

# PRELIMINARY BUDGET PROCESS FISCAL YEAR 2020-21 FEBRUARY 19, 2020

### **FISCAL YEAR 2020-21**

#### **BUDGET PROCESS TIMING:**

JAN-APRIL: Staff work preparing options and projections APRIL: Preliminary Board/Citizens' Oversight Public Meetings MAY: Board & Public Preliminary Review JUNE: Board Approval in Public Meeting JULY 1: Start of New Fiscal Year

### **TWO BUDGET PATHS**

#### Scenario 1: Approval of the Sales Tax extension (Measure I Approved)

- » Review our current level of service and staffing
- » Review fare structure and corresponding revenue
- » Discussion of patterns of ridership, optimization of resources based on patterns
- » Outline capital projects strategies
  - > Completion of Windsor extension,
  - Progress/needs for new pathway projects in Sonoma
  - Petaluma second station
  - > Grants strategy and opportunities for future expansions to Healdsburg, Cloverdale and pathway extensions.

### **TWO BUDGET PATHS**

#### Scenario 2: No Sales Tax Extension (Measure I Defeated)

- » Without early tax extension, construction bond debt reduction of \$12 million annually not available as a solution
- » Doing nothing is not an option
- » Strategic Plan and Board presentations outlined the need for reduction of expenses of up to \$9 million to avoid using reserves

## **STRATEGIC PLAN PROJECTIONS**

#### HYPOTHETICAL "DO-NOTHING" SCENARIO

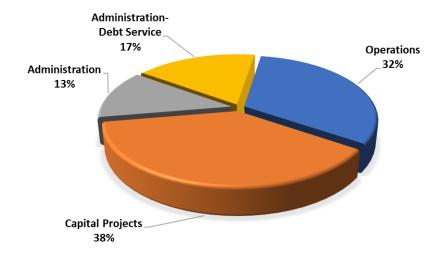
\_\_\_\_\_

No sales tax extension, No budget cuts, No revenue changes

	PRIOR YEARS		CURRENT PROJECTIO		NS	
	Fiscal Year					
	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Operations Revenue	\$47.2	\$54.5	\$51.0	\$56.5	\$54.1	\$55.5
Operations Expense	-\$25.3	-\$38.3	-\$41.3	-\$43.2	-\$44.5	-\$45.8
Debt Service	-\$14.2	-\$16.1	-\$16.7	-\$17.4	-\$18.1	-\$18.7
Capital Expenses Not Covered by Grants	-\$9.1	-\$13.6	-\$12.2	-\$0.3	\$0.0	\$0.0
Subtotal (Needs Reserves/Annual Deficit)	-\$1.4	-\$13.5	-\$19.2	-\$4.4	-\$8.5	-\$9.0
Starting Unrestricted Reserves	\$41.5	\$40.0	\$26.5	\$7.3	\$2.9	\$0.0
Ending Unrestricted Reserves/Cumulative Deficit	\$40.0	\$26.5	\$7.3	\$2.9	-\$5.5	-\$9.0
Agency Reserve	\$17.0	\$17.0	\$17.0	\$17.0	\$11.5	\$2.5
					Dimishing Reserves	

## **BUDGET COMPOSITION**

Budget Composed of Three Different Parts: Capital+Administration+Operations



## **CAPITAL BUDGET**

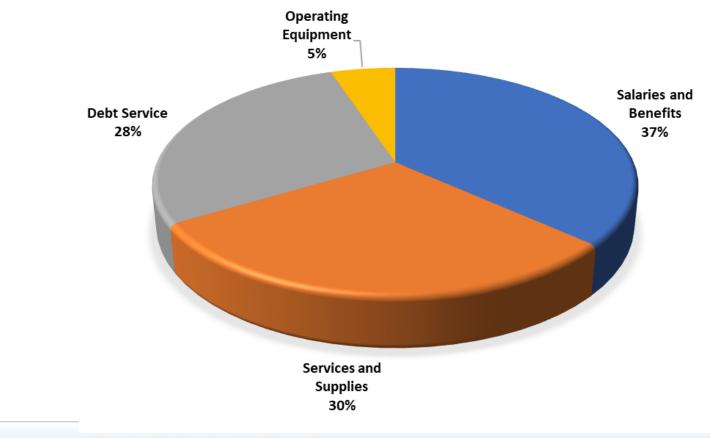
FY20 current budget of \$51 million

Almost entirely grant funded, one time in nature

# **ADMINISTRATION AND OPERATIONS**

In evaluating future budget decisions, these recurring expenditures will be the focus

► FY20 Expenditures are \$61 million



# SCENARIO #1: EXTENSION APPROVED NEXT STEPS

Identify significant budget policy choices available using the 2020 Expenditure Plan as a guide. That Board-approved plan outlines the following three priorities:

