

September 2026



State of Regional Transit

FY 2027-28 Unmet Transit Needs Process

Stephen Luther, HCAOG Senior Planner



CITY OF
FORTUNA CA



Regional Transportation
Planning Agency

Work regionally to help
members and citizens on a
range of issues



Board of Directors composed of
the 7 cities, County

Different agency than
Humboldt Transit Authority!



Proclamation

of the
Humboldt County Association of Governments
Board of Directors

Recognizing Transit Month 2026 and the Week Without Driving

WHEREAS, the Humboldt County Association of Governments recognizes the vital role that public transportation plays in our communities by connecting people to the places they want to go and to the destinations they need to reach. Transit operators provide **an essential service** that enriches our community's economy and environment. Transit riders are an important part of the transportation system; their **transit trips take cars off the roads**, free up parking spaces, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions that cause climate change; and

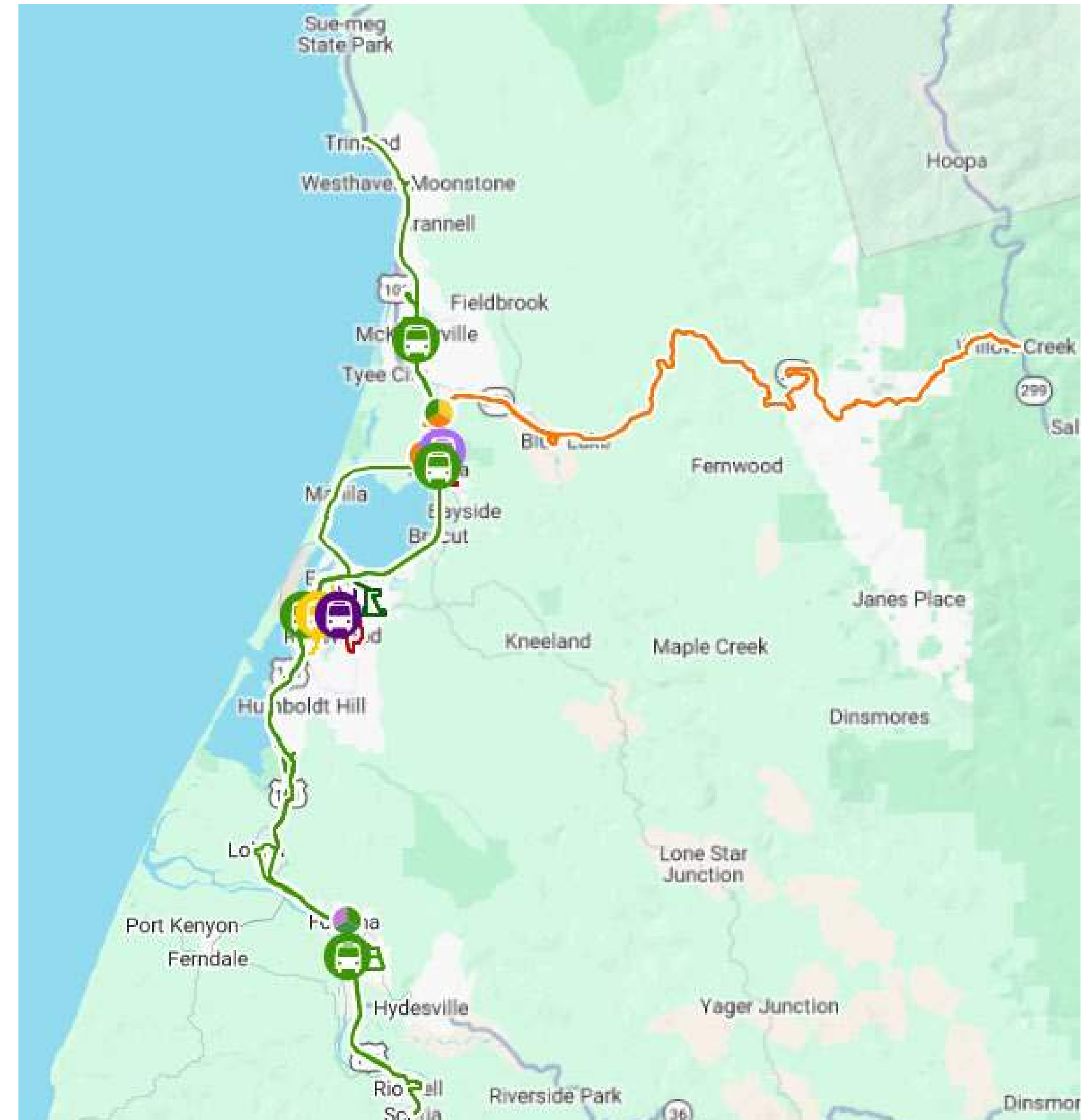
WHEREAS, The Humboldt County Association of Governments believes that when officials have current experience riding the bus regularly, they are better informed to make policy and budgetary decisions. The Week Without Driving highlights the lived experience of nondrivers, helping elected officials **understand the experience of their constituents who do not drive**. In all our communities, we know people who do not drive. They are people like an elderly family member who cannot drive; and a co-worker who is blind and cannot drive; and a classmate who has epilepsy and cannot drive; and a favorite barista who cannot afford to own a car; and a friend who doesn't have documentation to get a driver's license; and a 13-year-old neighbor who cannot drive; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the HCAOG Board of Directors hereby recognizes September 2026 as Transit Month and encourages all people in Humboldt County to recognize the value of public transportation for individuals and the community at large, and to celebrate the people who provide and use transit.

