

AGENDA
Tulare County Regional Transit Agency

April 18, 2022, 6:00 p.m.

Tulare County Regional Transit Agency
210 N. Church Street
Visalia, CA 93291

NOTE: This meeting will allow Board Members and the public to participate in the meeting via Teleconference, pursuant to Assembly Bill 361, available at:

https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB361

Zoom Meeting | Direct Link: <https://bit.ly/2Zt4BQY>

Toll Free Call in: (888) 475-4499 | **Meeting ID:** 744 710 0343 | **Passcode:** 82243742

Call in only instructions: Enter your meeting ID followed by #, Enter # for participant ID, Enter the passcode followed by #.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and the California Ralph M. Brown Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, including auxiliary aids, translation requests, or other accommodations, or to be able to access this agenda and documents in the agenda packet, please contact the Tulare County Association of Governments ("TCAG") office at 559-623-0450 at least 3 days prior to the meeting. Any staff reports and supporting materials provided to the Board after the distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection at the TCAG office.

- I. CALL TO ORDER, WELCOME, AND ROLL CALL**
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- III. PUBLIC COMMENT**

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC
PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

At this time, members of the public may comment on any item of interest to the public and within the subject matter jurisdiction of TCRTA but not appearing on this agenda. Under state law, matters presented under this item cannot be discussed or acted upon by the Board at this time. For items appearing on the agenda, the public is invited to make comments at the time the item comes up for Board consideration. Any person addressing the Board will be limited to a maximum of three (3) minutes so that all interested parties have an opportunity to speak with a total of fifteen (15) minutes allotted for the Public Comment Period. Speakers are requested to state their name(s) and address(es) for the record.

IV. CLOSED SESSION ITEMS:

It is the intention of the Board of Directors to meet in closed session concerning:

- A. Government Code Section 54957.6 – Conference with Labor Negotiator. Agency Negotiator: Richard Tree. Employee Organizations: All unrepresented employees.

RECONVENE OPEN SESSION

V. REPORTS:

This is the time for all committee reports; executive committee reports; and staff informational items:

- A. Technical Advisory Committee (No Page)
- B. Board Executive Committee (No Page)

VI. PRESENTATIONS:

- A. FY 2021/2022 and 2022/2023 Transit Budget (No Page)
- B. Fare Free 4 All Program Update (No Page)

VII. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS:

All Consent Calendar Items are considered routine and will be enacted in one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these matters unless a request is made, in which event the item will be removed from the Consent Calendar. All items removed from the Consent Calendar for further discussion will be heard at the end of Action and Information Items.

- A. Action: Approve Minutes of March 28, 2022 (Pages 01-03)
- B. Action: Reaffirm Resolution No. 2021-11 to Approve Remote Attendance at Public Meetings Pursuant to State Assembly Bill 361 (Pages 05)
- C. Action: FTA Section 5311 Funding Resolution (Pages 07-09)
- D. Action: FTA Section 5339(c) Funding Resolution (Pages 11-14)

VIII. ACTION AND INFORMATION ITEMS:

- A. Action: Notice of Intent to Award – Transit Operations Services (Pages 15-17)
- B. Action: Accepting and Appropriating \$3 million in STBGP funding for Zero-Emission Vehicles and Related Charging Infrastructure (Pages 19)

IX. OTHER BUSINESS:

- A. Director’s Report
- B. Request from Board Members for Future Agenda Items

X. ADJOURN:

The next scheduled Tulare County Regional Transit Agency (TCRTA) Board meeting date will be **May 16, 2022 and will take place at 6:00 p.m.** at the Tulare County Regional Transit Agency (TCRTA), 210 N. Church Street, Suite B, Sequoia Conference Room, Visalia, CA 93291.

