



SunLine Transit Agency
July 28, 2021
10:45 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

AGENDA

STRATEGIC PLANNING & OPERATIONAL COMMITTEE Regular Meeting

VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

Pursuant to California Governor Newsom's Executive Orders N-25-20 issued on March 4, 2020 and N-29-20 issued on March 18, 2020, the Board Operations Committee meeting will be conducted remotely through Zoom. Please follow the instructions below to join the meeting remotely.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ELECTRONIC PARTICIPATION

Join Zoom Meeting - from PC, Laptop or Phone

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83117620599>

Meeting ID: 831 1762 0599

Teleconference Dial In
888-475-4499 (Toll Free)
Meeting ID: 831 1762 0599

One tap mobile
+16699009128,,83117620599#

Phone controls for participants:

The following commands can be used on your phone's dial pad while in Zoom meeting:

- *6 - Toggle mute/unmute
- *9 - Raise hand

For members of the public wishing to submit comment in connection with the Strategic Planning & Operational Committee Meeting: all public comment requests need to be submitted via email to the Clerk of the Board at clerkoftheboard@sunline.org prior to July 27, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. with your name, telephone number and subject of your public comment (agenda item or non-agenda item). Members of the public may make public comments through their telephone or Zoom connection when recognized by the Chair. If you send written comments, your comments will be made part of the official record of the proceedings and read into the record.

ITEM

RECOMMENDATION

In compliance with the Brown Act and Government Code Section 54957.5, agenda materials distributed 72 hours prior to the meeting, which are public records relating to open session agenda items, will be available for inspection by members of the public prior to the meeting at SunLine Transit Agency's Administration Building, 32505 Harry Oliver Trail, Thousand Palms, CA 92276 and on the Agency's website, www.sunline.org.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, Government Code Section 54954.2, and the Federal Transit Administration Title VI, please contact the Clerk of the Board at (760) 343-3456 if special assistance is needed to participate in a Board meeting, including accessibility and translation services. Notification of at least 48 hours prior to the meeting time will assist staff in assuring reasonable arrangements can be made to provide assistance at the meeting.

ITEM

RECOMMENDATION

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. FLAG SALUTE

3. ROLL CALL

4. PRESENTATIONS

5. FINALIZATION OF AGENDA

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS

RECEIVE COMMENTS

NON AGENDA ITEMS

Members of the public may address the Committee regarding any item within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Committee; however, no action may be taken on off-agenda items unless authorized. Comments shall be limited to matters not listed on the agenda. Members of the public may comment on any matter listed on the agenda at the time that the Board considers that matter. Comments may be limited to 3 minutes in length.

7. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

RECEIVE COMMENTS

**8. CENTRAL AND WEST COACHELLA VALLEY TRANSIT
CONNECTIVITY TO 10 COMMUTER LINK SERVICE –
ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS (AA)**

**INFORMATION
(PAGE 3-22)**

(Staff: Rohan Kuruppu, Chief Planning Consultant)

9. ADJOURN

SunLine Transit Agency

DATE: July 28, 2021 **INFORMATION**

TO: Strategic Planning & Operational Committee
Board of Directors

FROM: Rohan Kuruppu, Chief Planning Consultant

RE: Central and West Coachella Valley Transit Connectivity to 10
Commuter Link Service - Alternatives Analysis (AA)

Background

During the April Strategic Planning and Operational Committee meeting, staff received concerns about insufficient connectivity to Route 10 Commuter Link service from central and western parts of the Coachella Valley. Route 10 Commuter Link provides service between Indio/California State University San Bernardino (CSUSB) - Palm Desert and San Bernardino.

An initial evaluation of this concern could not identify a viable no-cost way to immediately address this need. Since this item is a regionally significant project, a formal alternative analysis (AA), a comprehensive planning study, is recommended to develop the supporting information for the financial plan and grant applications. A detailed AA is needed to yield the information necessary to prepare highly competitive grant applications, model this project and to successfully implement the recommendation adopted by the Board of Directors.

