

County Connection

INTER OFFICE MEMO

To: Board of Directors

Date: October 11, 2018

From: Bill Churchill, Assistant General Manager of Administration Reviewed by: *RC*

SUBJECT: Human Trafficking Training

Background:

The Governor approved AB-2034 on September 27, 2018. This bill will require public transit agencies and other organizations to provide training regarding Human Trafficking to employees that interact with the general public as part of their job. The goal of this legislation is to provide such employees with the skills to recognize potential situations of human trafficking and the knowledge of what to do and how to behave when observed. The bill requires the posting of an information poster in a prominent location at agency facilities including bus stations and on their web sites by January 1st, 2019. The bill also requires a training program for new and existing employees to be in place by January 1st, 2021.

Rather than wait until the 2021 deadline, staff has begun to develop a human trafficking training program for operators, supervisors, customer service staff and other administrative employees that interact with the general public. The training program will be given to new employees and also provided annually to frontline employees. Staff is developing the curriculum with support from training personnel at the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) and the County of Santa Clara Valley Office of Woman's Policy. VTA has a human trafficking training program that is proven to be successful and effective and is referenced in the bill as an example to emulate. Under the current schedule of course development staff intends to have a Human Trafficking training program in place by January of 2019.

Recommendation:

For information only

Financial Implications:

The complete financial impact is unknown at this time, there will be some minor expenses in obtaining training materials and posters. Most of the training materials are provided free of charge including video resources. Training staff will incorporate the Human Trafficking training module into the existing employee training program.

Failure to comply with this bill will result in a \$500 fine for the first offense and a \$1,000 fine for each subsequent failure.