

Motion by Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke

We have all been getting telephone calls, emails and letters from very concerned public transit riding constituents over a series of proposed bus service cuts being recommended as part of a program of anticipated budget cuts. These constituents are expressing their worry and anger over the potential bus service cuts at a time when public transit service needs to be expanding, rather than shrinking.

I am very concerned over several issues.

First, what is the full extent of what is being proposed. We are hearing that the revenue service-hour (RSH) cuts will be made in a serial fashion in terms of the timing on top of the already 90,000 hours of (Board approved) cuts made this past year.

Given that the Rapid Bus program is still under the Consent Decree through 2010, I am also concerned over the speculation that local service is being cut as part of an expanded Rapid Bus implementation plan and what affect such an implementation may have on the existing Consent Decree orders.

I am further concerned that, if true, the extent of the proposed cuts in service due to take affect this year and in '09 could adversely impact upwards of 25,000 to 35,000 individuals of our existing ridership.

I, therefore, Move that staff return to this committee in March with a report that details the following information:

- Total service hour cuts made in 2007;
- Total proposed cuts for 2008 and 2009;
- Proposed cuts in local service included in the existing Rapid Bus Implementation Plan;
- Total hours (other than service cuts) that are planned to be added to the Rapid Bus to ensure that it is an expansion of the program in compliance with the existing court order; and
- What economies and service reductions are being contemplated and/or applied to the Metro Rail corridors and operations?