TULARE COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSIT AGENCY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS	ALTERNATE	AGENCY
Kuldip Thusu	Armando Longoria	City of Dinuba
Steve Garver	Dave Hails	City of Exeter
Greg Gomez – Vice Chair	Tina Hernandez	City of Farmersville
Ramona Caudillo	Hipolito Cerros	City of Lindsay
Milt Stowe	Vacant	City of Porterville
Jose Sigala – Chair	Terry Sayre	City of Tulare
Rudy Mendoza	Vacant	City of Woodlake
Eddie Valero	Amy Shuklian	County of Tulare

EX OFFICIO MEMBERS

Georgina Landecho, CalVans

TULARE COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSIT AGENCY – TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Greg Gomez City of Farmersville
Monte Reyes City of Porterville
Jose Sigala City of Tulare
Kuldip Thusu City of Dinuba
Eddie Valero County of Tulare

TCRTA STAFF

OFFICE INFORMATION

Rich Tree, Executive Director

*The TCTRA is temporarily receiving support from the Tulare County Association of Governments.

TCAG
210 N. Church Street, Suite B
Visalia, CA 93291
Phone: (559) 623-0450
Fax: (559) 733-6720
www.tularecog.org

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**Tulare County Regional Transit Agency
Minutes**

**March 28, 2022, 3:00 p.m.
Special Meeting**

Members Present: Thusu, Garver, Gomez, Stowe, Sigala, Valero,
Members Absent: Caudillo, Mendoza
Alternates Present: Cerros
Staff Present: Rich Tree, Amie Kane, Servando Quintanilla Jr., Brideget
Moore & Elizabeth Forte
Counsel Present: Jeff Kuhn

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Sigala called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Chair Sigala called for public comments at 3:03pm. No Comments were heard.

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

Mr. Tree recapped his report given previously at the March 21st meeting highlighting the following: contactless fare payment project and gearing up for deployment on July 1st. He further discussed bids for March 17th and plan for interviews in May. He highlighted fare and service changes with Rethought Reborn Media, website, surveys, comments, and enhancement of social media campaigns.

V. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS:

Request Approval of the Consent Calendar Action Items V-A through V-D

A. Action: Approve Minutes of February 28, 2022 and March 21, 2022

B. Action: Approve Minutes of March 21, 2022

C. Action: Reaffirm Resolution No. 2021-11 to Approve Remote Attendance at Public Meetings Pursuant to State Assembly Bill 361

D. Action: Reaffirm Approval to Purchase Regional Fare Collection System
Upon motion by Member Gomez and seconded by Member Thusu the Tulare County Regional Transit Agency unanimously approved the Consent Calendar Action Items V-A through V-D.

E. Information: Conflict of Interest Code (Form 700) Due April 1, 2022

VI. ACTION AND INFORMATION ITEMS:

A. Action: 2022 CALACT Spring Conference and Expo

Mr. Tree shared details about CalACT conference event in April and explained that this conversation had been carried over from February to give time for a Board member to see if they would be able to attend.

Discussion ensued regarding possible member to attend after which it was motioned that since no members were available that an additional staff member could attend.

Upon Motion by Member Valero and seconded by Member Sigala the Tulare County Regional Transit Agency unanimously approved to send two staff to the 2022 CALACT Spring Conference.

B. Action: Authorize Outreach for 2022 Fare and Service Changes

Mr. Tree outlined the proposed outreach plans to announce the fare and service changes. He explained that Rethought Reborn Media that currently assist with social media campaigns would be recommended to provide additional outreach services not to exceed \$11,250. This would be communicating the fare and service changes to the public through two-way communication, social media, and community events.

Upon Motion by Member Thusu and seconded by Member Garver the Tulare County Regional Transit Agency unanimously approved the outreach plans as recommended.

C. Action: Authorization to Purchase Zero Emission Transit Buses

Mr. Tree explained that to support efforts to meet zero emission goals set by the ARB the purchase of these buses would be key to that goal. He highlighted the Bus Voucher Incentive Project and included the financial cost for the transit buses. Mr. Tree outlined the recommendation to approve an agreement with Proterra to procure three 35' ZX5 battery electric buses.

Upon Motion by Member Gomez and seconded by Member Valero the Tulare County Regional Transit Agency unanimously approved the recommendation to purchase the transit buses as outlined in Item VI-C.