Key steps of the AA include:

- Identifying desired options for consideration in the AA
- Coordinating with regional planning agencies and stakeholders
- Providing an opportunity for the public to provide input
- Prioritizing options based on approved evaluation criteria
- Developing an operating, marketing and financial plan
- Holding mandatory public hearings and developing agreements with stakeholders
- Obtaining committee and Board of Directors approval of the locally preferred alternative
- Procuring equipment, engineering and civil improvements such as constructing a park-and-ride facility, bus stops and other related amenities

During upcoming committee meetings, staff will present progress reports of the AA. The attached presentation is to initiate the discussion, receive input and recommendations for consideration in the AA. This collaborative planning effort will result in a locally preferred alternative and an appropriate implementation plan.

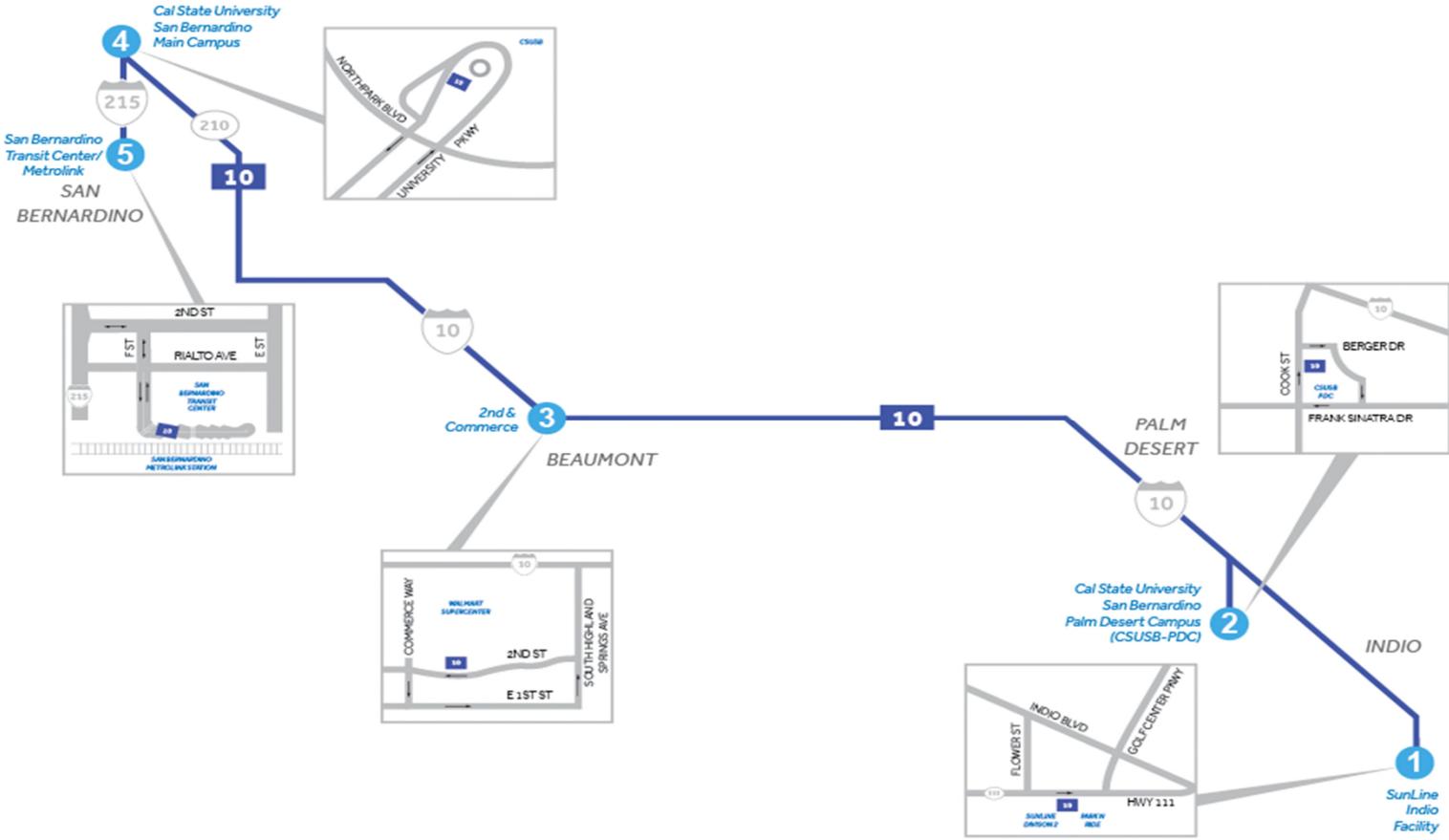
Attachment:

