

Agenda Report

April 15, 2019

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Department of Transportation

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASE OF TWO LARGER CAPACITY 35-FOOT COMPRESSED NATURAL GAS (CNG) BUSES FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$1,174,005 TO REPLACE AGING VEHICLES

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Find that the proposed action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) (General Rule);
2. Authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with New Flyer of America Inc. for the procurement of two larger capacity 35-foot Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) buses for Pasadena Transit in an amount not to exceed \$1,174,005, including a contingency of \$45,154. Competitive Bidding is not required pursuant to City Charter Section 1002(H) contracts with other governmental entities or their contractors for labor, materials, supplies or services; and
3. It is further recommended that the City Council grant the proposed contract an exemption from the Competitive Selection process pursuant to Pasadena Municipal Code Section 4.08.049(B) contracts for which the City's best interests are served.

BACKGROUND:

The City was awarded a Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC) grant in 2017. The grant provides funds to replace two smaller aging Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) buses that have surpassed their useful life with higher passenger capacity 35-foot low NOx CNG buses. On June 11, 2018, the City Council authorized the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Agency (Metro) for the receipt of these grant funds. The proposed recommendation is to purchase two low floor, 35-foot CNG XN35 – Xcelsior, New Flyer buses for Pasadena Transit. The proposed New Flyer buses are heavy duty

transit vehicles with a service life of 12 years. The buses will be equipped with a new low NOx CNG engine.

In June 2015, staff contacted other transit agencies in the Los Angeles area for potential joint procurement opportunities to begin the process to replace aging vehicles. Long Beach Transit (LBT) was in the process of developing a federally compliant Request for Proposal (RFP) for over 100 vehicles and invited Pasadena to participate in the joint procurement. As part of the joint procurement with LBT, Pasadena was part of an extensive pre-proposal process, including providing input to the RFP requirements and attending the pre-proposal meeting to answer questions from vendors about Pasadena Transit specific issues. Pasadena was not part of the evaluation committee; however, Pasadena Transit's vehicle specifications were included and Pasadena was formally named on the published RFP. In January 2016, the LBT Board authorized the selection of New Flyer of America, Inc. to manufacture the vehicles for LBT and Pasadena.

Long Beach Transit received proposals from two bus manufacturers, New Flyer of America, Inc. and Gillig Corporation. Proposals were evaluated based on the qualifications and experience, technical design and bus operational considerations. New Flyer of America, Inc. was also the lowest price. Pasadena is able to purchase up to six vehicles from this procurement; in 2018, the City purchased four of the six bus options using grant funds. The proposed action would execute the remaining options available in this joint procurement.

COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION:

The proposed action is consistent with the following goals of the Strategic Plan: Improve, Maintain and Enhance Public Facilities and Infrastructure, Improve Mobility and Accessibility throughout the City, and Support and Promote the Quality of Life and Local Economy. The purchase of these buses will enhance the system by replacing vehicles that have met their useful life and by adding capacity with larger capacity replacement vehicles.

ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:

The proposed action has been determined to be exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15061 (b)(3), the general rule that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. No direct physical changes to the environment are proposed.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The cost of this action will be \$1,174,005. Funding for this action will be addressed by the utilization of existing Capital Improvement Program (CIP) budgeted appropriation in the Purchase of Fixed Route Transit Vehicles Project (75085). The purchase is expected to be completed by quarter one of FY 2021.

The following table presents a CIP project budget summary:

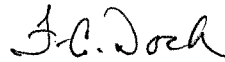
Project Budget Summary	
Base Contract Amount	\$ 1,128,851
Contingency (4%)	45,154
TOTAL CONTRACT AMOUNT	\$ 1,174,005

The following table presents a summary of the sources of funds that will be used:

Funding Sources Summary	
JARC Award (73%)	\$ 862,830
Fund 209 Prop C Local Return (27%)	311,175
TOTAL FUNDING	\$1,174,005

The two new buses will be operated and maintained under the City's transit operations contract with First Transit, Inc. This contract for the fixed route operations and vehicle maintenance is included in the Department of Transportation's operating budget.

Respectfully submitted,



FREDERICK C. DOCK

Director


Department of Transportation

Prepared by:



Sebastián Andrés Hernández
Senior Planner

Approved by:



STEVE MERMELL
City Manager