



RIVERSIDE TRANSIT AGENCY
1825 Third Street
Riverside, CA 92507

February 22, 2007

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS
THRU:  Larry Rubio, Chief Executive Officer
FROM:  Vince Rouzaud, Chief Procurement and Logistics Officer
SUBJECT: Adjustment of Legal Fees

Summary: The Agency contracts for General Counsel Services with the law firm of Woodruff, Spradlin & Smart. Attached is a letter from Agency General Counsel, Kennard R. Smart Jr., requesting an adjustment to the hourly rate for legal services from \$200 to \$215 per-hour for attorneys, and from \$100 to \$105 per-hour for paralegals. The adjustment is less than the increase in the cost of living since the rate was last adjusted in June 2004.

A review of hourly legal fees paid by other public transportation agencies in the region are listed below:

Orange County Transportation Authority
Attorney - \$232 per-hour
Paralegal - \$113 per-hour

Riverside County Transportation Commission
Attorney - \$220 per-hour
Paralegal - \$124 per-hour

Expenditures for legal services to Woodruff, Spradlin & Smart have averaged approximately \$81,000 for each of the past two fiscal years. Expenditures for the first six months of the current fiscal year total \$18,580.

Staff believes the proposed increase in the hourly rate for legal services is fair and reasonable.

Fiscal Impact:

Utilizing the percentage increase proposed by the firm of Woodruff, Spradlin & Smart, and the average expenses from the previous two years, staff projects the annual increase in legal expenses to be approximately \$6,100. There are sufficient funds in the FY 2007 operating budget to accommodate this increase.

Committee Recommendation:

This item was discussed at the Board Budget and Administration Committee meeting of February 7, 2007. The Committee members unanimously approved recommending this item to the full Board of Directors for their consideration.

Recommendation:

Authorize staff to increase the Agency's contract with the law firm of Woodruff, Spradlin & Smart from \$200 to \$215 per-hour for attorneys and from \$100 to \$105 per-hour for paralegals effective March 1, 2007.

LAW OFFICES OF
WOODRUFF, SPRADLIN & SMART

A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

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January 29, 2007


Mr. Larry Rubio
Chief Executive Officer
Riverside Transit Agency
P.O. Box 59968
Riverside, CA 92517

Dear Larry:

This is to inform you that our fees will be adjusted from \$200 per hour to \$215 per hour for attorneys and from \$100 per hour to \$105 per hour for paralegals, effective March 1, 2007. The cost of living since our fee adjustment in July 2004 has increased by 9% and our new fees will be slightly less than the cost of living increase.

Sincerely,

WOODRUFF, SPRADLIN & SMART
A Professional Corporation



KENNARD R. SMART JR.

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