




December 26, 2011

TO: Gold Coast Transit Board of Directors

FROM: Steven Brown 
General Manager

SUBJECT: Receive and File Request from City of Ojai to withdraw from the Gold Coast Transit Joint Powers Authority (JPA) for Fixed Route Service and Continue as a Member of the JPA for Paratransit Service, and Provide Direction to Staff

I. Executive Summary

At the December 2011 Board of Directors meeting Helene Buchman presented a report about the City of Ojai Transit Study process and the proposed recommendations that were made by the study group that had been convened by the City. Ojai City Manager Robert Clark made a presentation to the Board detailing the status of the City's transportation budget and the need to implement cost-saving and revenue enhancement actions. The City Council took action at its December 13, 2011 meeting to authorize the withdrawal from the Gold Coast Transit Joint Powers Agreement (JPA). As stated in the attached letter and resolution it is the preference of the City to remain members of the JPA for paratransit services (ACCESS). General Counsel is reviewing the JPA document to determine if changes or amendments to the JPA will be required.

IT IS RECOMMENDED that the Board of Directors Receive and File Request from City of Ojai to withdraw from the Gold Coast Transit Joint Powers Authority (JPA) for Fixed Route Service and Continue as a Member of the JPA for Paratransit Service and Provide Direction to Staff.

II. Background

Earlier this year, staff at the City of Ojai was tasked to develop options to reduce or fully eliminate a deficit in its General Fund subsidy for transit of approximately \$144,000. At that time, the City Council directed staff to convene an ad hoc committee comprised of representatives of staff, local businesses, Ojai Trolley passengers, HELP of Ojai, City of

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A Joint Powers Agency of:

City of Ojai • City of Oxnard • City of Port Hueneme • City of Ventura • County of Ventura

Ojai Complete Streets Committee, GCT, VCTC and the County of Ventura. The Ad Hoc Transit Committee met on four occasions to discuss a number of cost-saving options as well as potential revenue enhancements. GCT was represented on this ad hoc committee. At the last meeting the committee members (except representatives from GCT, VCTC and the County of Ventura) unanimously voted to support the following recommendations:

- Withdrawal of the City from the Gold Coast Transit JPA for fixed route service and eliminate funding of Gold Coast Transit fixed route service in the City of Ojai;
- Increasing Ojai Trolley fares from \$0.50 to \$1.00 for base fares;
- Modifying Trolley service to mirror the hours formerly operated by GCT
- Cutting weekend service back to one hour from half-hour frequencies.
- Potentially changing paratransit service/paratransit operator.

Ojai City staff presented these recommendations to the Ojai City Council at the December 13, 2011 meeting. The Ojai City Council voted unanimously to adopt the staff/Ad Hoc Transit Committee recommendations.

Staff from the City of Ojai, Ventura County, and Gold Coast Transit will begin meeting in January to review the possible options for continuing to provide service to the Ojai Valley. The goal of the meetings and negotiations with Ojai and the County will be to ensure that current passengers of both the Ojai Trolley and Gold Coast Transit are minimally impacted by the resulting service changes after July 1, 2012.

III. Recommendation

IT IS RECOMMENDED that the Board of Directors Receive and File Request from City of Ojai to withdraw from the Gold Coast Transit Joint Powers Authority (JPA) for Fixed Route Service and Continue as a Member of the JPA for Paratransit Service, and Provide Direction to Staff.



OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

Robert F. Clark, City Manager

P.O. Box 1570, Ojai, CA 93024

GOLD COAST TRANSIT

DEC 21 2011

December 20, 2011

Steven P. Brown
General Manager
Gold Coast Transit
301 E. Third St.
Oxnard, CA 93030

Re: Service to Ojai

Dear Steve:

The purpose of this letter is to officially transmit the Resolution adopted by the Ojai City Council authorizing withdrawal from the Joint Powers Agreement with Gold Coast Transit. The Resolution was adopted because of the inability of the City to continue subsidizing the Transit fund with transfers from the General Fund.

Although the Resolution authorizes withdrawal, it is the City's preference to continue as a member of the JPA for paratransit services. Furthermore, the Resolution authorizes me to negotiate with Gold Coast and the County to develop alternate approaches to providing services in or near the City of Ojai. I am anxious to begin that process as soon as possible in order to minimize any confusion associated with changes in routes and services.

I would like to thank you and the staff of Gold Coast for your participation in our Transit Committee and all the work done to support that effort. I look forward to a continued constructive relationship.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Robert F. Clark".

Robert F. Clark
City Manager

1 Enclosure

Cc: Greg Grant, Public Works Director
Kathy Connell, Sr. Transportation Analyst, Ventura County

CITY OF OJAI
Resolution No. 11-42

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OJAI
AUTHORIZING WITHDRAWAL FROM THE JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT,
GOLD COAST TRANSIT, GCT**

WHEREAS, that certain Joint Powers Agreement, Gold Coast Transit, GCT ("GCT-JPA") made the 6th day of June 2007, provides for the City of Ojai as a member agency; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of the GCT-JPA, Section 12 (b), entitled "Termination-Withdrawal of Party", a member agency may withdraw from the GCT-JPA following six (6) months' prior notice to the other member agencies of the GCT-JPA.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OJAI DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AND ORDER AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. In conformance with the requirements of the GCT-JPA, Section 12(b), "Termination-Withdrawal of Party", the City of Ojai does hereby provide official notice of its intent to withdraw from the GCT-JPA fixed route portion of those transit services provided by the GCT-JPA, effective July 1, 2012. The City of Ojai, however, respectfully requests the GCT-JPA continue to provide Americans with Disabilities paratransit services to the City of Ojai at a reasonable cost to be determined by the GCT-JPA Board; and

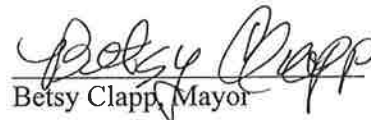
SECTION 2. If the GCT-JPA Board determines it cannot provide paratransit services without fixed route service as requested in Section 1 of this Resolution, in conformance with the requirements of the GCT-JPA, Section 12(b), the City of Ojai does hereby provide official notice of its intent to fully withdraw from the GCT-JPA, effective July 1, 2012; and

SECTION 3. The City of Ojai authorizes the City Manager to undertake negotiations with the GCT-JPA staff and the County of Ventura to develop alternative approaches to providing GCT-JPA transit service in or near the City of Ojai, subject to final approval of the City Council; and

SECTION 4. The City of Ojai directs the City Manager to provide this Resolution and other appropriate notice to Gold Coast Transit and other GCT-JPA member agencies with an explanation of its intent and a request for their support in its effort.

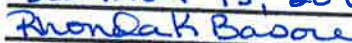
PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED this 13th day of December, 2011 by the following vote:

AYES: Blatz, Clapp, Smith, Strobel
NOES: None
ABSENT: Horgan
ABSTAIN: None


Betsy Clapp, Mayor

ATTEST:


Rhonda Basore, Deputy City Clerk

I, Rhonda K. Basore, Deputy City Clerk of the City of Ojai, do hereby certify that the attached is a true and correct copy of City of Ojai Resolution No. 11-42 adopted by the Ojai City Council at their regular meeting of December 13, 2011

Rhonda K. Basore, MMC
Deputy City Clerk