

Agenda Report

TO: CITY COUNCIL

DATE: March 2, 2009

FROM: CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASE OF SIX DIAL-A-RIDE VEHICLES FROM BUSWEST

RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Authorize the issuance of a purchase order contract to BusWest in the amount not to exceed \$350,769 for the purchase of replacement Dial-A-Ride vehicles. The proposed purchase is exempt from competitive bidding pursuant to City Charter Section 1002 [H], contract with other government entities or their contractors.
2. Find that the project is exempt from California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15302: Replacement of existing transit facilities involving negligible or no expansion of capacity.

BACKGROUND:

The City has an approved Capital Improvement Project for the purchase of replacement dial-a-ride vehicles. Through agreements with the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) approved by the City Council in May and November of 2008, Metro has agreed to provide funding to the City towards the purchase of replacement Dial-A-Ride vehicles. The Department of Transportation recommends the purchase of six replacement vehicles. Caltrans has established a statewide procurement contract with BusWest, which pursuant to City Charter Section 1002[H], the City may utilize for this purchase without competitive bidding.

The cost to purchase the six vehicles is \$350,769. The City will receive funding from Metro for \$252,650 (\$46,400 from the New Freedom grant and \$206,250 from the Metro "Mini Call" grant) and will use \$98,119 in local funds (Proposition A) for the City's share of the project.

Environmental Impact

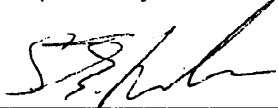
The vehicles being purchased will have ultra low emission gasoline engines that are consistent with the intent of the Urban Environmental Accords (UEA) 14 that limits the production of particulates and smog forming compounds. These engines will not produce particulate matter (PM) which is one of the major polluting factors and greatest health risk of diesel engines and they produce fewer smog forming compounds (NMHC+NOx) than Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) engines. The vehicles will be purchased under the State contract and will comply with California Air Resource Board (CARB) requirements for transit vehicles.

There is a significant cost difference between the purchase of ultra low emission gasoline engine vehicles and CNG vehicles. The cost difference for the six vehicles is \$27,600 per vehicle or \$165,600 for the six vehicles. The purchase of the vehicles with the ultra low emission engines meets the City's commitment to environmental protection.

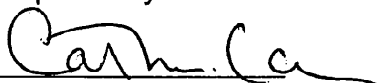
FISCAL IMPACT:

The project has sufficient funds available in the Capital Improvement Program *Replacement of Dial-A-Ride Vans (75700)* project to purchase the six replacement vehicles.

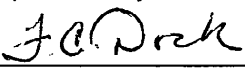
Respectfully Submitted,


for MICHAEL J. BECK
City Manager

Prepared by:


Catherine Cole
Transit Manager

Approved by:


Frederick C. Dock, Director
Department of Transportation