



# *CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT*

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MEETING DATE: SEPTEMBER 15, 2009

ITEM NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

**SUBJECT:** ACCEPTANCE OF A DONATED PARATRANSIT VEHICLE FROM THE ORANGE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY SENIOR MOBILITY PROGRAM

**DATE:** SEPTEMBER 3, 2009

**FROM:** ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES/RECREATION

**PRESENTATION BY:** JANA RANSOM, RECREATION MANAGER

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** DONNA THERIAULT, MANAGEMENT ANALYST AT 714-754-5636

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## **RECOMMENDATION:**

Accept the donation of a 2001 Ford Eldorado, Paratransit, 19-Passenger Bus from the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) Senior Mobility Program.

## **BACKGROUND:**

In 2002, the City entered into a Cooperative Agreement (Agreement) with OCTA for a Senior Mobility Program to provide local transportation services to senior citizens in the City of Costa Mesa. The Agreement provides the City with transit operating funds which the City utilizes to pay for contract driver services. The transit funds are allocated to local agencies based on the percentage of the senior population age 65 years and older.

As part of the Senior Mobility Program, the City provides approximately 800 one-way passenger trips per month to the senior population. The City currently has two senior transportation buses that are used to provide transportation for seniors who need to go to and from the Costa Mesa Senior Center, shopping, or other necessary trips. One of the buses is in use Monday through Friday and the second bus is maintained as a back-up vehicle.

The Agreement allows the City to request vehicle donations from OCTA every 3 years. The donated vehicles are refurbished, 19-passenger, lift-equipped paratransit vehicles that have been in operation for 5 years and/or 150,000 miles.

## **ANALYSIS:**

At this time, only one of the senior transportation buses is useable, and the City is in need of a second bus. The vehicle currently in use is a 2000 Eldorado bus with over 200,000 miles, and the back-up bus is a 1998 E-350 that is in need of extensive mechanical repairs.

City staff requested a donated vehicle from OCTA to replace the 1998 bus and was offered the subject 2001 Eldorado bus (see attached photo). City Fleet Services Staff has inspected the donated bus and found it to be in good working order. The bus comes equipped with an automated wheel-chair lift, a new paint job and new tires. The donated buses are also given a thorough safety check by OCTA before they are donated to the participating local agencies.

**ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:**

Council could choose to not accept the donated bus, in which case the City would operate with just 1 paratransit bus, and no back-up vehicle. With no back-up vehicle, the City would not be able to provide senior transportation services if the main bus were to break down or be out of commission during routine maintenance.

**FISCAL REVIEW:**

The City receives transit funds from OCTA on an annual basis. The City's allocation for fiscal year 2009-2010 is \$77,595.

The donated bus is provided to the City at no cost other than Department of Motor Vehicle registration fees to transfer the title. Scheduled preventive maintenance for the donated vehicle is provided by City Fleet Services staff and meets the City's required 20 percent match for the transit operating funds.

**LEGAL REVIEW:**

No Legal Review required.

**CONCLUSION:**

In order to provide uninterrupted senior transportation services Monday through Friday, the City is in need of a second paratransit vehicle. The Senior Mobility Program provides donated vehicles to participating local agencies at no cost. The City has requested a donated vehicle from OCTA and staff recommends the City Council accept the donated vehicle.

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JANA RANSOM  
Recreation Manager

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STEPHEN MANDOKI  
Director of Administrative Services

DISTRIBUTION: City Manager  
City Attorney  
Director of Finance  
City Clerk  
Staff

ATTACHMENT: 1 [Photo of the Donated Paratransit Vehicle](#)