- ~Redwood Transit System
 - ~Arcata and Mad River Transit System
 - ~Eureka Transit System
 - ~North State Express 299 (WC)
 - ~Southern Humboldt Intercity
 - ~NSE 101 (Ukiah)
 - ~Flex Humboldt / Dial A Ride
-
- Fortuna Transit
 - Yurok Tribal Transportation

Inter-regional connections:

Redwood Coast Transit





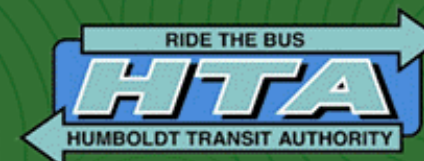


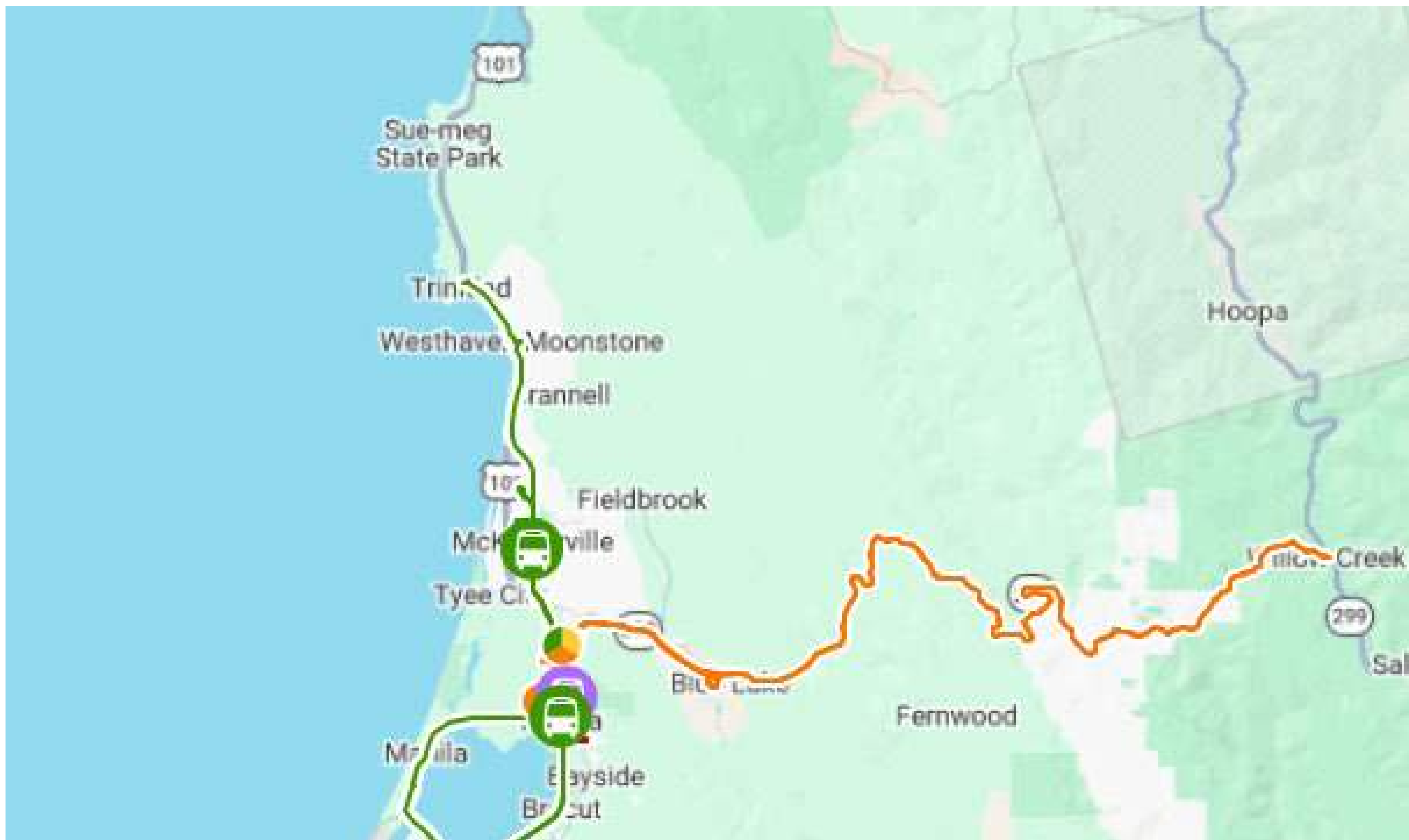
