

CITY OF SANTA ROSA
CITY COUNCIL

TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
FROM: YURI KOSLEN, TRANSIT PLANNER
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
SUBJECT: RESOLUTION – APPROVAL OF PURCHASE OF FOUR
REPLACEMENT PARATRANSIT BUSES

AGENDA ACTION: RESOLUTION

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended by the Transportation and Public Works Department that the Council, by resolution, 1) approve Assignment #15-03-0377 from California Association for Coordinated Transportation (CalACT) to allow for the use of the procurement conducted by CalACT and the Morongo Basin Transit Authority, and 2) authorize the issuance of a purchase order for four replacement paratransit buses from Creative Bus Sales, Inc. for a total of \$345,410.56.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Transit Division's Paratransit fleet of twelve vehicles includes four buses that have exceeded their scheduled useful life. With the award of Federal Transit Administration 5310 funding to purchase replacement paratransit buses, Transit Division staff identified a federally-compliant competitive procurement conducted by the California Association for Coordinated Transportation and the Morongo Basin Transit Authority that would be advantageous to use due to the lower unit cost for vehicles. The Transportation and Public Works Department seeks approval to issue a purchase order for four replacement vehicles using this procurement.

BACKGROUND

The Transit Division of the Transportation and Public Works Department provides next-day ADA paratransit transportation services during CityBus service hours and within three-quarters of a mile of existing CityBus routes as part of the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). This service is currently provided using City-owned vehicles and operated by a contractor, MV Transportation. Given the growing percentage of elderly individuals with disabilities in Santa Rosa, it is expected that there will be an ongoing demand for this transportation option in the future. Of the twelve accessible buses that make up the City's paratransit fleet, four vehicles exceed their

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useful life, as established by the Federal Transportation Administration (FTA) for this type of vehicle.

Federal Transit Administration Section 5310 program funds are appropriated to urbanized areas across the United States to support transportation services for older adults and people with disabilities. Santa Rosa area applications are managed by Caltrans with evaluation conducted by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC). The City of Santa Rosa has historically been awarded FTA Section 5310 funds by Caltrans for purchase of most of its paratransit vehicles.

In 2017 the City of Santa Rosa applied for FTA Section 5310 funds to replace four 2010 paratransit vehicles that were past their useful life. Currently these vehicles have an average mileage of 215,000 miles (federal useful life is 150,000 miles). The City was awarded FTA Section 5310 funding to replace these vehicles in the amount of \$252,000 and has been allocated \$93,410 in state Transportation Development Act Article IV funding to cover the remaining balance necessary to purchase these replacement buses.

The use of the FTA Section 5310 funding requires the procurement of the vehicles in compliance with federal regulations and requirements. At the time of application for the FTA 5310 grant funds the City had the option to utilize a procurement method managed by Caltrans or by CalACT-MBTA. The CalACT-MBTA Purchasing Cooperative is a federally-compliant competitive procurement developed by the California Association for Coordinated Transportation (CalACT) and the Morongo Basin Transit Authority (MBTA) to provide an economical and efficient vehicle purchasing mechanism for California transit operators. To maximize efficiency in the use of time, and to achieve a lower bus purchase price, Transit staff opted to utilize the CalACT-MBTA competitive procurement to purchase these buses.

PRIOR CITY COUNCIL REVIEW

On July 18, 2017, the City Council, by Resolution No. RES-2017-138, approved the use of a cooperative purchase through CalACT-MBTA Purchasing Cooperative Solicitation #12-03 for fixed-route replacement buses.

On February 14, 2017, the City Council, by Resolution No. RES-2017-025, approved the grant application to the California Department of Transportation for federal funding under FTA 5310 program to purchase four replacement paratransit buses.

On August 21, 2018, the City Council, by Resolution NO. RES-2018-145, approved the filing of a claim for state Transportation Development Act Article IV funding for FY18/19 which included the remaining funding needed to purchase the four paratransit buses.

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ANALYSIS

The CalACT-MBTA Purchasing Cooperative solicitation for paratransit vehicles had two successful bidders. The City of Santa Rosa can utilize this procurement method through an assignment by CalACT-MBTA and with permission from Caltrans. The contract existing between CalACT-MBTA and Creative Bus Sales will not itself be assigned to Santa Rosa, but rather only the ability to purchase vehicles under that contract. For this reason, contract provisions favorable to MBTA in the Purchase Agreement may not run to the City of Santa Rosa but the City has similar favorable provisions in its form of purchase order.

Of the successful bidders to the CalACT-MBTA Purchasing Cooperative solicitation, Creative Bus Sales Inc. provided the most competitive price to the City of Santa Rosa for the desired vehicle configuration at a total cost of \$345,410.56 for four replacement vehicles.

The Transit Division consulted with the Paratransit Users Group, the Transit Paratransit Coordinating Committee and MV Transportation to ensure that the vehicles' design and components were well-suited to fulfill the purpose of providing paratransit services within the City of Santa Rosa. Grant-funded vehicles and equipment will only be used for providing service to ADA paratransit customers within the City's service area and for emergency deployment, such as mandatory evacuations during emergencies.

FISCAL IMPACT

This action has no impact on the General Fund. Funding for this procurement includes \$252,000 in FTA Section 5310 grant funds and \$93,410.56 in state Transportation Development Act Article IV funding.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

This action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) because it is not a project which has a potential for resulting in either a direct physical change in the environment, or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment, pursuant to CEQA Guideline section 15378.

BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Not applicable

NOTIFICATION

Not applicable

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ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment 1 – Assignment to Purchase Agreement
- Attachment 2 – Quote from Creative Bus Sales, Inc.
- Attachment 3 – CalACT-MBTA Purchasing Cooperative documents with Creative Bus Services, Inc.
- Resolution / Exhibit A

CONTACT

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