

Fareless System Initiative (Operation FSI)

Technical Advisory Committee

Presented by doreen Morrissey & Dennis Tucker



November 4, 2020

Operation FSI – Fareless

- Metro CEO announced Fareless System Initiative (FSI)
 - Identify facts and challenges to eliminating fares
 - Moral obligation to serve our communities & improve mobility
 - Economic Development tool-for health and recovery
 - Creation of FSI Task Force
- “Fareless”
 - Not free to operate
 - People do value free
 - K-12 education, libraries, voting, public health clinics



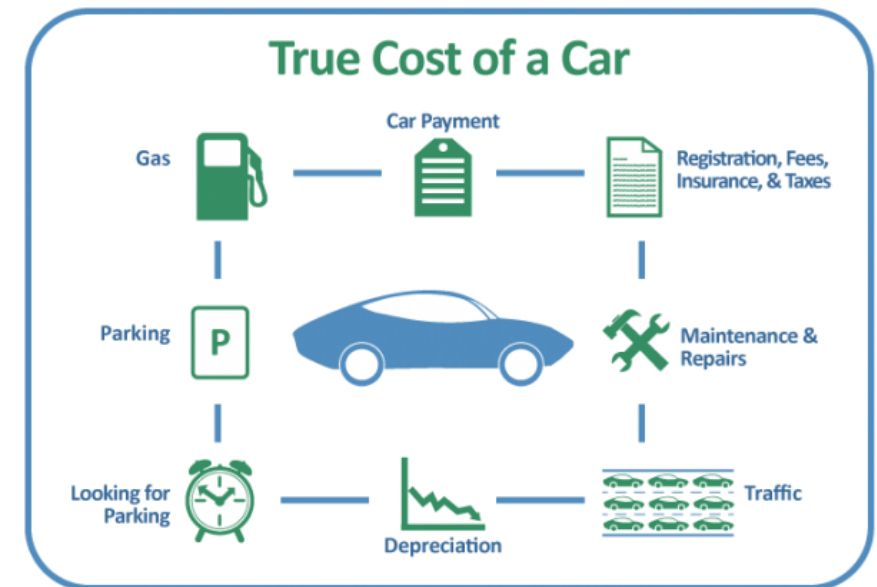
Operation FSI – Equity

- Fareless Transit: contribute towards mobility the elderly, youth, and low-income riders
 - Access to Opportunity
 - Trips forgone due to costs
 - Transit dependent-shoulder fare increase
- Serve communities historically marginalized by transportation investments



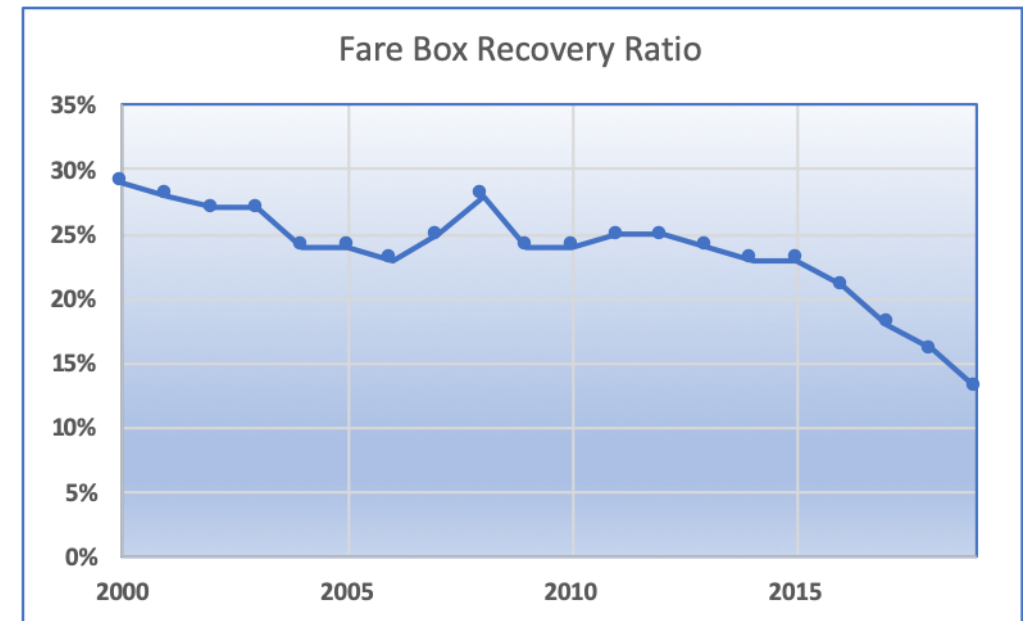
Operation FSI – Economic Enabler

- Transit = Economic Enabler
 - Supports low-income and late-shift essential workers, & local economies
- Investment in Transit Jobs - economic stimulus
- Ridership growth
 - encourage travel/economic activity in community business districts