Ride Humboldt

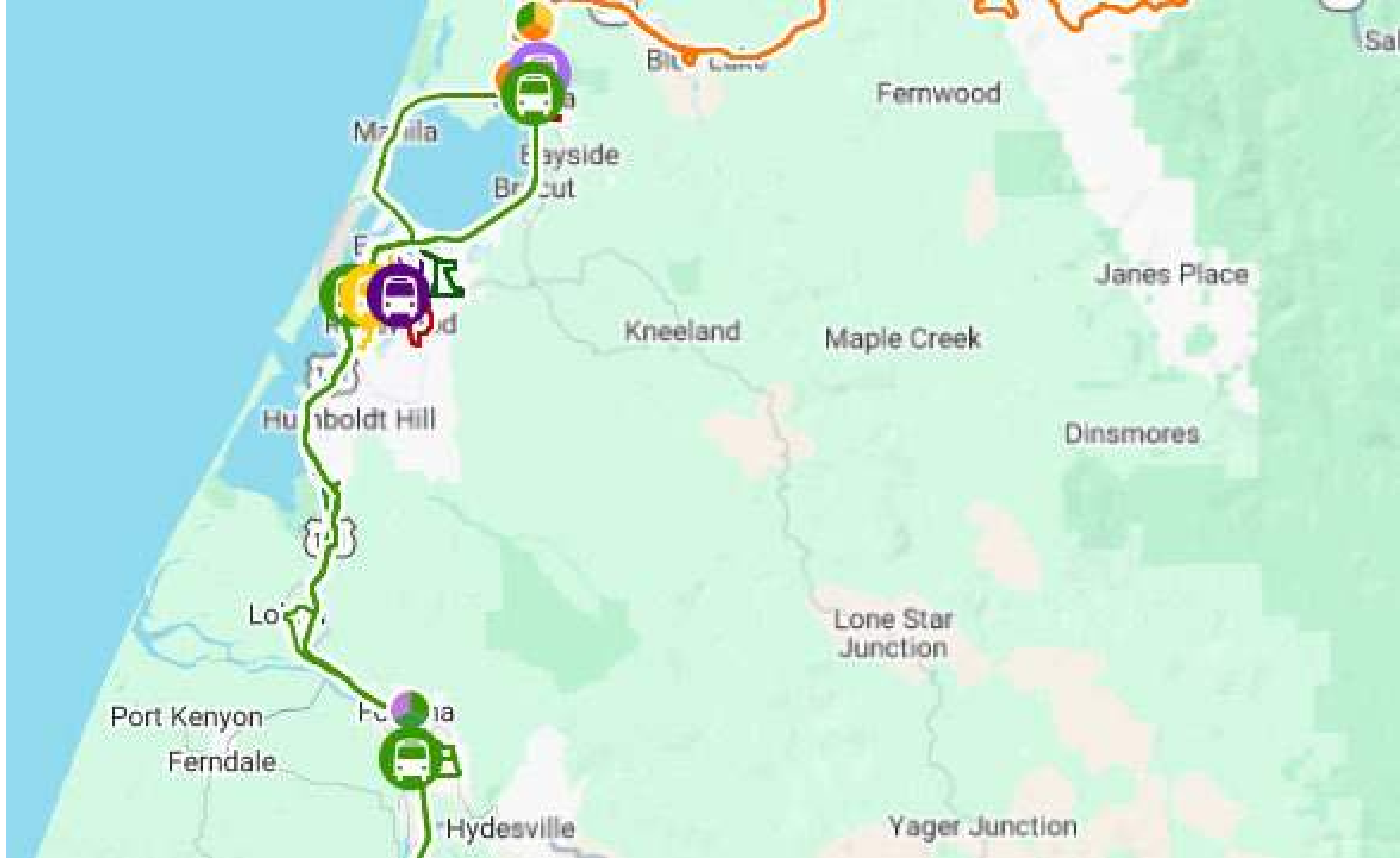
Tap to Pay card fares and ticket fares will be:

	Tap to Pay Card Limit	Ticket or Cash
SINGLE PASS		\$2.00
2 HOUR PASS	\$2.00	
1 DAY PASS	\$5.00	\$5.00
7 DAY PASS	\$15.00	\$15.00
31 DAY PASS	\$50.00	\$50.00

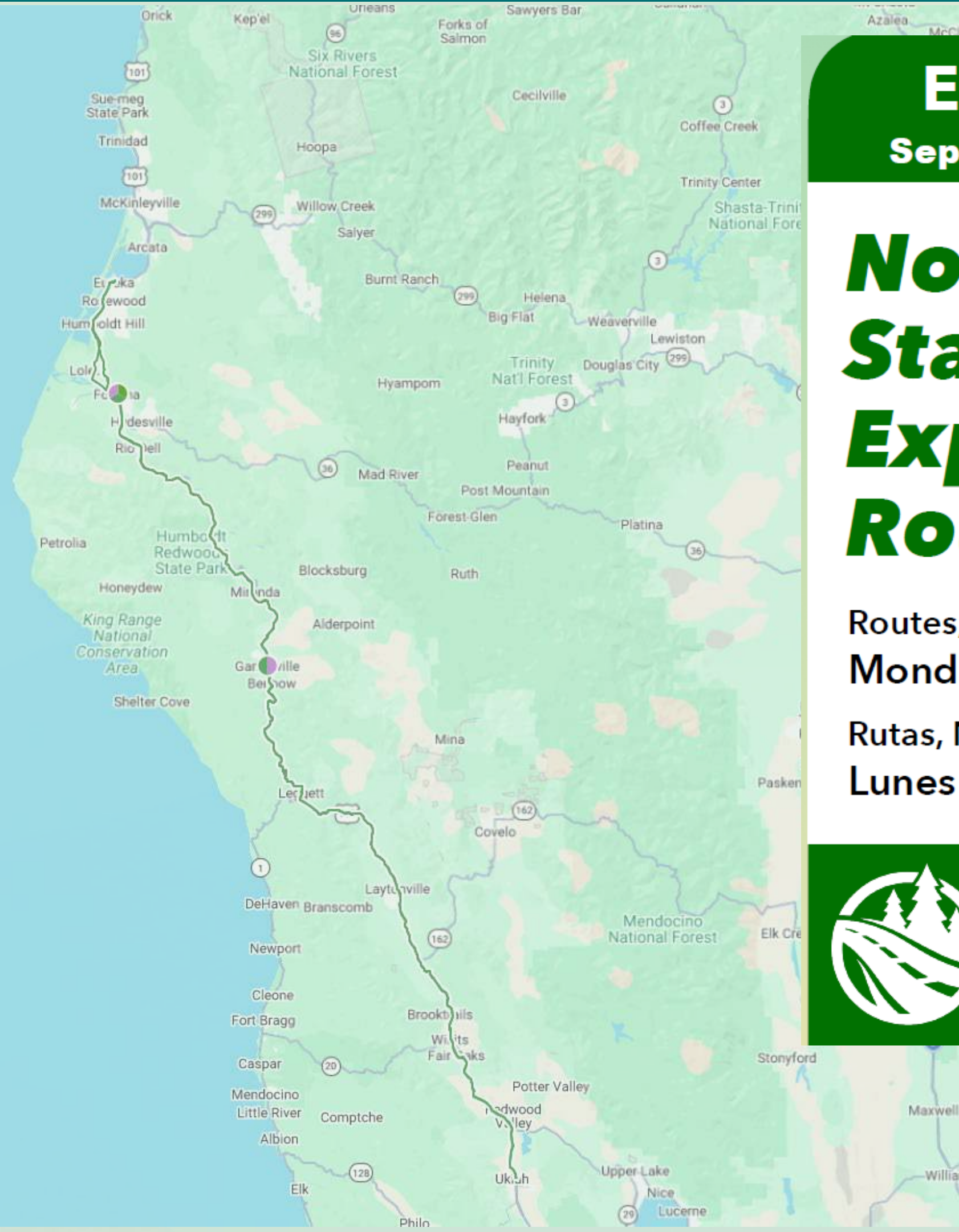
Tickets from the old fare structure will continue to work but no longer be sold