D. Action: Approve the Creation of a Board Executive Committee and Reorganization of the Technical Advisory Committee

Mr. Tree outlined the proposal of creating a Board Executive Committee to involve members and give authority to act on government affairs, human resources, budget and fiscal policy. He further explained that this would be made up of 4 members of the Board of Directors and that a regular meeting schedule would need to be established. Discussion ensued and it was recommended that the Chair Sigala, Vice-Chair Gomez, Member Thusu with the City of Dinuba, and possibly Alternate Member Cerros with the City of Lindsay be appointed to this Executive Committee.

Mr. Tree also discussed the reorganization of the members of the current Technical Advisory Committee, explaining that membership would change to include member agencies, would meet the Thursday before each monthly Board meeting, and would operate as an advisory committee.

Upon Motion by Member Gomez and seconded by Member Thusu the Tulare County Regional Transit Agency unanimously approved the recommendation to create a Board Executive Committee and reorganization of the Technical Advisory Committee.

E. 2022 Meeting Schedule, Location, and Compensation

Mr. Tree discussed the current meeting schedule and locations for the 2022 year. He noted that to accommodate members of the Board of Directors and encourage public participation the recommendation to move the scheduled meetings from the third Monday of each month at 3:00 p.m. to instead meet at 6:00 p.m. on that same day. Furthermore discussion was had regarding the possibility of compensation or a stipend for each member to attend monthly meetings. Much discussion ensued regarding the compensation and Mr. Kuhn explained that this recommendation would need to go to each City Council as well as the BOS for approval. Chair Sigala suggested that the

issue of compensation be brought back for discussion with further information on what would be needed to approve such a request.
Upon Motion by Member Sigala and seconded by Member Garver the Tulare County Regional Transit Agency unanimously approved to hold the regular board meetings the third Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m.
Other recommendations in this item will be brought back for further discussion.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Information: Directors Report

Mr. Tree provided a brief overview of the work being done and noted the busy schedule which included meeting with the Tule River Tribe, GenFare, presenting at the 99 Summit, presenting at the CTC Townhall, meeting with the Air District, and speaking at the CALACT Conference. He noted that at the April meeting he would be giving a presentation on the expansion of micro-transit.

B. Information: Items from Staff

None

C. Information: Items from Board Members

D. Request from Board Members for Future Agenda Items

Chair Sigala requested that items C and D be discussed together and invited Members to share any information or requests for future agenda items.

Chair Sigala requested that a preliminary budget presentation and financial status update be provided at a future meeting.

VIII. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 4:21 p.m. The next meeting of the Tulare County Regional Transit Agency (TCRTA) Board of Directors will be held on Monday, April 18, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. at the TCAG Office located at 210 N. Church St. Suite B, Visalia, CA 93291.

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Tulare County Regional Transit Agency

AGENDA ITEM VII-B

April 18, 2022

Prepared by Richard Tree, TCRTA Staff

SUBJECT:

Action: Reaffirm Conditions of State Assembly Bill 361 to Continue Remote Attendance

BACKGROUND:

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Governor suspended part of the Brown Act concerning the requirements for allowing Governing Board members to remotely participate in Board meetings. The suspended provisions require that 1) Governing Board meeting agendas allowing remote Board Member participation list each of the specific locations from which Board members will be remotely participating, 2) such agendas be posted at each such location, and 3) members of the public must be allowed to remotely participate in the meeting from each of the listed locations. The suspension was done to promote social distancing and so to help limit the spread of COVID-19.

DISCUSSION:

The Governor's suspension of these Brown Act provisions expired as of September 30, 2021, and was replaced by State Assembly Bill (AB) 361, an urgency statute that became effective as of September 30, 2021. Under AB 361, Governing Boards can continue to allow remote Board members participation in Brown Act public meetings if several conditions are met:

1. The meeting is held during a declared State of Emergency (Like the Governor's COVID-19 pandemic State of Emergency that's still in effect in California);
2. The Governing Board adopts findings to the effect that allowing remote meeting participation by Governing Board members promotes social distancing, which in turn helps prevent the spread of COVID-19;
3. The Governing Board confirms these conditions continue to be met every 30 days.

