DATE: February 7, 2018

TO: GCTD Board of Directors

FROM: Marlena Kohler, Purchasing Manager/DBE Officer
Margaret Heath-Schoep, Paratransit & Special Projects Manager

SUBJECT: Consider Approval of Extension to MV Transportation Inc, Contract for Operation, Maintenance and Management of Coordinated Paratransit Services (GO ACCESS)

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

MV Transportation Inc. has been providing Paratransit Services (GO ACCESS) to GCTD for the past ten (10) years. Their current contract is due to expire June 2018. GCTD staff had anticipated issuance of a new Request for Proposal (RFP), in the early part of 2018, which would result in the issuance of a new contract to a responsive and responsible firm capable of meeting GCTD’s requirements. However, in order to optimally complete the RFP, key information is needed from the recently awarded Scheduling and Dispatching System, which may take up to six months to compile. MV Transportation Inc. has agreed to extend its current contract, for a period not-to-exceed six (6) months, for a maximum estimated amount of $1,851,220.

II. BACKGROUND

A Request for Proposal (RFP) was issued on November 9, 2007 for the operation, maintenance and management of Gold Coast Transit District’s (GCTD) GO ACCESS paratransit service for the base period of July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2013 plus five additional one-year options. Seven firms attended the mandatory pre-proposal conference. Answers to written questions posed by prospective proposers about the RFP were distributed to ensure all had the same information and guidance. Proposals were received from MV Transportation, Inc. and First Transit, Inc., which had acquired Laidlaw Transit Services, Inc., the incumbent.

A Proposal Evaluation Team consisting of GCTD staff and a transportation staff member from the City of Camarillo evaluated the technical proposals in accordance with the evaluation criteria in the RFP. Based on the evaluation results, staff recommended awarding the contract to MV Transportation.

On April 2, 2008, the Board of Directors approved awarding the contract to MV Transportation for Operation of ACCESS Paratransit Service. On June 5, 2013, the Board of Directors approved exercising of Option Period 1, on May 7, 2014 Option Period 2 was approved, on April 1, 2015 Option Period 3 was approved, on March 2, 2016 Option Period 4 was approved, and on March 1, 2017 the final Option Period, 5 was approved.
In September 2017, the Board authorized award of a contract to Ecolane for a new Scheduling and Dispatching System for Paratransit Services (GO ACCESS). The Scheduling and Dispatching System is considered a key tool in determining key performance metrics and operational efficiencies such as but not limited to the amount of labor required to provide the services requested by GO ACCESS customers. Currently GO ACCESS is transitioning its scheduling software from Trapeze PASS to Ecolane. The new system is scheduled to “Go Live” on or about March 1, 2018.

GCTD is aware of several transit properties in California who have recently migrated to the Ecolane software and realized improved efficiencies of 25% or more. This change in trip delivery efficiencies could significantly affect not only the pricing but also how potential bidders would respond to the material requirements of a solicitation for operating the paratransit services.

GCTD intends to provide at least six weeks of data to ensure all bidders can competitively respond to the RFP, utilizing the most current metrics available from the newly installed scheduling and dispatching software. To allow the time to generate that data, the current contract must be extended beyond its current expiration date.

MV Transportation has agreed to extend their current contract for a period not-to-exceed six (6) months for an estimated maximum amount of $1,851,200.96 based on 26,659 vehicle revenue hours (VRH) and the current rate of $69.44 Hourly Rate per VRH.

MV Transportation has continued to provide good service to the GCTD ACCESS customers.

GCTD staff recommends it would be in the best interest of GCTD to extend MV Transportation’s current contract for a period not-to-exceed six (6) months in order to obtain viable data from the new scheduling and dispatching system. This data would be needed by any potential bidder in order to effectively provide the best possible response to the material requirements of the new RFP.

III. SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended the Board of Directors authorize an extension to the current contract (not to exceed six months) with MV Transportation Inc. for Operation, Maintenance and Management of Coordinated Paratransit Services (GO ACCESS) in the amount of $1,851,200.96.

CONCURRENCE:

Steven P. Brown
General Manager