3,357
rides!



Effective
September 7th, 2026

North State Express: Route 101

Routes, Map & Schedule
Monday - Saturday

Rutas, Mapa y Horarios
Lunes - Sábado

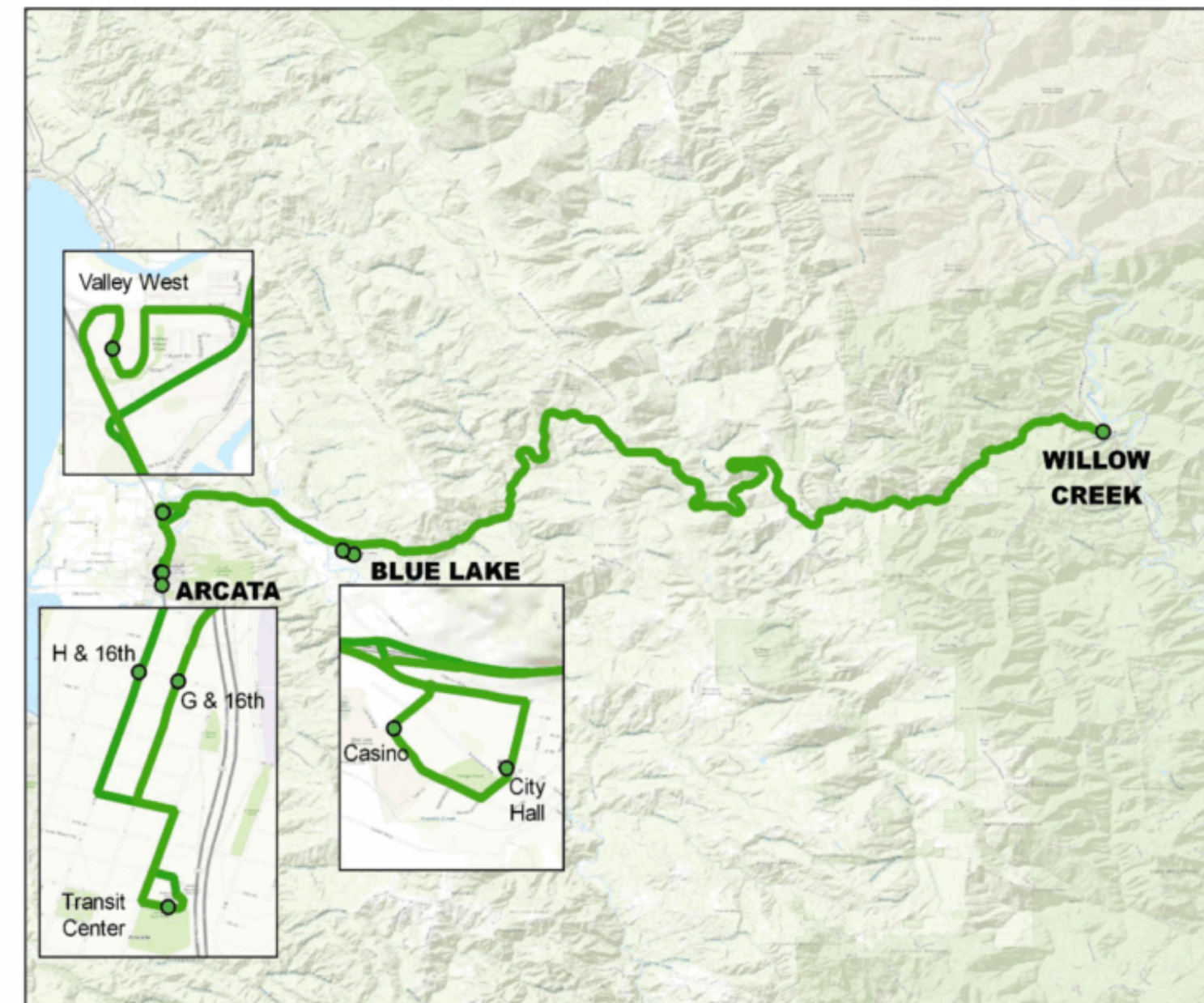


**Ride
Humboldt**

Effective May 1st, 2026

Mapa y horario de autobuses

Monday through
Saturday Service



Weekday Service / Servicio Dias Laborables										
Westbound / Direccion Oeste						Eastbound / Direccion Este				
Run	1	3	5	7	9	Run	2	4	6	8
Hwy 96 & Hwy 299 (Willow Creek)	6:55	9:49	1:20		5:20	Arcata Transit Center	8:13	11:54	2:55	3:54
Blue Lake City Hall	7:40	10:34	2:05	3:10	6:05	G St & 16th (Arcata High)	8:15	11:56	2:57	3:56
Chartin Rd. & Chartin Rd. (Casino)	7:41	10:35	2:06	3:11	6:06	Valley West Blvd (McDonalds)	8:21	12:02	3:03	4:02
Valley West	Drop off by request only/Solicitar Parada					Blue Lake City Hall	8:28	12:09	3:10	4:09
H St. & 16th St. (Arcata High)	7:57	10:51	2:22	3:27	6:22	Chartin Rd. & Chartin Rd. (Casino)	8:29	12:10		4:10
