

To: Board of Directors

Date: May 14, 2020

From: Rashida Kamara
Manager of Accessible Services

Reviewed by: *Wc.*

Subject: Paratransit Contract Amendment, New Federal Guidelines under COVID-19 Pandemic

Background:

Effective March 16, 2020, a Shelter in Place order was issued by the Governor of California. Californians were instructed to stay at home and limit trips outside of the home for essential functions only. These functions included trips to essential job duties, grocery shopping and medical trips. As a result, regular paratransit trip volume dropped by 80%.

In an effort to keep essential services going throughout the community, County Connection partnered with Meals on wheels to deliver food for seniors that were affected by the stay at home order. Since March 30th, County Connection LINK service (Transdev), delivers up to 650 meals a week. County Connection also partnered with Mt Diablo School district and Transdev delivers meals and groceries for up to 200 students a week.

In addition, the Contra Costa Health Department has asked all the Transit providers to transport passengers that are positive with COVID-19 to hospitals, and to hotels for quarantine. This has resulted in up to 40 transports a week

All of these services were unanticipated by our contractor and it is only appropriate to provide a different scope of work under a contract amendment. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic new federal guidelines, transportation providers are allowed to amend their transportation contracts to meet the needs of the community, such as described above.

Proposed Amendment:

The amendment will allow County Connection to pay Transdev for hours spent providing essential services, such as meal delivery, grocery delivery, and specific transit needs as requested by the County EOC. The amendment also redefines productivity by minimizing passengers on the bus at any given time, to comply with social distancing and pay staff for maintaining service levels as needed. By doing this, County Connection, and the contractor keep essential drivers working and essential services provided to the community. This also enables us to keep a ready work force in the event of a surge in demand and to retain Paratransit drivers on payroll when we are ready to resume normal services.

Fiscal Impact:

It is important to note that the amendment only changes the definition of what our contractor does, it does not change the authorized not to exceed amounts in the original contract. As a result, there is currently no fiscal impact. This amendment allows the authority to use funds provided by the CARES Act to pay for the services previously mentioned if deemed necessary to do so.

Action requested:

The A&F Committee and staff respectfully request the Board of Directors adopt resolution No.2020-022, which authorizes the General Manager to Amend the Agreement with Transdev Services, Inc. under the new federal guidelines. This enables Transdev to provide essential services as described above and County Connection pay them for such services for as long as the pandemic and its orders remain in place, in a form as approved by Legal Counsel.

Attachment: Resolution No.2020-022

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-022

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
CENTRAL CONTRA COSTA TRANSIT AUTHORITY
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO CONTRACT
WITH TRANSDEV SERVICES, INC. TO PROVIDE ADA PARATRANSIT
AND ASSOCIATED SERVICES

WHEREAS, the County of Contra Costa and the Cities of Clayton, Concord, the Town of Danville, Lafayette, Martinez, the Town of Moraga, Orinda, Pleasant Hill, San Ramon and Walnut Creek (hereinafter "Member Jurisdictions") have formed the Central Contra Costa Transit Authority ("County Connection"), a joint exercise of powers agency created under California Government Code Section 6500 et seq., for the joint exercise of certain powers to provide coordinated and integrated public transportation services within the area of its Member Jurisdictions;

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 2019-022, the Central Contra Costa Transit Authority Board of Directors awarded a contract to Transdev Services, Inc. for paratransit and associated services ("Agreement");

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, the Governor of the State of California proclaimed a State of Emergency to exist in California as a result of the threat of the COVID-19 outbreak;

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, the public health officers of seven Bay Area jurisdictions, including the County of Contra Costa, issued legal orders directing residents to shelter at home for three weeks beginning on March 16, 2020 through April 7, 2020, and which orders limit activity, travel and business functions for only the most essential needs;

WHEREAS, on March 31, 2020, the public health officers of seven Bay Area jurisdictions, including the County of Contra Costa, issued legal orders extending the shelter at home order through May 3, 2020;

WHEREAS, the impacts of COVID-19, the shelter at home orders, and the need to maintain social distancing on paratransit vehicles, have resulted in a significant decrease in County Connection paratransit ridership;

WHEREAS, the Federal Transit Administration ("FTA") has issued guidance in light of the COVID-19 pandemic that states grantees may modify third party transit operator contracts to pay for eligible operating/maintenance expenses required to retain readiness or eligible fixed operations/maintenance expenses;

WHEREAS, such FTA guidance also states that grantees may use certain FTA funds to reimburse transit vehicle expenses for incidental uses, such as providing temporary meal delivery services;

WHEREAS, in accordance with such FTA guidance, COUNTY CONNECTION now wishes to modify CONTRACTOR's scope of services in response to the COVID-19 pandemic;

WHEREAS, CONTRACTOR has agreed to such modifications; and

WHEREAS, the Administration and Finance Committee recommends amendment the Agreement with Transdev Services, Inc. in order to adjust the scope of services and compensation therefore to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Central Contra Costa Transit Authority Board of Directors authorizes an amendment to the Agreement with Transdev Services, Inc., in order to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the General Manager is authorized to execute an amendment to the Transdev Services, Inc. Agreement on behalf of CCCTA, subject to approval as to form by Legal Counsel.

Regularly passed and adopted this 21st day of May 2020, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Candace Andersen, Chair, Board of Directors

ATTEST:

Lathina Hill, Clerk to the Board