1. Provide for Ongoing Operation, Maintenance and Financing of Current Operations

2. Prioritize Safety, Education and Community outreach

- 3. Capital Projects and Rolling Stock
- > Ability to reduce debt payments allows the budget process to focus on maintaining current service and planning for the opening of Windsor, new pathways in the next 2 years

# SCENARIO #2: EXTENSION DEFEATED NEXT STEPS

Again, the 2020 Expenditure Plan provides our guiding principles:

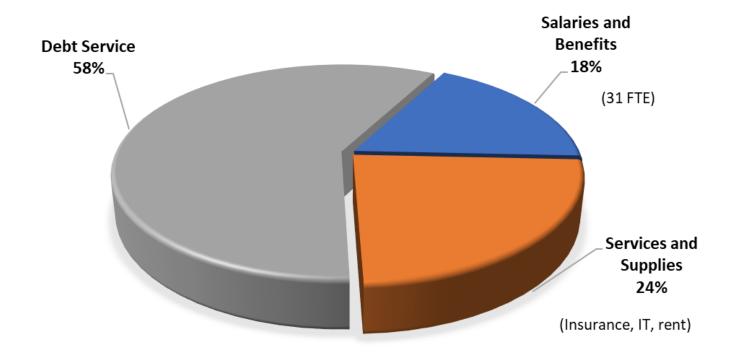
- 1. Provide for Ongoing Operation, Maintenance and Financing of Current Operations
- 2. Prioritize Safety, Education and Community outreach
- 3. Capital Projects and Rolling Stock
- > FY 2020-21 budget will begin the process of addressing the future \$9 million shortfall

### **PROCESS AND OPTIONS**

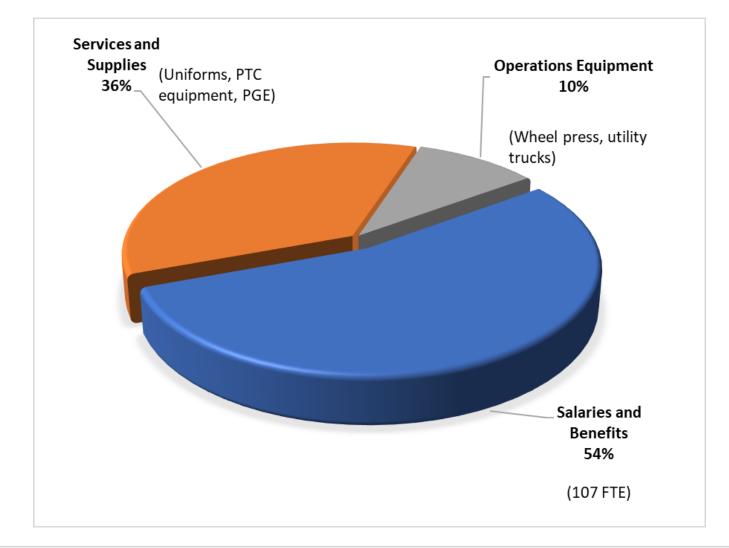
As part of the timeline prior to budget passage outlined earlier, process will include:

- 1. Identify SMART's "discretionary" budget
  - » Determine expenses that are one-time or ongoing
  - » Discuss mandatory vs. discretionary
    - Examples of mandatory: Debt service, dispatch, PTC, insurance
    - "Discretionary": WiFi, number of service runs, matching funds
- 2. Review changes that could be made to discretionary expenses and revenue

# ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES FY 2019-20 \$29 MILLION



# OPERATIONS EXPENSES FY 2019-20 \$32 MILLION



### **BUDGETED REVENUE**

- Sales Tax (Restricted): \$40 million -- Reliable revenue source
  - > Amount cannot be increased by policy
- Fare Revenue (Discretionary): Currently \$4 million
  - Current year amounts hindered by PGE/Fires
  - > Opening of Larkspur, Novato, new schedule: Fare revenues up but would be impacted by service cuts
  - > Fare revenue review would include existing discounts
- **Other revenues \$7 million**(combination of restricted and discretionary)
  - State assistance: Currently maximizing state support by putting out more trains than required by Measure Q, tied to service levels
  - > Advertising, leases, permits discretionary but limited



- > Status Quo ("Do Nothing") budget would mean dipping into reserves for operations
- > Budget Process will include a discussion about establishing a policy for minimum reserves
- > Develop Board policy about how much to tap into reserves in the coming years

#### **NEXT STEPS**

- Conduct public workshops in April/May to identify policy choices for the next two fiscal years with a goal of long-term sustainability
- Specific policy discussions will depend on the outcome of the March election
- Continue to work toward the future as we have always done