Arcata Transit Center	7:59	10:53	2:24	3:29	6:24	Hwy 96 & Hwy 299 (Willow Creek)	9:19	1:00		5:00
PM times in bold/Horas p.m. en negro										

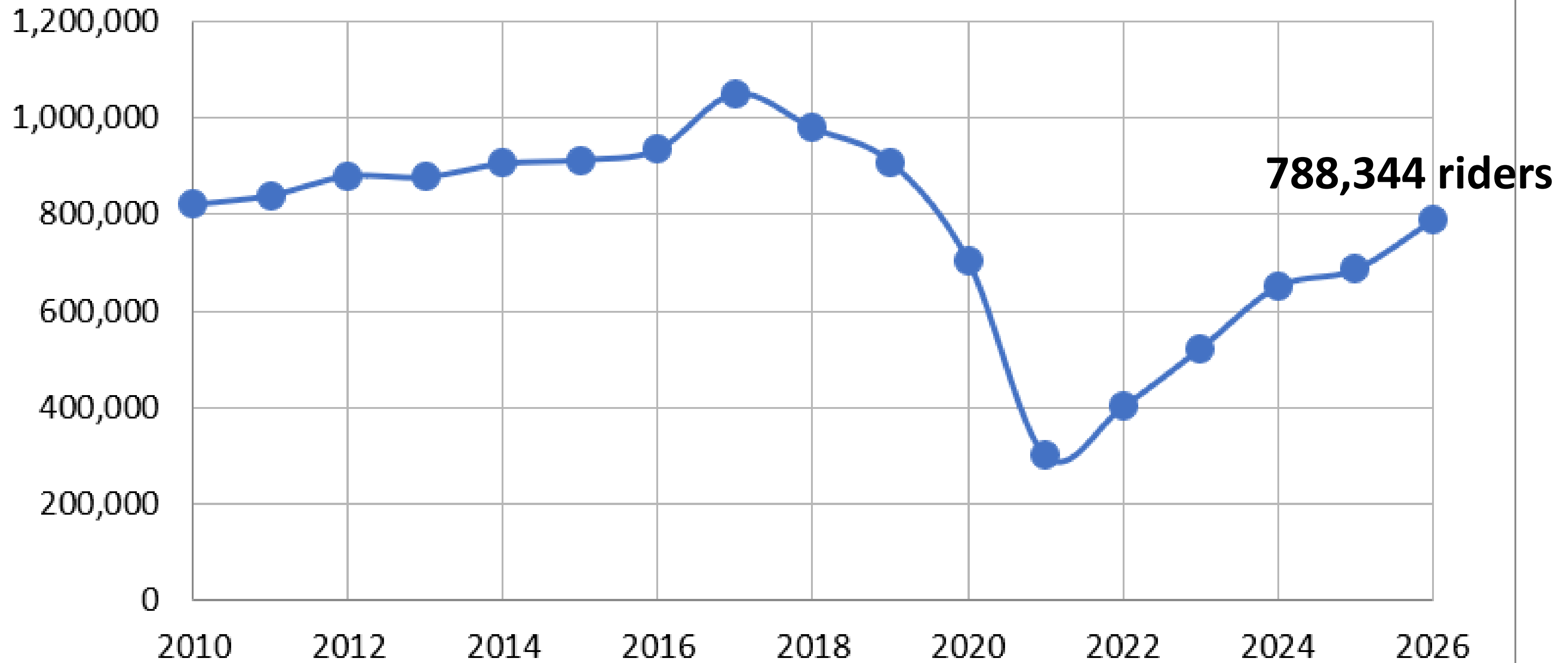
Saturday Service / Servicio Sabado								
Westbound / Direccion Oeste					Eastbound / Direccion Este			
Run	2	4	6		Run	1	3	5
Hwy 96 & Hwy 299 (Willow Creek)	9:45	12:23	7:00		Arcata Transit Center	8:25	11:03	5:40
Blue Lake City Hall	10:30	1:08	7:45		G St & 16th (Arcata High)	8:26	11:04	5:41
Chartin Rd. & Chartin Rd. (Casino)	10:31	1:09	7:46		Valley West Blvd (McDonalds)	8:32	11:10	5:47
Valley West	Drop off by request only/Solicitar Parada				Blue Lake City Hall	8:39	11:17	5:54
H St. & 16th St. (Arcata High)	10:47	1:25	8:02		Chartin Rd. & Chartin Rd. (Casino)	8:40	11:18	5:55
Arcata Transit Center	10:48	1:26	8:03		Hwy 96 & Hwy 299 (Willow Creek)	9:30	12:08	6:45
PM times in bold/Horas p.m. en negro								