The Tulare County Regional Transit Agency Board of Directors passed a resolution adopting a policy of remote attendance pursuant to AB 361 on October 18, 2021.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Tulare County Regional Transit Agency Board of Directors reaffirm Resolution No. 2021-11 to continue to participate in its governing board meetings remotely by the teleconferencing provisions of AB 361.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None

ATTACHMENT:

None

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Tulare County Regional Transit Agency

AGENDA ITEM VII-C

April 18, 2022

Prepared by Richard Tree, TCRTA Staff

SUBJECT:

ACTION: FTA Section 5311 Funding Resolution

BACKGROUND:

Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5311 funds are primarily used to fund capital and operating expenses for general public transportation services in rural areas, meaning any area outside designated urbanized areas. TCRTA's service area includes both the Porterville and Visalia/Tulare Urbanized Areas as well as nonurbanized areas outside of those boundaries. Federal law designates States as the recipients for 5311 funding, which responsibility in California is assigned to Caltrans, with the Tulare County Association of Governments (TCAG) responsible for developing the region's Program of Projects (POP) for eligible transit operators. Caltrans recently released the FY2022 and FY2023 Call for Projects and provided TCAG with apportionments for the same, with an estimated total of \$2,516,388 million in uncommitted funds available for distribution to eligible operators in the region for both fiscal years.

DISCUSSION:

TCRTA is the only FTA Section 5311 eligible operator in the region and historically TCRTA uses 5311 funds to offset the costs of operating public transportation in designated areas designated as non-urbanized. Those areas include the City of Dinuba, City of Woodlake, County of Tulare, and the Tule River Tribe of California.

FY2022 and FY2023 5311 funding for operating assistance requires a 44.67% local match. Local match funding has historically been provided by Local Transportation Funds (LTF).

Caltrans and FTA further require a resolution of local support from the Board of Directors as part of the funding approval process.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Tulare County Regional Transit Agency Board of Directors approve the draft Resolution authorizing federal funding under FTA Section 5311 with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). This resolution is required to request this funding from Caltrans.

FISCAL IMPACT:

FTA Section 5311 funding is the sole federal funding source used to offset the cost of operating public transportation in designated non-urbanized areas. Failure to secure 5311 funding would cause a shortfall of \$2.5 million over the next two years.

ATTACHMENT:

1. Draft Resolution

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE TULARE COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSIT AGENCY AUTHORIZING THE FEDERAL FUNDING UNDER FTA SECTION 5311 (49 U.S.C SECTION 5311) WITH CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Transportation is authorized to make grants to states through the Federal Transit Administration to support capital/operating assistance projects for non-urbanized public transportation systems under Section 5311 of the Federal Transit Act (FTA C 9040.1F and FTA C 9050.1); and

WHEREAS, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) has been designated by the Governor of the State of California to administer Section 5311 grants for transportation projects for the general public for the rural transit and intercity bus; and

WHEREAS, the Tulare County Regional Transit Agency (TCRTA) desires to apply for said financial assistance to permit operation of service/purchase capital equipment in Tulare County; and

WHEREAS, TCRTA has, to the maximum extent feasible, coordinated with other transportation providers and users in the region (including social service agencies);

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE TULARE COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSIT AGENCY, does hereby authorize the Executive Director to file and execute applications on behalf of TCRTA with Caltrans to aid in the financing of capital/operating assistance projects pursuant to Section 5311 of the Federal Transit Act (FTA C 9040.1G), as amended; and be it further

RESOLVED that the Executive Director or his/her designee is authorized to execute and file all certification of assurances, contracts or agreements or any other document required by Caltrans; and be it further

RESOLVED that the Executive Director or his/her designee is authorized to provide additional information as Caltrans may require in connection with the application for the Section 5311 projects; and be it

RESOLVED that the Executive Director or his/her designee is authorized to submit and approve request for reimbursement of funds from Caltrans for the Section 5311 project(s).

RESOLUTION: 2022-_____

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 18th day of April 2022 by the **Board of Directors of the Tulare County Regional Transit Agency.**

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION was passed and adopted by the Board of Directors of the Tulare County Regional Transit Agency at a regular meeting thereof held on the 18th day of April 2022.

