



CITY OF HAYWARD
AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE 06/05/07
AGENDA ITEM 3
WORK SESSION ITEM _____

TO: Mayor and City Council
FROM: Director of Community and Economic Development
SUBJECT: FY 2007-08 Annual Paratransit Plan

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council adopt the attached resolution pertaining to the City's Paratransit Program and authorizing the City Manager to execute related documents.

DISCUSSION:

The Hayward Paratransit Program offers a variety of specialized door-to-door transportation (paratransit) services to older adults and persons with disabilities who are 18 years old and older, unable to drive or take other forms of public transportation due to a medical or disabling condition, and who reside in Hayward or one of the unincorporated areas adjacent to Hayward. The City's paratransit program provides services that complement and supplement the East Bay Paratransit Consortium's American with Disabilities Act (ADA) Paratransit Service in order to meet the local paratransit needs of Hayward Paratransit Program participants.

The Alameda County Transportation Improvement Authority (ACTIA) administers the allocation of Measure B funds used to support the operations of the Hayward Paratransit Program. Utilizing a county-wide funding formula, ACTIA has determined that Hayward will receive an estimated \$723,411 in FY 2007-08 (up from \$696,667 in FY 2006-07). All jurisdictions that receive Measure B paratransit funds must enter into an agreement with ACTIA, which stipulates the conditions under which the funds must be expended. Because the City is at the end of its current five-year agreement with ACTIA, a new agreement must now be executed covering the next five years (July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2012).

The ACTIA agreement requires that the City submit an Annual Paratransit Plan (Plan). The City's FY 2007-08 Plan calls for the continuation of the three paratransit service components that are currently in place; each of which are carried out through different service provider contracts.

The "primary" service component is currently provided under contract with MV Transportation, Inc. MV Transportation, Inc. provides paratransit services to individual passengers, including individuals who require an attendant who is allowed to ride along at no additional cost. Both sedans and lift-equipped vans are utilized to provide this service. Enrolled program participants are issued ten vouchers per month at no cost. More vouchers may be issued in certain circumstances, such as when a program participant must rely on the City's program for regular and frequent medical appointments (i.e., to dialysis, physical therapy, etc.). "Urgent" trips that are pre-authorized by the City may also be provided from time-to-time to individuals

who qualify for the City's paratransit program, but who are not yet enrolled and who do not have City vouchers. This service is provided from 5:00 am to 10:00 pm seven days per week. Trip reservations may be made from one week to twenty-four hours in advance. Passengers are charged one voucher plus \$2.00 for each one-way trip up to ten miles in length. Passengers pay an additional voucher and an additional \$2.00 for each additional 10-mile increment up to 30 miles. An additional \$2.00 per mile is charged for each mile over 30 miles for each one-way trip. Passengers are also charged for all bridge toll and parking fees incurred during a trip. Passenger fares are the same for ambulatory and non-ambulatory passengers, regardless of the time of day that the trip is provided. Group trips are also offered through this contract to over 30 different local Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNF) and senior housing complexes located in the program service area; passengers pay \$1.00 each for each group trip. The contract also provides for shuttles that serve low-income seniors on a pre-scheduled group basis from their homes to local community-based congregate meal sites and from local mobile home parks to Southland Mall. Passengers pay \$.50 cents each way as their share-of-cost for these services.

The contract with MV Transportation, initially entered into in FY 2006-07, provides the City with the option to renew the contract for up to two consecutive years, through FY 2008-09. Based on MV's overall good performance during the current fiscal year, staff recommends that the City exercise its option to renew the contract for an additional year, with one change. The contractor's cost of doing business has increased due to the rise in gasoline, insurance, and labor costs. Additionally, in order to comply with newly enacted state air quality standards, MV Transportation will have to cease using its diesel powered vehicles next year and replace them with lift-equipped buses that use regular unleaded gasoline. This will add three brand-new (2007) buses to the fleet, as well as remove other older vehicles and replace them with newer (2002) vehicles. In order to accommodate these added costs, the hourly rate charged to the City is expected to increase by 3.8% in FY 2007-08 (from the current \$39.73 per vehicle hour to \$41.24 per vehicle hour). This is still well below the \$57.91 per vehicle hour quoted by the nearest competitor that participated in last year's contract bidding process.

Specialized Paratransit Services:

The City's "Base" paratransit program also provides two additional *specialized* services to cover local needs of paratransit program participants not addressed under the contract with MV Transportations, Inc. These are provided through two separate contracts, as described below:

Meals on Wheels Program

The City contracts with Service Opportunities for Seniors, Inc. to provide a "Meals on Wheels" service. Under this contract, the City subsidizes 90% of the contractor's transportation costs of delivering food to older adults and persons with disabilities who are unable to leave their homes due to a medical or disabling condition, and who otherwise meet the program's eligibility requirements. It is anticipated that an average of 132 individuals per month will be served up to five days per week through this program. Program participants do not pay for this service.

