



RIVERSIDE TRANSIT AGENCY
1825 Third Street
Riverside, CA 92507

October 27, 2005

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THRU: Larry Rubio, Chief Executive Officer 

FROM: Vince Rouzaud, Director of Purchasing and Materials Management 

SUBJECT: Authorization to Award a Contract To Creative Bus Sales, Inc., for Thirty-one (31) Replacement and Three (3) Expansion Paratransit Vehicles; Twelve (12) of which are Cal Trans Type (II), 12-Passenger Paratransit Vans and Twenty-two (22) Cal Trans Type (IV), Accessible Minivans

Summary: Staff is requesting authorization to award a contract to Creative Bus Sales, Inc., for twelve (12), Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant, 12-passenger paratransit vehicles and twenty-two (22), ADA compliant accessible minivans.

Thirty-one of the thirty-four vehicles are considered replacements for vehicles that have exceeded their useful life as defined by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and were included in the Agency's Short Range Transit Plan (SRTP) and FY 2005 capital budget previously approved by the Board of Directors.

The vehicles scheduled for replacement have been in service well beyond their intended service life of 100,000 miles. This is due, in part, to funding delays associated with the reauthorization of the Transportation Equity Act of the 21st Century (TEA 21.) The average mileage for each of the 31 replacement vehicles exceeds 272,000 miles.

The incremental cost difference between the Type II and the Type IV vehicle is approximately \$10,000, therefore, the Agency may purchase up to three additional vehicles that can be added to the fleet as spares improving the Agency's spare ratio for the paratransit fleet. All vehicles will be used to provide specialized transportation services for seniors and persons with disabilities.

Staff is recommending replacing twenty-two (22) of the vehicles with the smaller more economical minivan in order to take advantage of improved fuel efficiency and lower maintenance costs. The estimated fuel mileage for the minivan is approximately twice that of the Type II, 12-passenger vehicle. If

approved, the additional twenty-two (22) minivans will bring the total number of minivans in the Agency’s paratransit fleet to twenty-seven (27.) Improving the fleet’s fuel efficiency will help mitigate rising fuel costs which have increased nearly \$1 dollar over the last few months alone.

Trips not requiring the use of the larger 12-passenger vehicle can be provided on the smaller, more economical minivan. The minivan cannot replace the standard 12-passenger vehicle for all ADA trips, however, having a fleet-mix which includes smaller minivans will help contain and/or reduce operating costs where possible.

Staff recommends awarding a contract off of the State of California’s contract to Creative Bus Sales, Inc., of Chino, CA. The State’s contract covers requirements for the State of California as well as other participating agencies. Because of the estimated volume, the State is able to obtain more competitive pricing than agencies could obtain on an individual procurement basis. The per-vehicle price for the minivan is \$41,997.27. The price for the 12-passenger vehicle is \$51,264.93. These amounts include a 2.56 percent administrative fee charged by the State.

In accordance with the State’s contract, the vehicles are considered Caltrans Type II and Type IV vehicles and operate on unleaded fuel. The Type II vehicle seats 12-passengers plus two wheelchair positions while the minivan seats up to 4 ambulatory passengers or two wheelchair positions.

The State’s contract contains the appropriate Federal Transit Administration (FTA) required contract terms and conditions that allow other agencies like RTA to piggyback. This contract award is consistent with the Agency’s technical specifications and general terms and conditions.

If approved by the Board, the new buses can be delivered by January 2006.

Fiscal Impact:

Description	Cost	Quantity	Amount
Type II	\$51,264.93	12	\$615,179.16
Type IV	\$41,997.27	22	<u>\$923,939.94</u>
	Total	34	\$1,539,119.10

Funding for this procurement will be provided by FTA capital grant assistance (CA-90-Y337). This item was included in the FY 2005 capital budget previously approved by the Board of Directors.

Committee Recommendation:

This item was discussed at the Board Budget and Finance Committee meeting of October 12, 2005. The Committee members unanimously approved recommending this item to the full Board of Directors for their consideration.

Recommendation:

- Authorize staff to award a contract to Creative Bus Sales, Inc., for a quantity of twelve (12), 12-passenger, ADA compliant paratransit vehicles and twenty-two (22), ADA compliant minivans in an amount that shall not exceed \$1,539,119.10
- Authorize staff to issue a purchase order to the State of California in the amount of \$36,345.36 to cover the State's 2.56 percent administrative fee.