- [Item 8a](#) – Strategies to Connect Central and West Coachella Valley to 10 Commuter Link

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**STRATEGIES TO CONNECT CENTRAL AND WEST
COACHELLA VALLEY TO 10 COMMUTER LINK**

ROUTE 10 COMMUTER LINK



10 COMMUTER LINK FACTS

1. Currently operated through a financial partnership/agreement with CSUSB
2. Primary objective is to connect CSUSB-PDC to CSUSB-SB
3. Route is open to the public
4. Only one approved bus stop between CSUSB-PDC to CSUSB-SB
5. Based on data provided by CSUSB overloading conditions are expected

OBJECTIVE

Develop financially sustainable and cost effective service strategies to connect western and central Coachella Valley to Route 10 Commuter Link service that serves San Bernardino Transit Center (SBTC), Metrolink Station and Cal State University in San Bernardino

ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS (PLANNING)

Steps of an Alternatives Analysis

1. Maintain status quo
2. Transportation System Management (TSM) - consider no cost or affordable options to the current system to meet the objective
3. Build/Expansion options that require new operating and/or capital funds

EVALUATION CRITERIA

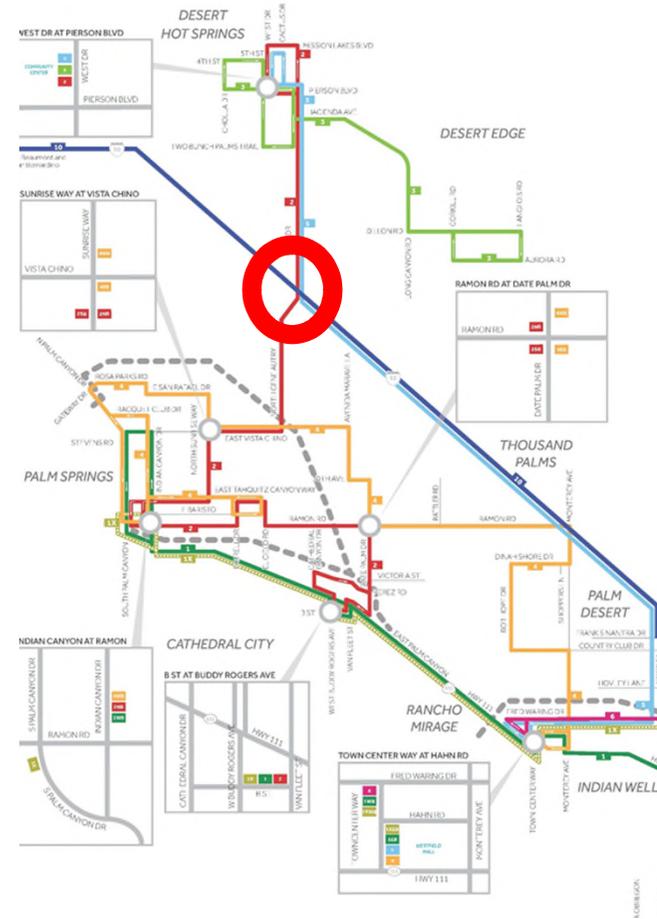
1. Meets the objective
2. Affordable - sufficient operating funds are available for immediate implementation
3. Buses available to start service
4. Financially sustainable for more than three years
5. Negative impacts on existing services and customers
6. Negative impacts on approved or future projects

