

MEMORANDUM

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

County of Placer

TO: BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

DATE: May 23, 2006

FROM: KEN GREHM/WILL GARNER *YG* *WG*

SUBJECT: EXTENSION OF PLACER COMMUTER EXPRESS CONTRACT

ACTION REQUESTED / RECOMMENDATION

Authorize a one-year extension of the contract with Amador Stage Lines to operate the Placer Commuter Express service.

BACKGROUND / SUMMARY

Placer Commuter Express is a commuter bus service that runs in the I-80 corridor between Colfax and Downtown Sacramento with two round trips. In May of 2004, the Board of Supervisors awarded a contract to Amador Stage Lines of Sacramento to operate the newly implemented service. The contract was awarded for a two-year period that was funded primarily with a demonstration Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) grant. The two-year contract and the demonstration grant funds expire on June 30, 2006. The contract has a provision for two one year extensions.

The service is jointly funded by Placer County, the City of Colfax, the City of Auburn, the Town of Loomis and the City of Rocklin based on rider-ship from each of those jurisdictions. Placer County Transit (PCT) provides the customer support, scheduling, marketing, and ticket sales for the service. The rider-ship for the service has grown steadily since implementation. Current rider-ship averages 134 boardings per day on the four one-way trips.

In Fiscal Year 2007/2008, it is planned for PCT to operate the Placer Commuter Express service in-house. Recently a CMAQ grant was awarded to purchase the buses to operate the service. The Short Range Transit Plan estimates that operating the service in-house with County owned buses will cost approximately \$50,000 per year less to operate.

ENVIRONMENTAL

This project is statutorily exempt from CEQA pursuant to Public Resources Code 21080(b)(10), as it is a project to provide passenger service.

FISCAL IMPACT

The contract cost for Amador Stage Lines is \$363,924 for Fiscal Year 2006/2007 – a 5% increase over the current year. An estimated \$100,000 in fare revenue will be collected during the fiscal year. The amount of \$138,000 will be funded by the cities, \$50,000 will be funded by a grant from the Placer County Air Pollution Control District and \$75,924 will be funded with Placer County Transportation Development Act funds. This expense and associated revenue is included in the proposed Fiscal Year 2006/2007 budget.

