



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: Public Works
Department No.: 054
For Agenda Of: April 14, 2015
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Director Scott McGolpin, Public Works Director, 568-3010
Contact Info: Chris Sneddon, Deputy Director, Transportation, 568-3064
SUBJECT: **Waiver of Competitive Bidding for Procurement of a Class B Glaval Cutaway Bus, All Supervisorial Districts**

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Other Concurrence: Purchasing

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- A. Waive local competitive bidding requirements and authorize the Purchasing Agent to procure a Class B Glaval Cutaway Bus through utilization of a State contract competitively bid by the California Association of Consolidated Transportation, effective through June 30, 2017.
- B. Determine that the proposed actions are not a “project” under CEQA pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15378, as they involve administrative and other general policy and procedure making activities that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes to the environment, the proposed actions are therefore exempt from CEQA, and approve the filing of the attached Notice of Exemption.

Summary Text:

The State of California through Caltrans designates the California Association of Consolidated Transportation (CalACT) as the lead entity to perform the Request for Proposal (RFP) bid process for cutaway buses. CalACT is a state-wide association of transit operators and vendors. CalACT with the support of one of its members, the Morongo Basin Transit Authority, performs the RFP bid process on behalf of statewide transit operators to insure full compliance with Federal Transit Administration regulations regarding bus procurement. By having CalACT as the lead entity, smaller local jurisdictions do not have to duplicate an expensive and time consuming RFP process. CalACT can offer bus manufacturers a large consortium of future buyers for buses resulting in economies of scale and a more competitive price than any individual jurisdiction could receive. The Federal Transit Administration’s

Office of Chief Counsel reviewed the most recent RFP bid process completed by CalACT and determined that the process was in compliance with Federal regulations. For these reasons, Public Works is requesting that your Board waive competitive bidding by the County of Santa Barbara and utilize the bus procurement process completed by CalACT as directed by the State of California for the purchase of a bus for the County Public Health Department.

County Code Section 2-39 authorizes the Purchasing Agent to waive competitive bidding for items in certain situations where the expenditure does not exceed \$25,000. Where an expenditure would or could exceed \$25,000, competition may be waived only after approval by your Board. Public Works is requesting that your Board authorize the waiver of bids as the cost of a bus purchase exceeds the amount at which the Purchasing Agent, without additional Board authority, can waive bidding. The waiver allows the Public Works Department to purchase a Class B Glaval cutaway bus from A-Z Bus Sales for the Public Health Department; the vendor chosen by CalACT following its RFP bid process.

Background:

As a facilitator for countywide transit, Public Works occasionally procures buses for these services. This bid waiver would allow the county to utilize a competitively bid State contract procured by CalACT in order to save time and resources, and to obtain the lowest bids for these purchases through this statewide procurement.

County Code Section 2-39 authorizes the Purchasing Agent to waive competitive bidding for materials in certain situations where the expenditure does not exceed \$25,000. Where an expenditure would or could exceed \$25,000, competition may be waived only after approval by your Board. The blanket waiver will allow the Purchasing Agent to proceed with the bus purchase for the County Public Health Department. The Public Health Department contracts with the Santa Maria Organization of Transportation Helpers (SMOOTH) to provide transit services. SMOOTH operates a bus Monday through Wednesday to transport passengers from the North County who require medical treatments available only in the South County region. The fare ranges from \$6.00 a round trip from Santa Maria to \$2.00 a round trip from the Santa Ynez Valley.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: N/A

Narrative:

Public Works will purchase the Public Health bus using one-time Prop 1B Transit Capital Program funding. Purchases made using this waiver would be budgeted in Department 054, Funds 0015 or 0019.

Special Instructions:

Please forward a certified, stamped Minute Order approving this item to Gena Valentine Felix in the Public Works Department, Transportation, x3064.

Attachments:

1. Notice of Exemption

Authored by:

Matt Dobberteen, Alternative Transportation Manager, Public Works – Transportation, 568-3576