Alzheimer's Services of the East Bay (ASEB)

The City contracts with ASEB to provide transportation services to and from its Hayward adult day care program, that serves persons who have dementia. It is necessary for ASEB to operate its own transportation because ASEB drivers serve as part of the team of service professionals employed by ASEB. They participate in care-plan meetings for their program participants, and serve as an important liaison between the participant's home and the program environment. Drivers receive special training to work with this population. They also work with other ASEB professionals to address behavioral and/or familial issues of which they become aware during the course of providing transportation services. Program participants do not pay for this service.

The specialized paratransit contracts with Service Opportunities for Seniors, Inc. and ASEB continue to meet needs not addressed by MV Transportation, Inc. Additionally, these contractors are sole-source providers - meaning they are the only contractors in the area that provide these particular services. Both contracts were initially executed in FY 2005-06. These contracts give the City the option to renew for up to two additional consecutive years - through FY 2007-08. Based on the availability of Measure B funds, the continued need for these two specialized services, and the successful performance of the two contractors, it is recommended that the City continue to work with both in FY 2007-08 with no change in the terms or conditions of these agreements.

“Gap” Paratransit Services:

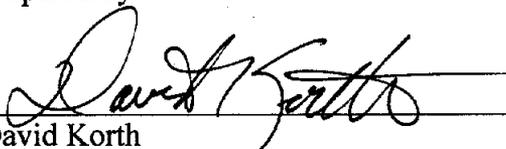
Through a separate competitive funding allocation process, Hayward was awarded an additional \$177,850 per year for a two-year period (July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2008) totaling \$355,700 in Measure B “Gap” Funds to pay for what is being called the Hayward Ride-Today program. Under this program, Paratransit passengers now have a choice to either pre-schedule a trip or call to arrange for a trip on the same day that the service is needed. This same-day service is also provided through the MV Transportation contract. The rate charged by MV Transportation to the City for the same-day service is the same as is described above for “primary” program services. There is also no difference in the fare charged to program participants for this “gap” funded program.

The demand for same-day services was low during the start-up phase of the program. Outreach activities have since been developed and continue to be implemented in order to spread the word about the availability of the same-day paratransit service. The demand for the service has steadily increased since these efforts have been in place; this trend is expected to continue next year. Additionally, it has been difficult for paratransit providers industry-wide to obtain and retain qualified drivers. City staff has been working with MV Transportation to address this issue; MV management personnel and policies have recently changed, and a new driver recruitment and training program is now being implemented in order to address this problem. As a result of the driver issue, and slow demand during the start-up phase of the program, the fund balance at the end of the year is expected to be about \$40,000. This year-end fund balance will be carried-over to next fiscal year; thus increasing the FY 2007-08 project budget from \$177,850 to \$217,850; these funds will be used to increase services to Hayward Paratransit program participants.

The City of Hayward's FY 2007-08 Annual Plan was developed with input from the City's Paratransit Advisory Committee whose membership includes representatives from different user groups of the Hayward Paratransit Program, and representatives from the Hayward Human Services Commission. The City's Plan was also reviewed by ACTIA staff and the Alameda County Paratransit Advisory and Planning Committee (PAPCO), a paratransit consumer advisory body to ACTIA, on Monday, May 7, 2007, and has received a recommendation for full funding. The ACTIA Board of Directors is expected to approve Hayward's allocation of Measure B funding at its meeting in the latter part of June 2007.

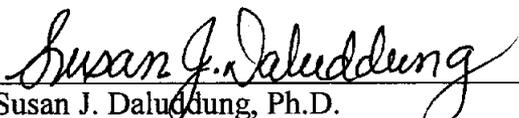
In summary, it is recommended that the City Council authorize the City Manager to execute an agreement with ACTIA to receive Measure B Paratransit funding for the period July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2012, to be used in accordance with approved Annual Paratransit Plans, as well as to execute the service contracts required to implement the FY 2007-08 Hayward Paratransit Plan.

Prepared by:



David Korth
Neighborhood and Economic Development Manager

Recommended by:



Susan J. Daluddung, Ph.D.
Director of Community and Economic Development

Approved by:



Jesús Armas, City Manager

Resolution

DRAFT

HAYWARD CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. 07-

Introduced by Council Member _____

me
5/21/07

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO SUBMIT A PARATRANSIT PLAN AND APPLICATION FOR MEASURE B GAP FUNDS FOR FY 2007-08 TO THE ALAMEDA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY, AND NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE ALL DOCUMENTS RELATED TO AND IN SUPPORT OF THESE ACTIVITIES

BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Hayward that the City Manager is authorized and directed, on behalf of the City of Hayward, to submit to the Alameda County Transportation Improvement Authority a Paratransit Plan and Gap Fund Application for the expenditure of Measure B Paratransit funds in FY 2007-08.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager shall have the authority to negotiate and execute all documents related to and in support of these activities, including, but not limited to, a new 5-year agreement with ACTIA.

IN COUNCIL, HAYWARD, CALIFORNIA _____, 2007

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS:
MAYOR:

NOES: COUNCIL MEMBERS:

ABSTAIN: COUNCIL MEMBERS:

ABSENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS:

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk of the City of Hayward

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Attorney of the City of Hayward