Clipper® Executive Board Fare Integration Task Force

September 20, 2021 Agenda Item 4a

Policy Advisory Council Fare Coordination and Integration Subcommittee Report

Subject:

Summary of materials presented and discussions from the Policy Advisory Council Fare Coordination and Integration Subcommittee on August 2, 2021.

Background:

At the Policy Advisory Council Fare Coordination and Integration Subcommittee meeting, the project team presented status updates, a schedule outlook, a first look at recommendations, and initial findings of an implementation assessment.

Emerging recommendations were presented through the framework of "tiers of integration." The first tier would include overlays such as passes and caps which would not require governance or fare structure changes; Tier 2 would reduce price barriers by offering broad transfer discounts between operators; Tier 3 would align fare structures between regional services; and Tier 4 would integrate fare structures and policies across regional and local operators. The project team also presented an emerging recommendation to pilot a bulk institutional/employer pass in the near-term to evaluate travel behavior changes with a barrier-free product.

Discussion

Subcommittee members were largely supportive of the emerging recommendations, particularly the pass products and pilot under consideration. Several participants noted the appeal of the simplicity associated with an all-agency institutional pass over the complexities of a tiered pass. Others stressed that equity should continue to be a focus in designing and pricing new pass products.

In addition to the discussion over pass products and pilots, several subcommittee members also voiced support for the higher tiers of integration. Despite a larger implementation need relative to the status quo, greater integration is worth striving for and there would be benefits inherent to a more centralized management structure.

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Lastly, Subcommittee members recommended the development of more user-friendly materials for future meetings and stakeholder presentations.

Issues:

None identified.

Recommendations:

Information Item for Task Force discussion and feedback

Attachments:

None

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