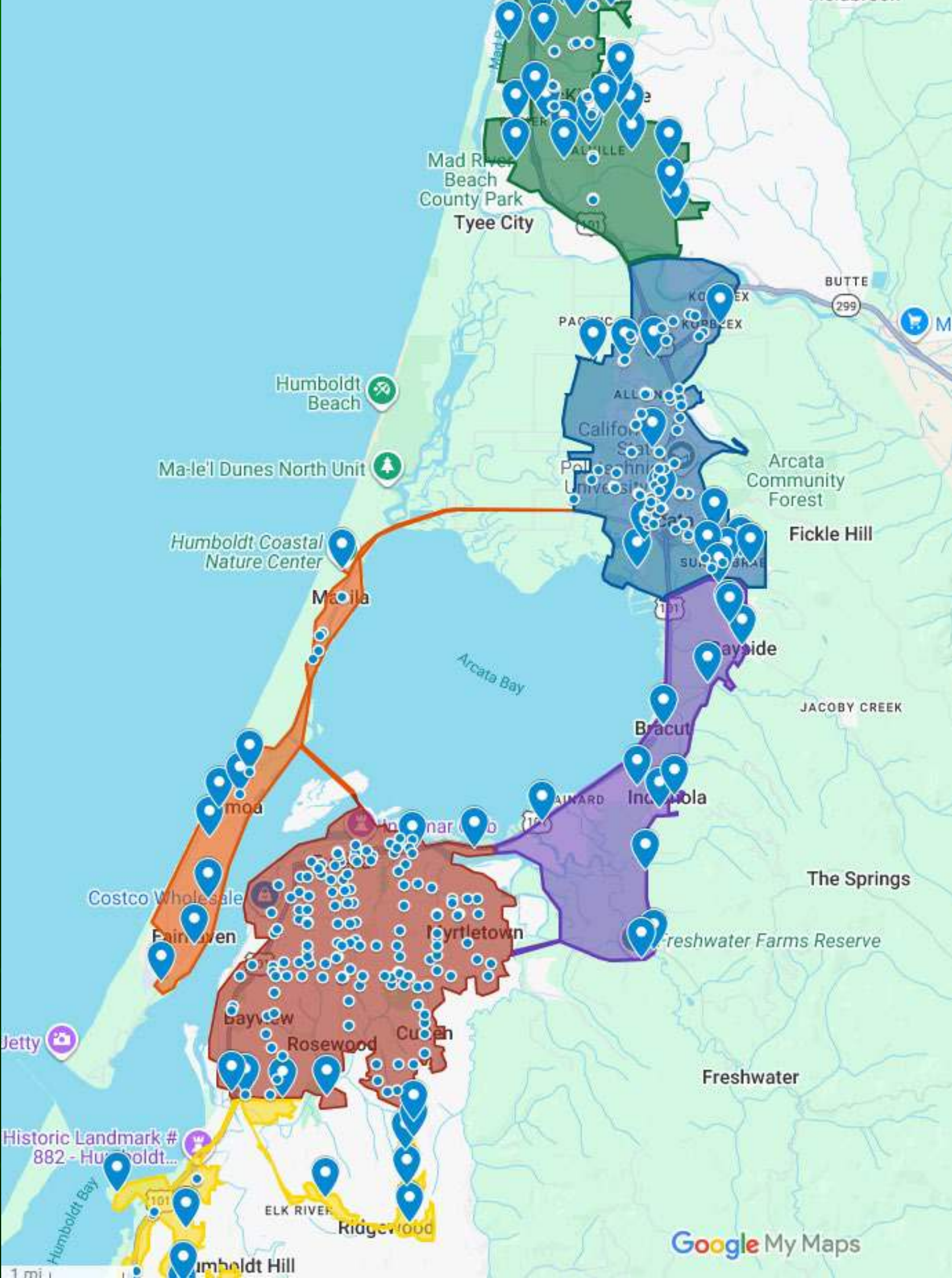
Weekday Service / Servicio Días Laborables										
Westbound / Direccion Oeste						Eastbound / Direccion Este				
Run	1	3	5	7	9	Run	2	4	6	8
Hwy 96 & Hwy 299 (Willow Creek)	6:55	9:49	1:20		5:20	Arcata Transit Center	8:13	11:54	2:55	3:54
Blue Lake City Hall	7:40	10:34	2:05	3:10	6:05	G St & 16th (Arcata High)	8:15	11:56	2:57	3:56
Chartin Rd. & Chartin Rd. (Casino)	7:41	10:35	2:06	3:11	6:06	Valley West Blvd (McDonalds)	8:21	12:02	3:03	4:02
Valley West	Drop off by request only/Solicitar Parada					Blue Lake City Hall	8:28	12:09	3:10	4:09
H St. & 16th St. (Arcata High)	7:57	10:51	2:22	3:27	6:22	Chartin Rd. & Chartin Rd. (Casino)	8:29	12:10		4:10
Arcata Transit Center	7:59	10:53	2:24	3:29	6:24	Hwy 96 & Hwy 299 (Willow Creek)	9:19	1:00		5:00
PM times in bold/Horas p.m. en negro										

