

RIVERSIDE TRANSIT AGENCY
1825 Third Street
Riverside, CA 92507

April 28, 2005

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS
THRU: Larry Rubio, Chief Executive Officer
FROM: Vince Rouzaud, Director of Purchasing and Materials Management
SUBJECT: Authorization to Renew Agreement with David Turch and Associates (DTA) for Government Relations Services

Summary: In April 2004, the Board of Directors authorized staff to enter into an agreement with David Turch and Associates (DTA) to represent the Agency's interests with respect to the Legislative and Executive Branches of the Federal Government. Prior to this fiscal year, government relations was handled by staff, members of the Board of Directors, and, in FY 2003 and 2004 the Agency utilized the services of a local government relations firm.

Over the last several years the federal appropriations process has become more complex requiring the services of a professional firm that specializes in government relations. In addition, selecting a firm to represent the Agency with offices in Washington DC can yield benefits that a non-Washington DC based firm cannot.

While DTA's main office is located in Washington DC, they have, for a number of years, had a very strong presence in the inland empire area providing legislative representation for many local and regional governmental agencies.

DTA has represented the Agency's interests at the Federal level for this past year and has provided the Board and staff with monthly updates on all congressional actions affecting transit and/or transportation issues.

Staff is recommending the renewal of DTA's contract for an additional year to cover the period from July 1, 2005, through June 30, 2006. The cost for DTA to provide these services is \$48,000 per-year plus expenses. This amount is unchanged from the current agreement.

If approved, the Agency will be required to file the appropriate forms with the Federal Transit Administration to ensure compliance with Federal lobbying provisions.

Fiscal Impact:

The cost for David Turch and Associates services is \$48,000 per-year, plus reasonable and customary expenses. This item was included in the Agency's FY 2006 operating budget which will be presented to the Budget and Finance Committee and full Board of Directors in May for consideration.

Committee Recommendation:

This item was discussed at the Board Budget and Finance and Board Administrative Committee meetings of April 6 and April 13, 2005, respectively. The Committees' members unanimously approved recommended this item to the full Board of Directors for their consideration.

Recommendation:

- Authorize staff to execute an agreement with David Turch and Associates for government relations services at a cost of \$48,000 per-year, plus reasonable and customary expenses, for the period of July 1, 2005, through June 30, 2006.