



# *CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT*

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MEETING DATE: MAY 17, 2011

ITEM NUMBER: CC-5

**SUBJECT:** ORANGE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY SENIOR MOBILITY PROGRAM AGREEMENT C-1-2471

**DATE:** April 28, 2011

**FROM:** ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DEPARTMENT/RECREATION DIVISION

**PRESENTATION BY:** DONNA THERIAULT, MANAGEMENT ANALYST

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Donna Theriault, Management Analyst, 714-754-5300

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## **RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that the City Council approve the Orange County Transportation Authority Senior Mobility Program Agreement C-1-2471 (Attachment 1), for a transportation program for Costa Mesa seniors, and authorize the Mayor and the City Clerk to sign the Agreement.

## **BACKGROUND:**

The Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) provides funding to cities who wish to operate local, community-based transportation service to seniors. OCTA's Senior Mobility Program (SMP) is funded with Measure M, ½ cent sales tax revenue. Since 2002, the City has received \$556,759 in SMP funds to operate a senior transportation program specific to Costa Mesa.

The SMP funds are currently used to provide contract driver services for the senior para-transit vehicles to transport Costa Mesa seniors to the Senior Center for various activities, congregate meals, and to shopping and other needed appointments. The transportation service is free to Costa Mesa seniors. The program is based at the Senior Center and operates Monday through Friday from 9am to 5pm. Seniors may call the program telephone number to schedule pick-up and delivery to any location within the City boundaries and Hoag Hospital. The current SMP Agreement with OCTA expires on June 30, 2011.

The City currently contracts with Western Transit Systems to provide driver services for the Senior Mobility Program. Western Transit charges \$30.63 per hour under the contract for a current cost of \$70,020. The driver is an employee of Western Transit Systems which was selected in 2007 as a result of a Request for Proposal process. Staff will be issuing a new RFP for driver services as this agreement has been in place for four years and expires September 30, 2011. A new agreement for driver services will be brought to City Council for action prior to the expiration of the existing agreement.

The SMP funding allocation requires a 20% match from the City, either by direct support or indirect cost. The City match for this grant is the ongoing fuel and maintenance costs

for the senior bus and back-up senior bus. The Agreement provides for OCTA to donate one used, 18-passenger, para-transit vehicle to the City for its use. The City currently utilizes two (2) donated para-transit vehicles. One vehicle is used as the primary vehicle (newly donated by OCTA) and the other is used as a back-up only (older donated bus kept by the City).

### **ANALYSIS:**

Due to the expiration of the existing Agreement, and with the Renewed Measure M2 sales tax revenue, a new Agreement (Attachment 1) needs to be approved by the City in order for the City to continue to receive the SMP allocation. The new Agreement has a five-year term ending June 30, 2016 with one, five-year extension option.

All terms of the proposed Agreement are the same as the current agreement with the exception of the following changes:

1. Allocations will be based on actual Measure M sales tax receipts rather than on a cost per senior, escalated annually by the CPI.
2. Age definition of "senior" has been reduced from 65 to 60 years of age for the purpose of calculating the funding allocation.
3. SMP funds will be distributed to cities on a bi-monthly basis rather than in one lump sum at the beginning of the fiscal year.
4. SMP funds must be expended or encumbered within three years of receipt by the City.
5. City must adopt an annual Expenditure Report to account for SMP net revenue and funds expended by the City, which satisfy the Maintenance of Effort requirements.

Staff recommends that the City Council approve the Agreement with OCTA to continue providing the program to the seniors.

### **ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:**

The Council may choose to not approve the new Agreement with OCTA. The City could then choose to create and operate a senior transportation program with City funds, or not provide a senior transportation program.

### **FISCAL REVIEW:**

The SMP funding allocation for fiscal year 2011-2012 is \$83,053. The City match for this grant is the ongoing fuel and maintenance costs for the senior bus and back-up senior bus which staff has requested as part of the fiscal year 2011-2012 preliminary budget.

### **LEGAL REVIEW:**

The City Attorney's office has reviewed the Agreement and approved it as to form.

**CONCLUSION:**

The Senior Mobility Program has been very successful over the past 9 years, transporting over 86,400 passengers since October 1, 2002 for an average of 800 passengers per month.

The current SMP Agreement with OCTA is expiring June 30, 2011. With the Renewed Measure M2 sales tax revenue, a new Agreement must be approved by City Council in order for the City to continue receiving SMP funding. The City, the Costa Mesa Senior Center, and Western Transit have partnered to provide a high quality successful service to the senior community. Staff recommends that City Council approve the new Agreement C-1-2471 with OCTA to continue the funding for a senior mobility program.

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DONNA THERIAULT  
Management Analyst

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TAMARA LETOURNEAU  
Interim Administrative Services Director

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COLLEEN O'DONOGHUE  
Assistant Finance Director

DISTRIBUTION: Staff

ATTACHMENTS: 1. [Agreement C-1-2471](#)