Saturday Service / Servicio Sabado							
Westbound / Direccion Oeste				Eastbound / Direccion Este			
Run	2	4	6	Run	1	3	5
Hwy 96 & Hwy 299 (Willow Creek)	9:45	12:23	7:00	Arcata Transit Center	8:25	11:03	5:40
Blue Lake City Hall	10:30	1:08	7:45	G St & 16th (Arcata High)	8:26	11:04	5:41
Chartin Rd. & Chartin Rd. (Casino)	10:31	1:09	7:46	Valley West Blvd (McDonalds)	8:32	11:10	5:47
Valley West	Drop off by request only/Solicitar Parada			Blue Lake City Hall	8:39	11:17	5:54
H St. & 16th St. (Arcata High)	10:47	1:25	8:02	Chartin Rd. & Chartin Rd. (Casino)	8:40	11:18	5:55
Arcata Transit Center	10:48	1:26	8:03	Hwy 96 & Hwy 299 (Willow Creek)	9:30	12:08	6:45
PM times in bold/Horas p.m. en negro							

14,800 rides in FY 25-25 on NSE 299

Total Passengers using HTA Routes (RTS, ETS, AMRTS, SHI, NSE101, NSE299)





Ride Humboldt Flex operates during set service hours.

Monday-Saturday Service

Weekdays: 7:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m.

Saturdays: 9:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m.



Unmet Transit Needs

Why Unmet Transit Needs?

- ¼ of a cent of sales tax that comes back through HCAOG in the form of Local Transportation Fund, or LTF.
- State law requires this process before agencies can use funds for streets .
- HCAOG staff analyzes whether a need is reasonable to meet
- Reasonable to meet requires that a new service meet several criteria, including having a source of sustainable funding.
- The HCAOG Board makes a finding on whether any of the unmet transit needs are reasonable to meet.

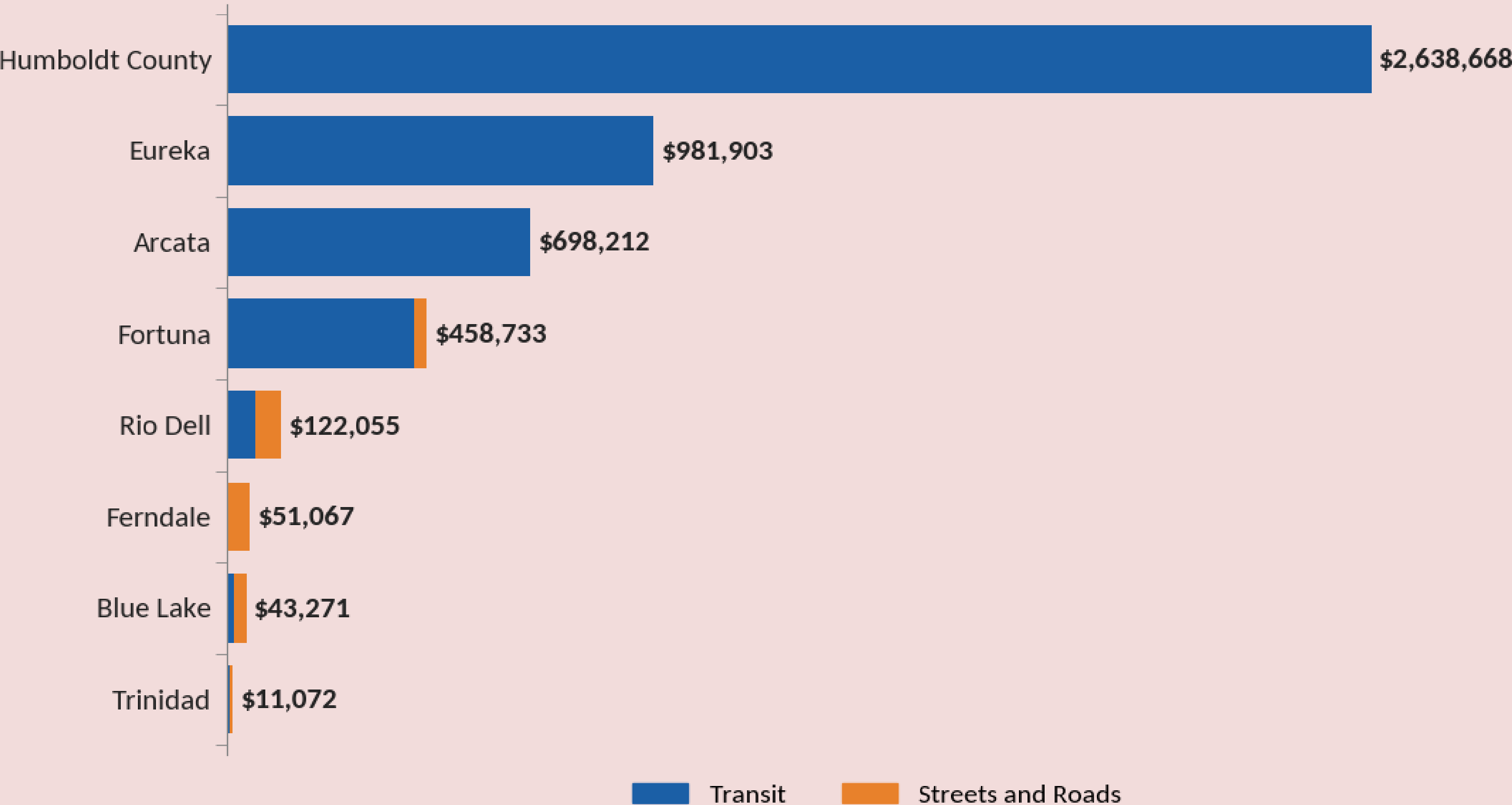
2025-2026 Local Transportation Fund: \$5,898,400



