



# Reinstatement of Checked Baggage Service

LOSSAN Board of Directors Meeting | June 16, 2025



# Background

- **Mid-Late FY23:** State budget deficit prompted immediate and long-term cost containment efforts
- **June 12, 2023:** Suspended checked baggage and closed most staffed stations south of LA
- **November 2023:** Board approved Net Cost-Reduction Plan
- **March 10, 2025:** New staffing model fully implemented; Anaheim and Oceanside reopened
- **June 2025:** Proposal to reinstatement baggage service and update baggage policy

# Rationale for Reinstating Baggage Service



Restores a valued passenger amenity in a cost-neutral way by introducing a per-bag fee



Builds on the successfully implemented station staffing model, which optimized staffing and reopened Anaheim and Oceanside



Enhances the customer experience while supporting LOSSAN's broader service restoration efforts



Delivers on the objectives outlined in the Board-approved Net Cost-Reduction Plan



Helps leverage State's resources by reducing the net operating cost of the service



Allows Amtrak to better track checked baggage demand to inform future decisions



# Proposal Overview

- **Reinstate checked baggage service** on the Pacific Surfliner
- **Implement a \$10 per bag fee** to fully offset service costs
- **Update baggage policy** to align with Amtrak's national standards
- **Provide a consistent and sustainable experience** for passengers

# Proposed Baggage Service Locations

- Downtown San Diego
- Oceanside
- Anaheim
- Fullerton
- Los Angeles Union Station
- Van Nuys
- Oxnard
- Santa Barbara

# Cost Recovery Model



Estimated annual cost to reinstate baggage service: \$1.41 million



FY25 projected annual ridership: 2.15 million passengers



A \$10 fee fully offsets costs if 7% of passengers check one bag



Equivalent to 141,000 bags/year or 385 bags/day



7% is the break-even point, not a demand projection



Actual usage is unknown — this is a conservative planning assumption



Usage data will be monitored; fee adjustments can be evaluated in the future

# Evaluating Baggage Fee Scenarios

Fee per Bag	% of Riders Needed to Break Even	Risks/Considerations
\$5 per bag	14% (280,000 bags/year)	May not be achievable
\$10 per bag (proposed)	7% (141,000 bags/year)	Balanced + attainable target
\$20 per bag	3.5% (70,000 bags/year)	Could negatively impact usage / customer experience

# Baggage Policy Update

## Current Policy:

- 2 personal items
- 2 carry-on items
- 2 checked bags (suspended)

## Amtrak National Policy:

- 1 personal item
- 2 carry-on items
- Up to 4 checked bags (1-2 free; 3-4 at \$20 each)

## Proposed Policy:

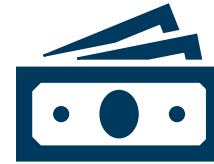
- 1 personal item
- 2 carry-on items
- Up to 4 checked bags (\$10 per checked bag)



## Board Action Requested



Approve reinstatement of  
checked baggage  
service



Approve \$10 per bag fee



Approve updated Pacific  
Surfliner baggage policy



QUESTIONS?