

To: Operations & Scheduling Committee

Date: August 28, 2026

From: Marcel Longmire, Director of Maintenance

Reviewed by: 

SUBJECT: Farebox Retrofit Project

Background:

County Connection has utilized the current Genfare Transview farebox system for more than 20 years. Staff has done an excellent job maintaining the fareboxes and keeping them operational; however, obtaining replacement parts has become increasingly difficult as the equipment continues to age.

A new Genfare farebox starts at approximately \$20,000 per unit and includes features that are not necessary to County Connection bus operations. Due to the high cost of replacement fareboxes and mismatch in technology, staff began evaluating alternative fare collection solutions. One of the primary challenges in identifying a replacement system is the Authority's requirement that any solution be compatible with, or include, a secure vault collection system.

Discussion:

During the evaluation process, staff connected with Diamond Manufacturing, a company that manufactures manual fareboxes that operate using a simple dump-lever mechanism. While Diamond Manufacturing does not currently offer a vault collection system to accompany its fareboxes, the company presented a potential solution specifically designed to address County Connection's needs.

The proposed modification would utilize the Authority's existing Genfare Transview fareboxes by removing the electronic upper portion of the unit and replacing it with a manual Diamond Manufacturing attachment. This modification would allow fares to be deposited directly into the Authority's existing vault system, preserving infrastructure that remains fully operational. This approach offers several benefits:

- Extends the useful life of the Authority's existing vault collection system
- Reduces dependence on aging Genfare components that are becoming difficult to source
- Provides a simpler and more maintainable fare collection solution
- Significantly lowers costs compared to purchasing entirely new farebox systems
- Reduces implementation complexity by utilizing existing infrastructure

Diamond Manufacturing currently serves transit agencies throughout all 50 U.S. States, as well as customers in Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, and Guam. The company has demonstrated a long-term commitment to supporting its products and customers, providing confidence in the availability of future parts and technical support.

Staff believes this solution provides a cost-effective and sustainable approach to addressing the Authority's fare collection needs while maximizing the value of existing assets and avoiding the substantial expense associated with procuring an entirely new farebox and vault system.

Financial Implications:

The total purchase price for 150 DMOO Retrofit Kits is \$367,375, broken down as follows:

150 DMOO Retrofit Kits Complete (\$2,200 each)	\$330,000
1 Freight Cost by dedicated truck	\$5,200
<u>Tax</u>	<u>\$32,175</u>
Total:	\$367,375

TDA capital funds have been programmed for onboard technology in the FY 2026-27 budget in an amount sufficient to fund this purchase.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends that the O&S Committee recommend that the Board of Directors authorize the issuance of a Purchase Order to Diamond Manufacturing to purchase 150 DMOO Retrofit Kits.

Action Requested:

Staff requests that the Operations & Scheduling Committee recommend that the Board of Directors adopt a resolution authorizing the General Manager or designee to release a Purchase Order to Diamond Manufacturing to purchase 150 DMOO Retrofit Kits in an amount not to exceed \$367,375.

Attachments:

Attachment 1: Four (4) photos of the updated farebox.