OPTION 1

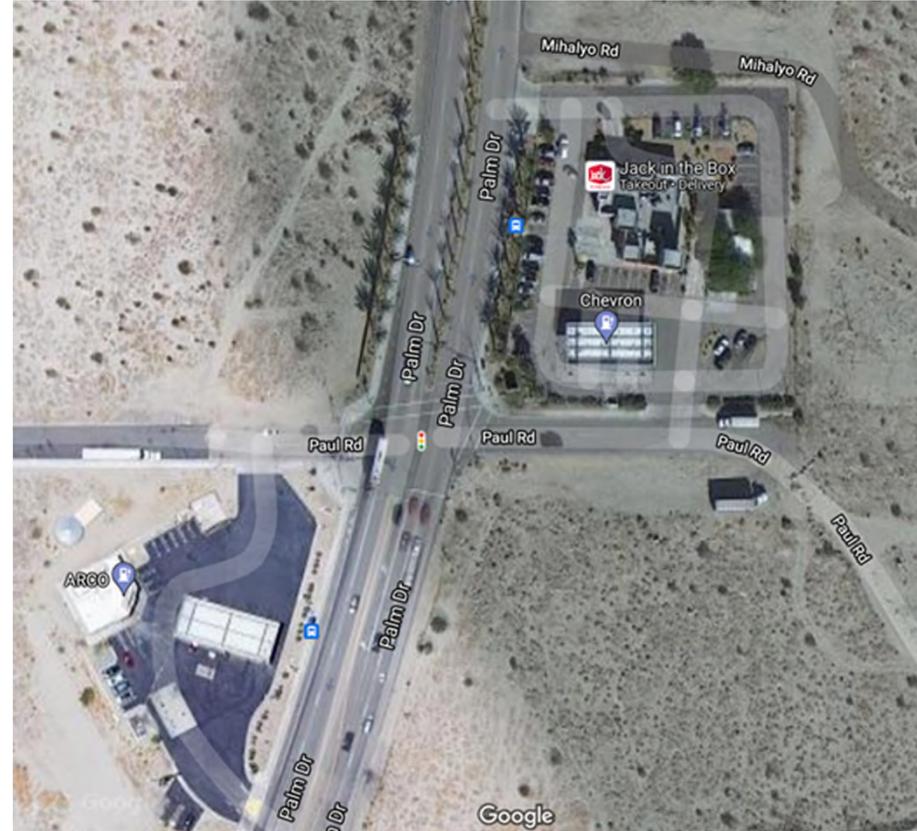
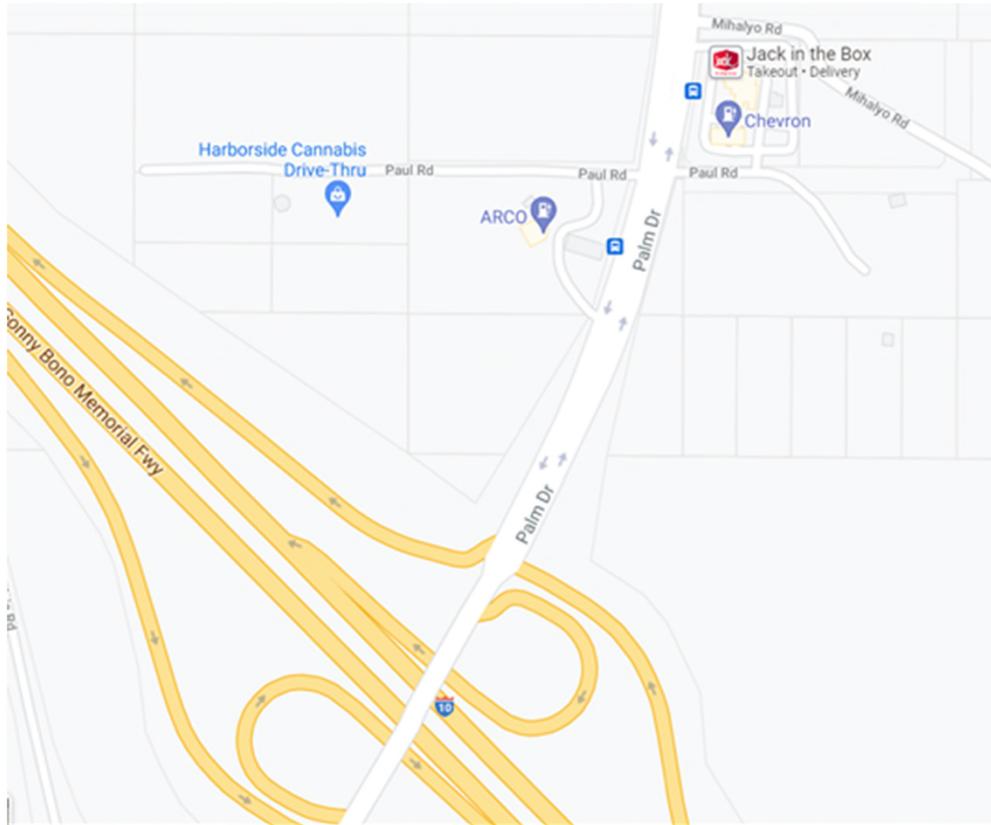
- Maintain status quo (a required option in an Alternative Analysis)
 - Adding any new stops will require expansion buses and additional operating funds
 - Route 220 did not provide service east of Palm Desert
 - CSUSB – PDC provides central access

