

To: Operations and Scheduling Committee

Date: 11/22/2016

From: Bill Churchill, Director of Transportation

SUBJECT: One Year Extension of the Paratransit Service Contract with First Transit

Summary

The current three year contract between County Connection and First Transit to provide ADA Paratransit services and shuttle services for Saint Mary's college, Cal State East Bay and Alamo Creek Shuttle will expire at the end of June 2017. The contract allows for two one year extensions that may be exercised upon Board approval. Based upon the reasonably good and clearly improving performance of First Transit combined with a competitively priced contract, staff recommends exercising a one year extension of the existing contract with First Transit.

Background

The current contract was implemented on July 1st 2014, since that time First Transit has steadily improved its performance across the board. A key component to the performance improvement was hiring a new general manager recognized as an industry leader in paratransit management. The new general manager has worked tirelessly to improve contract performance, reporting and build relationships with our Transit partners TriDelta Transit, LAVTA and East Bay Paratransit to ensure safe and reliable transportation services not only to our own community but from a regional perspective as well. Throughout the term of the existing contract First Transit has remained excellent in terms of customer service, safety and responsiveness.

In addition to services provided for County Connection, First Transit has demonstrated their commitment to our community as a whole. First Transit provides both fixed route and paratransit services for TriDelta Transit. First Transit has provided support for the City of Clayton operating shuttle services for the Art & Wine Festival as well as the Oktoberfest. They have assisted BART by providing operators and vehicles to support bus bridges. Finally, in addition to transportation services, First Transit was actively engaged in supporting Contra Costa Counties measure X. Clearly First Transit has demonstrated their strong desire to remain a partner with County Connection and the larger community within Contra Costa County.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends exercising the first option to extend the existing contract with First Transit for ADA Paratransit and Shuttle services for one year. Staff would bring contract extension to the Board at a later date. If this option is not exercised then staff would go out to bid for paratransit and shuttle services.

Financial Impact

Financial impact will depend upon terms negotiated with First Transit for contract extension

Options

1. Accept staff's recommendation to negotiate an extension to the existing contract
2. Direct staff to go out to bid