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

SIGNED:

Jose Sigala, Board Chair

ATTEST:

Richard Tree, Executive Director

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Tulare County Regional Transit Agency

AGENDA ITEM VII-D

April 18, 2022

Prepared by Richard Tree, TCRTA Staff

SUBJECT:

ACTION: FTA Section 5339(c) Funding Resolution

BACKGROUND:

On March 7, 2022, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) published a Notice of Funding Opportunity announcing the availability of approximately \$1.1 billion in competitive grant funds to help modernize bus fleets and facilities across the county, which will support good-paying jobs and help reduce carbon emission, leading to cleaner air, healthier communities, and better transportation.

FTA's Low or No Emission (Low-No) Grant Program makes funding available to help transit agencies purchase or lease U.S.-built low or no emission vehicles that use advanced technologies, including related equipment or facilities, for transit revenue operations. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law provides \$5.5 billion over five years of funding. For FY2022, approximately \$1.1 billion will be available for grants under this program.

As part of the Administration's focus on advancing environmental justice and spurring economic opportunity for disadvantaged communities, FTA is encouraging applicants to provide information on how their proposed project will support the Justice40 Initiative by identifying disadvantaged communities that projects will benefit through jobs, increased safety, resiliency, access to transit, and reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.

As part of FTA's commitment to helping transit workers prepare for technological advancements, 5% of each grant under the Low-No program must be used for workforce development and training. FTA is encouraging workforce development plans that are developed in partnership with labor and the use of registered apprenticeships. Zero-emission projects, in particular, are able to use 5% of their funding for workforce development.

Complete proposals must be submitted electronically through grants.gov on May 31, 2022.

DISCUSSION:

Staff recommends applying for grant funding to purchase a total of twenty (20) zero-emission buses to replace aging buses that have met or exceeded the FTA determined useful life in years and/or mileage.

Based on projected costs per battery-electric bus, related equipment and workforce development training this equates to a total grant request of approximately \$25 million, with the Low-No grant covering \$20 million. These costs are based on established pricing through the California Department of General Services' agreements. The local match would be comprised of State Transit Assistance, State of Good Repair/SB-1 funds, California Hybrid and

Zero-Emission Truck and Bus Voucher Incentive Program (HVIP) funds, and AB617 Clean Air Program funds administered by the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District.

Any grant awards and resulting purchase orders would be brought back to the Board for consideration before any staff actions.

The FTA Section 5339(c) Low or No Vehicle Emission grant application must include a Board resolution authorizing the submittal of the grant application and authorizing the Executive Director to execute and file all necessary assurances and any other documentation as required by the FTA or the U.S. Department of Transportation.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Tulare County Regional Transit Agency Board of Directors approve the draft Resolution authorizing the Executive Director to submit a discretionary FTA 5339(c) Low or No Emission Vehicle Program grant application for the cost to purchase twenty (20) zero-emission buses, related equipment and workforce development training.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None

ATTACHMENT:

1. Draft Resolution

RESOLUTION: 2022-_____

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE TULARE COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSIT AGENCY AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF APPLICATIONS WITH THE FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION, AN OPERATING ADMINISTRATION OF THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, FOR FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE AUTHORIZED BY FTA SECTION 5339(C) LOW AND NO EMISSION GRANT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) has been delegated authority by the United States Department of Transportation to award Federal financial assistance for transit projects; and

WHEREAS, the Tulare County Regional Transit Agency (TCRTA) desires to apply for said financial assistance to purchase zero-emission buses, related equipment, and workforce development training; and

WHEREAS, TCRTA has or will provide all annual certifications and assurances to the FTA required for the projects included in the grant application; and

WHEREAS, TCRTA as the Grantee will file and execute applications for FTA Section 5339(c) discretionary funds, to the maximum extent allowed to fund the capital project which has been identified as meeting California's Innovative Clean Transit (ICT) fleet rule requirements.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE TULARE COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSIT AGENCY, does hereby authorize the Executive Director to file and execute applications on behalf of TCRTA with the FTA for Federal Assistance authorized by 49 U.S.C. Chapter 53, Title 23, United States Code, or other Federal statutes authorizing a project administered by the FTA and has received concurrence from the Tulare County Association of Governments (TCAG), the MPO, to apply for FTA Section 5339(c) Discretionary Fund Program Assistance; and be it further

RESOLVED that the Executive Director or his/her designee is authorized to execute and file all certification of assurances, contracts or agreements or any other document required by the FTA; and be it

RESOLVED that the Executive Director or his/her designee is authorized to provide additional information as the FTA may require in connection with the application for the Section 5339(c) projects.

