



**M E M O R A N D U M**  
**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**  
**TRANSIT DIVISION**  
County of Placer

TO: Board of Supervisors DATE: March 9, 2021  
FROM: Ken Grehm, Director of Public Works  
By: Jaime Wright, Public Works Manager – Transit Services  
SUBJECT: Transit Bus Purchase Order / Placer County Transit and Tahoe Truckee Area  
Regional Transit

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**ACTION REQUESTED**

Authorize the Purchasing Manager, or designee to award and execute the following negotiated Purchase Orders:

1. AZ Bus Sales of Sacramento, CA for the purchase of two new 23-foot cutaway transit buses in the total amount of \$199,822; and
2. Gillig LLC of Livermore, CA for the purchase of two new 40-foot transit buses in the total amount of \$1,114,806; and
3. Motor Coach Industries of Des Plaines, IL for the purchase of two new 45-foot commuter coaches in the total amount of \$1,466,486.

**BACKGROUND**

The Department of Public Works (DPW) operates a total of 45 buses between Placer County Transit (PCT), and Tahoe Truckee Area Regional Transit (TART). DPW replaces buses as they exceed their useful life and become expensive to maintain. The typical useful life of the larger transit bus is 12 years or 500,000 miles and 7 years or 200,000 miles for the smaller cutaway buses. The buses being replaced have reached the end of their useful life. Since 2015, DPW has replaced 32 buses for both systems, all of which had reached their useful life and purchased one expansion bus for TART. With this request, DPW proposes to replace six additional buses. This will result in 7 additional buses reaching their useful life over the next three years, requiring replacement buses to be purchased over that three year period.

The proposed replacement buses include two (2) 23-foot transit buses for TART Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) paratransit service, two (2) 40-foot Transit buses for TART fixed route service, and two (2) 45-foot commuter coaches for PCT. In the case of the TART ADA service, the new buses will replace two 2008 model year “cutaway” buses that were previously used in Dial- A- Ride service in western Placer County. Cutaway buses are smaller buses that are typically used in lower volume demand response service. TART began using County owned cutaway buses to provide ADA service beginning in 2017 when the former taxi contract was no longer viable and ADA passenger demand began to grow. The two 40-foot buses will replace two 2009 model year buses on TART’s fixed route service. The 45-foot buses will replace two 2009 model year buses used for the Placer Commuter Express service.

Purchasing Policy Section 3.5(A) permits contracting with a vendor that was awarded an agreement by another public agency as the result of a competitive process without further competitive bidding by Placer County. The California Association for Coordinated Transportation/Morongo Basin Transit Authority (CalACT/MBTA) Contract No. 15-03 with AZ Bus Sales and Contract No. 18-01 with Motor Coach Industries (MCI) meets this criterion. In addition, the Commonwealth of Virginia Department of General Services Division, Master Contract No. E194-75548 MA2274 with Gillig LLC meets this criterion. Your Board's approval is required to proceed with the award of the purchase orders in the total amount of \$2,781,114.

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

The project is statutorily exempt from CEQA pursuant to Section 21080(b)(10), as it is a project to provide passenger service.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

The buses are funded with grant funds from the Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) in the total amount of \$640,000, State Transit Assistance (STA) in the amount of \$441,893, Senate Bill 1 – State of Good Repair (SGR) funds in the amount of \$243,170, Federal Transit Administration (FTA) 5339 funds in the amount of \$163,500, Federal Transit Administration (FTA) 5310 funds in the amount of \$52,176, FTA CARES ACT Funding in the amount of \$1,168,364, and City of Lincoln PTMISEA funds in the amount of \$72,011. The bus purchases are budgeted in the capital asset line item in Fund 21401 and Fund 21402 and are included in the Master Fixed Asset List in the Department of Public Works FY 2020-21 Budget, with no impact to the County General Fund.

**ATTACHMENT**

None