Bike and pedestrian: \$107,888

Estimated TDA funding by jurisdiction: \$5,012,512

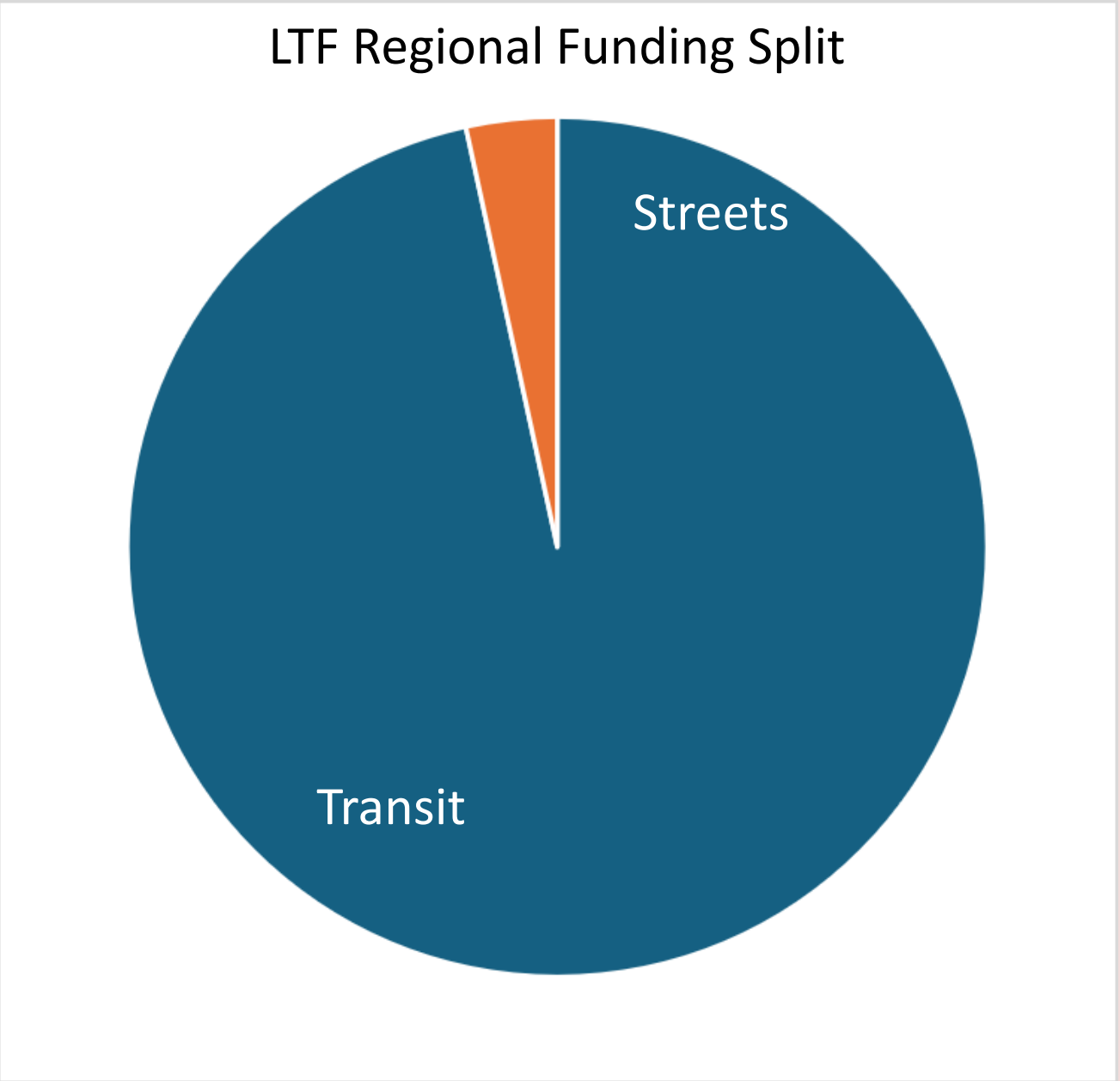
Allocated by share of population



Estimated TDA funding by jurisdiction: \$5,012,512

Allocated by share of population

	Transit Use	Streets and Roads	
City of Trinidad	\$ 6,386.00	\$ 4,686.00	
City of Blue Lake	\$ 15,600.00	\$ 27,671.00	
City of Ferndale	\$ -	\$ 51,067.00	
City of Rio Dell	\$ 64,179.00	\$ 57,876.00	
City of Fortuna	\$ 429,052.00	\$ 29,681.00	
City of Arcata	\$ 698,212.00	\$ -	
City of Eureka	\$ 981,903.00	\$ -	
Humboldt County	\$ 2,638,668.00	\$ -	
Total	\$ 4,834,000.00	\$ 170,981.00	



General Known Transit Needs

- More frequent service
- Earlier and later service
- Sunday service on RTS
- Later night service

Blue Lake Specific Transit Needs

- Service to Murphy's Market in Glendale
- Hourly weekday service to Arcata
- More Saturday trips

Comments matter!

They help prove need,
leverage grant funding,
and prioritize new services
if funding does increase



Take the online survey at
[bit.ly/ HumboldtTransitNeeds](https://bit.ly/HumboldtTransitNeeds)



Recommendation:

- Open public comment
- Hear testimony
- Forward comments to HCAOG to include in UTN analysis

Stephen “Stevie” Luther

Senior Regional Planner

stephen.luther@hcaog.net