RESOLUTION: 2022-_____

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 18th day of April 2022 by the **Board of Directors of the Tulare County Regional Transit Agency.**

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION was passed and adopted by the Board of Directors of the Tulare County Regional Transit Agency at a regular meeting thereof held on the 18th day of April 2022.

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

SIGNED:

Jose Sigala, Board Chair

ATTEST:

Richard Tree, Executive Director

Tulare County Regional Transit Agency

AGENDA ITEM VIII-A

April 18, 2022

Prepared by Richard Tree, TCRTA Staff

SUBJECT:

ACTION: Notice of Intent to Award – Transit Operations Services

BACKGROUND:

At the November 15, 2021 board meeting, the board of directors authorized staff to advertise a Request for Proposals (RFP) for an independent contractor to provide management, supervision, technical, personnel, operating and technology services necessary for the daily operation of TCRTA.

On December 15, 2021, a notice was given that TCRTA had released RFP Number 2021-01 – Transit Operations Services. On January 5, 2022, TCRTA hosted a virtual pre-proposal meeting providing an overview of the project, and on March 17, 2022, TCRTA received four proposals. Interviews were conducted during the week of April 4, 2022.

The primary desire of TCRTA for this procurement is to ensure an award will be made based on the highest quality of service proposed that best matches TCRTA's requirements using the Federal Transit Administration's "Best Value" methodology. "Best Value" is defined as follows:

"Best Value" is a selection process in which proposals contain both price and qualitative components, and award is based upon a combination of price and qualitative considerations. Qualitative considerations may include experience of the management team, creativity of proposal, quality and comprehensiveness of required Plans. The award selection is based upon consideration of a combination of technical and price factors to determine the offer deemed most advantageous and the greatest value of the TCRTA."

DISCUSSION:

An evaluation committee was established, comprised of qualified and experienced transit professionals, and has completed its evaluation of proposals. To select the Offeror, the selection committee evaluated the proposals based on the criteria stated in the RFP. Selection for Award was based on the following process:

- Determine responsiveness of Proposers.
- Determine responsible Proposers.
- Determine ranking based on evaluation matrix points rated by the evaluation committee.
- Identify the proposals that fall within the competitive range, which would be those proposals that are responsive, responsible, and whose total points from the evaluation matrix are clear leaders amongst the proposers.

- Request Best and Final Offers, as necessary, of those within the competitive range.
- Recommend an award on Best Value of those within the competitive range.

The evaluation committee has determined that it was not necessary to afford proposers an opportunity to amend their proposal and make a best and final offer. The following is the ranking of the proposals by the selection committee:

Rank	Firm
#1	Transdev Services, Inc.
#2	First Transit
#3	National Express
#4	MV Transportation

Proposers who have submitted a bid or proposal to TCRTA may file a protest of TCRTA’s intent to award a contract provided that: 1) the protest is in writing, 2) the protest is signed by the individual legally entitled to act on his or her behalf, 3) the protest is received by the Executive Director not more than five business days following the date of issuance of TCRTA’s Intent to Award, and 4) the protest sets forth, in detail, a statement of the reason(s) for the protest, all facts and documentation supporting the protest, and legal authorities and argument in support of the grounds for the protest. Any grounds for protest not identified in the pre-award protest are waived.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Tulare County Regional Transit Agency Board of Directors:

