Agenda Item 7 - SMART October Service Changes September 20, 2023



Weekend Service Background

- August 2017 10 weekend trips
- March 2020 0 trips (pandemic cuts)
- May 2021 12 Saturday trips
- May 2022 12 Sunday trips
- May 2023 14 Saturday trips with Starlighter





Weekend Ridership

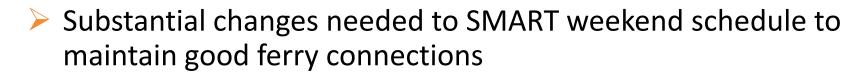
- Ridership up 30% over pre-COVID
- Higher productivity 55% more boardings per train on weekends over weekdays
- Crowding is more frequent on weekends
- Nearly 20% of boardings at Larkspur





Larkspur Ferry Connection

- Weekend Larkspur-SF Ferry:
 - 2019: 4 ferries each way
 - 2020: 9 ferries each way
 - 2023: 5 ferries each way
 - 2023 proposed: 9 ferries each way
- Key changes:
 - Six high-speed catamarans
 - Morning weekend ferry service from SF to Larkspur





Starlighter Performance

- May 2023 launched Starlighter service
- Has not met ridership goals
- October 2023 ferry changes breaking Starlighter connection
- Staff recommends suspending the Starlighter, with the potential to return as a seasonal service in 2024





Proposed Service Changes

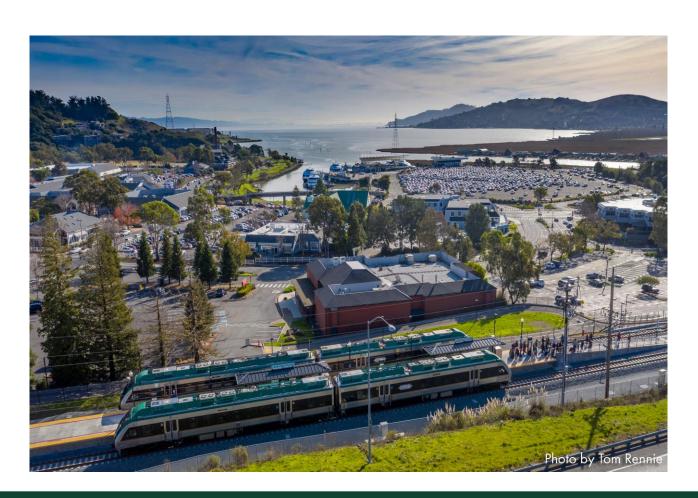
- Prioritize connections to the higher speed ferries
- Meet growing weekend demand with additional service

Proposed October 2nd service changes:

- 1. Increase weekend service from 12 to 14 trips
- 2. Change all existing weekend service times
- 3. Suspend Starlighter service on Fridays and Saturdays
- 4. Move last weekday trip later to provide evening service and meet last northbound ferry from San Francisco



Recommendation: Approve the addition of one round trip on the weekends, the suspension of the Starlighter service, and schedule changes needed to maintain ferry connections.



Questions?