OPTION 2

- Add a new bus stop at I-10 and Palm
 - Excellent west and central valley connectivity to 10 Commuter Link from:
 - Desert Hot Springs
 - Palm Springs
 - Cathedral City
 - Direct connections to Route 2 trunk route & Route 5



OPTION 2

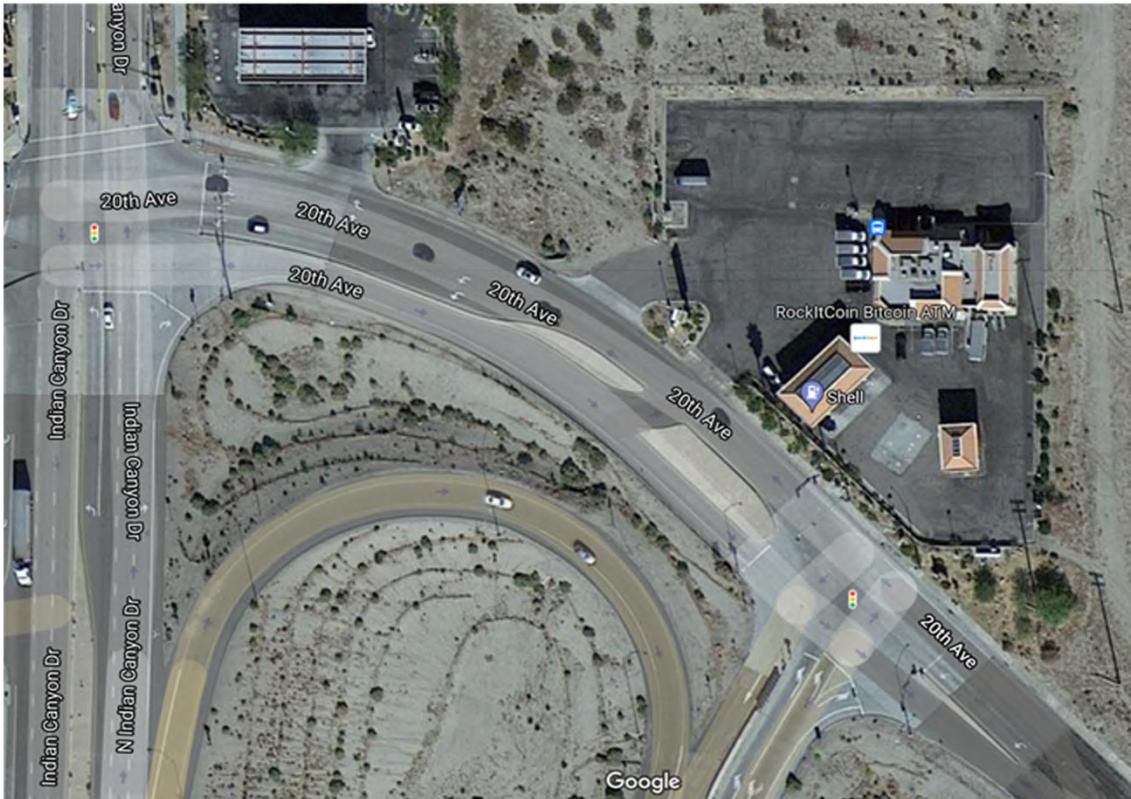


OPTION 3

- Introduce a new bus stop at I-10 and Indian Canyon Dr.
 - Potential Park-N-Ride at Amtrak Station
 - No local SunLine feeder bus service
 - A bus stop at the Greyhound station is not an option



