

SamTrans Fare Study Progress Update

Board of Directors
April 4, 2018

SPDS Agenda Item #4



Agenda



- Background
- Study Goals
- Methods
- Schedule
- Work Underway
- Look Ahead



Background

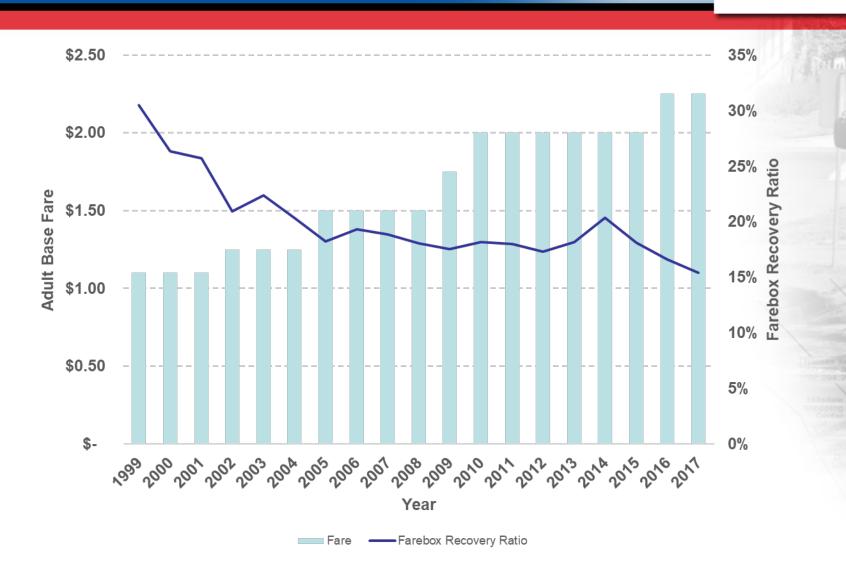


- District's strategic goals to improve revenue and farebox recovery.
- Constrained financial resources.
- No recent comprehensive fare analysis.
- Ongoing District efforts to simplify and streamline service.



Background







Background



Study purpose is to answer:

- How do current SamTrans riders understand the existing fare structure?
- What are their impressions of the different fare products?
- How will changes in price affect their travel behavior?



Study Goals



- Recommend a fare structure that will:
 - generate revenue
 - optimize relationship between ridership and revenue
 - be transparent, logical, and data-driven
 - be simple to understand, administer, and justify
- Use the information and data gathered from the study to develop a fare policy for Board consideration and adoption.



Methods



- Survey (in person and online) will ask current riders how fare changes affect their travel behavior.
- Survey results will be used to create an elasticity of demand model.
- Elasticity model based on survey results will be used to evaluate fare structure concepts.



Schedule



- April 2018: Survey fieldwork
- April June 2018: Fare elasticity modeling
- Summer 2018: Draft and Final Report



Work Underway



- Finalized Existing Conditions document historical fare prices, ridership, etc.
- Established project website on SamTrans.com
 - http://www.samtrans.com/Planning/Planning_and_Rese arch/SamTrans_Fare_Study.html



Work Underway



- Finalizing survey instrument and preparation/logistics for survey fieldwork.
 - Sampling plan 11 routes which constitute approximately 70% of system ridership; demographics of ridership on these routes are representative of overall SamTrans ridership (per 2015 Triennial Survey).
 - Consultant team will hire and manage temporary survey staff for in-person fieldwork.



Look Ahead



- On-board survey begins second week of April.
- Elasticity Modeling: April to early Summer.
- Staff will return to the Board with an update in early Summer.
- Board review of draft recommendations and final adoption in late summer/early fall.