Operation FSI – Funding

- Fare collection = unstable fund source
 - Economy up/fares down
 - 13% (pre-Covid) for Metro and region
 - Unclear when all agencies may resume fare collection
- Study alternative funding sources
 - Revenue replacement
 - Increased costs associated with demand
- Determining fare collection cost
 - High costs, low market competition
 - Contracts and liabilities, annual costs
- Access Services



Operation FSI – Mobility Providers

- FSI Ad Hoc Committee-municipal and local transit operators
 - Weekly, commenced 9/29
 - Listening and Open Dialogue session
 - Information sharing – Metro to share resources for informed briefings to local Boards
- Complexity-some fund awards calculated based on farebox recovery

Ad Hoc Committee Agency Representation

- | | |
|----|--|
| 1 | <i>Access Services</i> |
| 2 | <i>City of Glendale</i> |
| 3 | <i>City of Glendora</i> |
| 4 | <i>Commerce Bus Lines</i> |
| 5 | <i>Culver CityBus</i> |
| 6 | <i>Foothill Transit</i> |
| 7 | <i>Gardena Transit</i> |
| 8 | <i>SCAG/CTC CEO's Meeting</i> |
| 9 | <i>Long Beach Transit (LBT)</i> |
| 10 | <i>Norwalk Transit (LACMOA Chair)</i> |
| 11 | <i>Pomona Valley Transit Authority</i> |
| 12 | <i>Santa Monica Big Blue Bus (BBB)</i> |
| 13 | <i>Torrance Transit</i> |

Operation FSI – Security

- Fare related Bus Operator assaults
 - FTA: 44% of assaults are fare related
- Increased ridership could make system safer
 - More "eyes on the street"

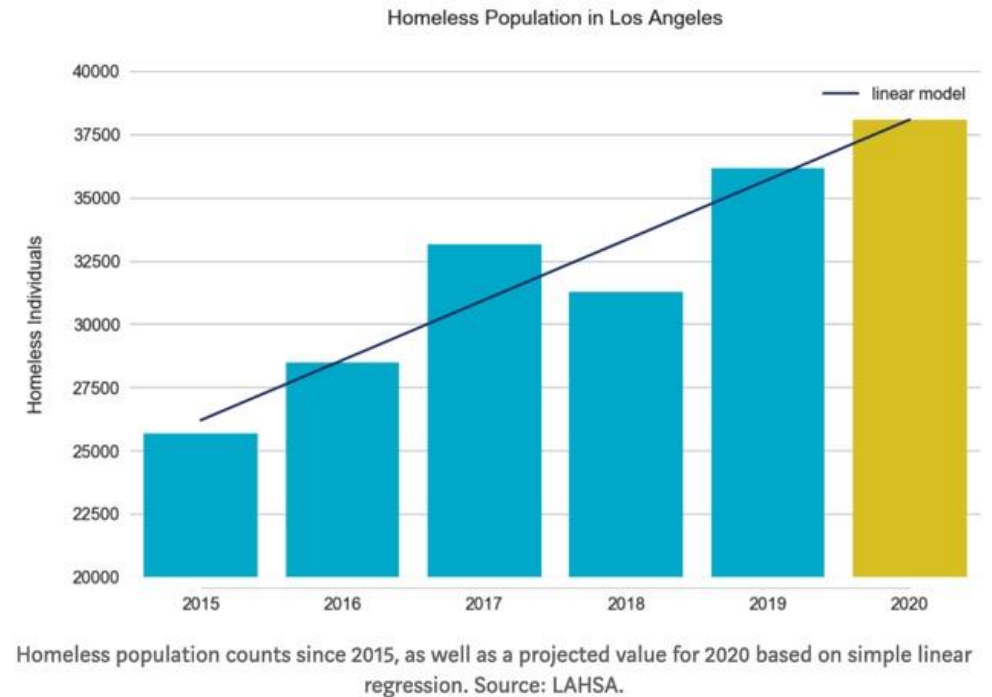


Operation FSI – Profiling

- Fare citations=highly visible, public shaming
 - Exacerbates the stigma of poverty
- Evasion creates a hostile environment
 - ‘evader’ feels defensive
 - ‘paying rider’ feels indignant and perceives the system as unsafe
- Profile reckoning that is happening in the country
 - daylighting of injustice also exposes tensions

Operation FSI – Homelessness

- Homelessness is everywhere
- Metro compassionate response
- Everyone has a right to use public transportation
 - Service seeking
- Unhoused individual counts



Operation FSI – Next Steps

- Fast Three Months
- Analyze General Public Survey
- Meet with Regional Partners
- Research costs, implementation considerations
- Build a campaign of ownership, respect, appropriate behavior, safety



Thank You

Co-Leads

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