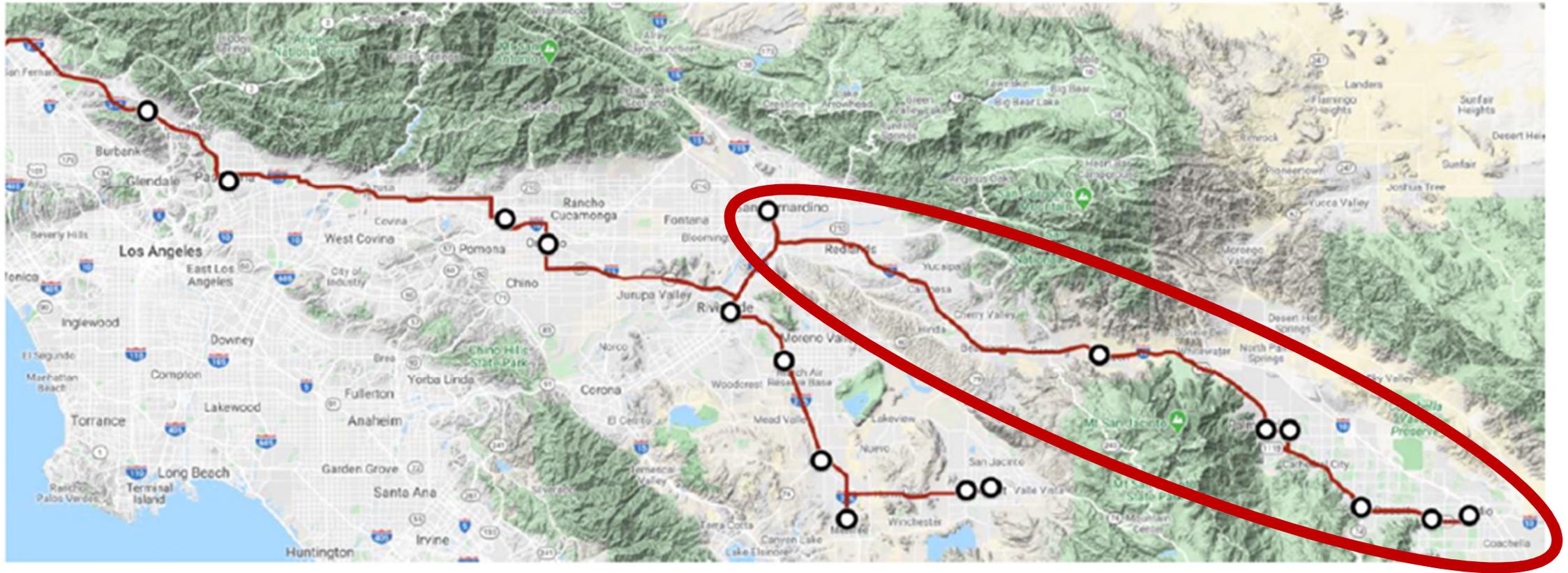
OPTION 3



OPTION 4

- Proposed new commuter route
 - Possible merger with Amtrak Thruway Route 19 Indio – Palm Springs – San Bernardino segment and create a new SunLine Commuter Link route

OPTION 4



OPTION 5

- Deviating 10 Commuter Link to SunLine Transit Hub in Thousand Palms would add about 15 minutes of travel time
 - Does not efficiently meet the objective of connecting western and central Coachella Valley because of the need to travel east transit to travel west

OPTION 6

- Establish new SunRide feeder service for central and western Coachella Valley to CSUSB – Palm Desert campus
 - Need to identify new operating funds
 - Does not address the capacity constraint of the bus

VEHICLE OPTIONS



NEXT STEPS

- Identify and finalize options for consideration in the Alternatives Analysis
- Obtain public input
- Prioritize options
- Develop operating, marketing and financial plan
- Hold public hearings
- Develop and/or amend agreements
- Board/Committee approval
- SRTP/Budget amendment

Thank You

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Questions?

