



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

MEETING DATE: OCTOBER 6, 2015

ITEM NUMBER: **CC-12**

**SUBJECT: DONATION OF PARATRANSIT VEHICLE FROM THE ORANGE COUNTY
TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY SENIOR MOBILITY PROGRAM**

DATE: SEPTEMBER 24, 2015

FROM: PUBLIC SERVICES DEPARTMENT / MAINTENANCE SERVICES DIVISION

PRESENTATION BY: ERNESTO MUNOZ, PUBLIC SERVICES DIRECTOR

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: BRUCE LINDEMANN, MAINTENANCE
SUPERINTENDENT (714) 327-7470**

RECOMMENDATION

Accept the donation of a 2007 Ford El Dorado, Paratransit Vehicle from the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) Senior Mobility Program.

BACKGROUND

The City entered into Cooperative Agreement C-1-2471 (Agreement) with OCTA on June 27, 2011, for a Senior Mobility Program to provide local transportation services to senior citizens in the City of Costa Mesa. The Senior Mobility Program provides the City with transit operating funds (Measure M sales tax revenue) 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 60 years and older.

The Agreement allows the City to request vehicle donations from OCTA every 3 years. The donated vehicles are refurbished, 18-passenger, lift-equipped, paratransit vehicles that have been in operation for 5 years and/or have accumulated 150,000 miles.

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 donated senior transportation buses that are used to provide transportation for seniors to go to and from the Costa Mesa Senior Center, shopping, or other necessary trips. One bus operates Monday through Friday and the second bus is maintained as a back-up vehicle.

ANALYSIS

The older of the two senior transportation buses currently in use by the City, is a 2001 model year. The mileage is approximately 290,515; the engine runs rough and burns oil. The handicap wheelchair lift is worn and slow to respond. Several of the windows leak, which has caused the interior walls to rust. It is in need of replacement.

City staff requested a donated vehicle from OCTA to replace the 2001 bus and was offered the subject 2007 Ford El Dorado Paratransit Vehicle (see attached photo). The City's Fleet Services staff have inspected the bus offered for donation and found it to be in good working order. The bus comes equipped with an automated wheel-chair lift, new paint and new tires. The donated buses are also given a thorough safety inspection by OCTA before they are donated to the participating local agencies.

Parks and Community Services staff will be working with local vendors to develop and install a vehicle 'wrap' which will increase the visibility of the senior transportation service. In addition it will add an element of mobile public art in our community.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

Council could choose to not accept the donated bus, in which case the City would operate with the existing two buses, with the back-up bus being in poor condition. Staff would need to schedule and budget for repairs to the engine, wheel chair lift and replacement of damaged windows of the back-up bus to provide an appropriate level of service to seniors.

FISCAL REVIEW

The donated bus is provided to the City at no cost other than Department of Motor Vehicle title transfer fees. 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. The annual operating expenses (maintenance & fuel) for the donated bus would be approximately \$7,500 and is included in the Parks and Community Services 2015-16 operating budget.

LEGAL REVIEW

No Legal review required.

CONCLUSION

In order to continue to provide uninterrupted senior transportation services, and to avoid costly repairs on a vehicle with limited remaining life, staff recommends the City Council accept the donated vehicle.

ERNESTO MUNOZ
Public Services Director

BRUCE HARTLEY
Maintenance Services Manager

TRAVIS KARLEN
Recreation Manager

Attachments: 1. [Donation Confirmation Letter from OCTA](#)
2. [Photograph of Paratransit Vehicle](#)