update

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Napa Valley Transportation Authority (NVTA) Citizen Advisory Committee receive the Vine Transit update.

#### **BACKGROUND**

#### Recent Schedule Changes

The most recent schedule change was implemented on Sunday June 8, 2025 to coincide with the conclusion of the 2024-2025 school year. The following changes went into effect:

- Paused the school trippers in American Canyon and St Helena
- Added one additional Route C trip on weekdays for the summer
- Route 11 time adjustments to weekday and to make Saturday & Sunday schedules align
- Changed weekday trips on Route D to accommodate the Camille Creek Community School's Summer School schedule
- Adjusted the Route 21 schedule to incorporate extra trip time in the run

#### Future Schedule Changes

The next schedule change will occur on Sunday August 10<sup>th</sup> to coincide with the start of the 2025-2026 school year. The following changes are currently being drafted:

Resuming the school trippers in American Canyon and St Helena

- Reimagining Route 11X into a more expediated version of Route 11 that serves the most popular Route 11 stops including the Redwood Park and Ride, Soscol Gateway Transit Center, Napa Valley College, American Canyon Park & Ride, the Sereno Transit Center in Vallejo and the Vallejo Ferry Terminal
- Eliminating the additional weekday late Route C trip that was operational during the Summer
- Adjusting the Route D schedule to accommodate the Camille Creek Community School's fall and spring school schedule
- Adjusting the first three northbound Route 10 trips to start at Napa Valley College (currently, the first three northbound Route 10 trips start at the Soscol Gateway Transit Center, skipping the Napa Valley College and Soscol/Kansas bus stops)
- Adding Saturday service on Route 29 with nine round trips

## BottleRock and La Onda Ridership

Vine Transit once again partnered with Latitude 38 and Visit Napa Valley to provide free rides on the BottleRock and La Onda weekends to all passengers, regardless of their destination. Vine Transit operated extra service during the day and a special late night post-concert service to safely transport attendees. Table 1 below highlights the BottleRock ridership from 2025 and compares it to 2024. Regular Service Riders highlights how many riders took regularly scheduled Vine Transit Routes. Special Hours Riders includes how many riders took any trips on routes that only operated during the festival weekends. Specifically, the Special Hours Riders include riders on late night post-concert trips, the Sunday service on local routes and the Route 29 weekend trips. The data shows an increase in ridership during BottleRock weekend and a slight decline on La Onda ridership. It's worth noting that overall there were fewer attendees at La Onda this year compared to last year. Staff is keeping a running list of suggestions/improvements to consider for next year with the goal of continuing to offer safe transportation to more attendees next year.

Table 1: BottleRock Ridership 2024 vs 2025

	Total	Regular Service	Special Hours
	Riders	Riders	Riders
2024	5,610	4,698	912
2025	6,135	4,992	1,143
% change	+9%	+6%	+25%

Table 2: La Onda Ridership 2024 vs 2025

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	Total Riders	Regular Service Riders	Special Hours Riders
2024	2,666	1,838	828
2025	2,567	1,862	705
% change	-4%	+1%	-15%

#### Marketing Efforts

Staff has made a concerted effort to attend more outreach events this year to raise general awareness of Vine Transit services, promote NVTA planning efforts and programs. Events that NVTA staff has attended since the previous Vine Transit report in May include:

- Napa County Office of Education Resource Fair (April 9)
- Napa Earth Day (April 12)
- Napa Valley College Career Day (April 30)
- St Helena Farmer's Market (May 2)
- Napa Valley BikeFest (May 4)
- American Canyon Middle School Career Fair (May 8)
- Bike to Wherever Day (May 15)
- Calistoga Safety Day (May 17)
- Health and Human Services Career Fair (May 27)
- Older Adult Health and Wellness Fair (May 28)
- Seniors Against Financial Exploitation Event (June 4)
- Meet Me in the Street American Canyon (June 11)
- BBQ Dinner at Las Casitas Mobile Home Park in American Canyon (June 13)
- Rohlff's Manor Health and Wellness Fair (June 27)

Computer Aided Dispatch/Automatic Vehicle Location and On-Demand Automated Dispatching Update

NVTA released a Request for Information (RFI) for CAD-AVL and On-Demand Automated Dispatching on March 26, 2025, as both contracts for these existing services are set to expire on or around June 30, 2026. NVTA received twelve (12) responses from firms interested in this project by the May deadline. A team of three people from NVTA's Public Transportation Planning team reviewed each response to this RFI and found them all to be very viable solutions for NVTA's needs. NVTA invited six of the firms to do oral presentations and answer questions related to their proposed solutions. The following firms were chosen for interviews:

HBBS Connect Corp.

- ETA Transit
- Connexionz
- Passio Technologies
- Equans along with Spare

The interviews will take place in late June and early July, after which NVTA will decide whether to proceed with a Request for Proposals (RFP) for CAD-AVL and On-Demand Automated Dispatching combined or to issue separate RFPs for each service.

While NVTA looks for alternatives, NVTA has had a full new CAD/AVL systeminstalled on 18 buses including the four new cutaways and 14 new Gillig Electric Buses. These installations include CradlePoint Routers, instead of Digi Routers, and were tested by a third-party inspector from First Transit at the Gillig plant to ensure quality installation. Finally, NVTA continues to track the percentage of trips sending real-time messages. The most recent complete month published by the Cal ITP shows that on weekdays between 68.4% and 42.75% of trips report real-time data. The lowest days in March were on the weekends. NVTA and Transdev have retrained and monitored weekend dispatchers since March to increase weekend trip completeness and on June 15th, the most recent Sunday trip completeness of 90% was achieved.

Table 3: Trip Completeness by Day, March 2025



## **ATTACHMENTS**

None