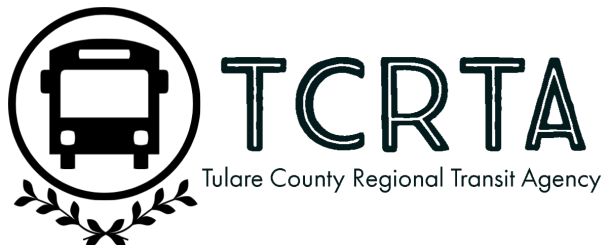
1. Authorize staff to issue a Notice of Intent to Award the contract to Transdev Services, Inc., and
2. Authorize staff to negotiate and draft a contract with Transdev Services, Inc. to be presented at the May 16, 2022 board meeting, and
3. If staff is unable to negotiate a contract with Transdev Services, Inc., authorize staff to revoke the award and grant the award to the next most qualified proposer and begin the negotiation process.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None

ATTACHMENT:

1. Draft Notice of Intent to Award



Tulare County Regional Transit Agency
559.623.0450
210 North Church Street Suite B
Visalia, CA 93291
www.tularecog.org

NOTICE OF INTENT TO AWARD

Request for Proposals: Transit Operations Services 2021-01

Scope of Services: The Tulare County Regional Transit Agency (TCRTA) is seeking an independent contractor to provide transit operations services throughout Tulare County for its local fixed routes, regional commuter routes, ADA complementary paratransit, on-demand services, vehicle maintenance, and customer service activities.

RFP Issue Date: December 15, 2021

Notice Date: April 19, 2022

The Tulare County Regional Transit Agency has completed its evaluation in response to Request for Proposals (RFP) Number **2021-01 Transit Operations Services** issued December 15, 2021. To select the Offeror, a selection committee evaluated the proposals based on the criteria stated in the RFP. We announce our intent to award the contract to **Transdev Services, Inc.**

This Notice does not constitute the formation of a contract between the TCRTA and the apparent successful proposer. The successful proposer shall not acquire any legal or equitable rights to the contract services until contract containing terms and conditions acceptable to TCRTA are executed. If the apparent successful proposer fails to negotiate and execute a contract with TCRTA, TCRTA may revoke the award and grant the award to the next most qualified proposer or withdraw the RFP. TCRTA further reserves the right to cancel this Notice of Intent to Award at any time prior to the execution of a written contract.

Any interested party may protest this Notice of Intent to Award by submitting a **written** protest to Richard Tree, Executive Director, within five (5) calendar days after the date of this notice. **The protest period shall begin April 19, 2022 and end at the close of business on April 25, 2022.**

Sincerely,

Richard Tree
Executive Director

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Tulare County Regional Transit Agency

AGENDA ITEM VIII-B

April 18, 2022

Prepared by Richard Tree, TCRTA Staff

SUBJECT:

ACTION: Accepting and Appropriating \$3 million in Surface Transportation Block Grant Program Funding for Zero-Emission Vehicles and Related Charging Infrastructure

BACKGROUND:

At the Tulare County Association of Governments (TCAG) meeting held on April 18, 2022, TCAG redistributed up to \$3 million in Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBGP) funding to TCRTA to assist the agency in purchasing zero-emission vehicles and related charging infrastructure. TCAG is requesting that STBGP funds be repaid with local transportation funds (LTF) over a period of five years.

DISCUSSION:

To ensure the timely obligation of federal funds, TCAG closely monitors the status of all projects programmed in the FTIP through close communication and coordination with the local agencies. Projects sometimes encounter delays to the obligation schedule which in turn jeopardizes federal funding to the region. To ensure that STBGP funds are obligated this fiscal year, TCAG staff proposed shifting up to \$3 million of FFY 21/22 STBGP funds to TCRTA.

Advancing the procurement of zero-emission vehicles and related charging infrastructure with STBGP funds not only ensures federal funding remains in our region but allows TCRTA to scale up its fleet to support the microtransit expansion.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Tulare County Regional Transit Agency Board of Directors:

1. Approve the acceptance of \$3 million in Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBGP) funding; and
2. Appropriate the STBGP funding in the 2021 FTIP for the purchase of zero-emission vehicles and related charging infrastructure to support the expansion of microtransit services; and
3. Authorize the repayment of STBGP funds with local transportation funds over a period of five years starting in Fiscal Year 2022.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact to the TCRTA FY 2022 budget. Repayment of STBGP funds with available local transportation funds will be planned over a period of five years.

ATTACHMENT:

None