



City Council Agenda Item

City Council Meeting Date: April 6, 2021

TO: Jim Throop, City Manager

FROM: Richard Fernbaugh, Aviation/Transportation Administrator
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SUBJECT: Authorize the Purchase of Five Transit Buses from A to Z Bus Sales for \$759,054.42; Adoption of Resolution No. 6392(21)

Recommendation:

Staff recommends the City Council:

- 1) Authorize the purchase of five transit buses from A to Z Bus Sales for \$759,054.42;
- 2) Authorize the Purchasing and Materials Manager to issue a Purchase Order for the purchase; and
- 3) Adopt Resolution No. 6392(21) approving supplemental appropriations for the purchase (Attachment 1).

Background:

City of Lompoc Transit (COLT) currently owns and maintains a fleet of 12 vehicles, including 11 buses and one 8-passenger ADA shuttle, to serve both Fixed Route and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) services. Of the 11 buses, 10 are regularly used on fixed routes, including the Wine Country Express and the Santa Barbara Shuttle. One of those buses is available as a backup when service/repairs are required. In recent years COLT has had as many as five vehicles in for servicing/repairs at a time and if a sixth were to go down, then COLT would be in a position of cutting service somewhere. If three to five vehicles are in for servicing/repairs at one time, then all routes can run, but with some delays. The ADA shuttle van is used only for ADA

services; however current ADA demand requires at least two and sometimes three vehicles daily. The current inventory of 12 existing COLT vehicles, in addition to the two ADA shuttles, which the City Council authorized for purchase on October 20, 2020, with acquisition date, quantity acquired and the funding source is reflected in the following table.

<u>Acquisition Date</u>	<u>Vehicles Purchased</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Funding Source</u>
November 2014	1	bus	TDA ¹
December 2017	5	buses/1shuttle	TDA
January 2018	3	bus	TDA
July 2019	3	bus	TDA
August 2021 – Estimated	2	ADA Shuttles	SGR

Buses/Shuttles are assigned an economic life of five years and are initially scheduled to be replaced approximately every five years. While five years is generally the point at which the buses begin to experience both minor and major maintenance issues that can lead to equipment fails during service and/or missed routes, COLT also utilizes maintenance history data to determine when to replace a bus. COLT utilizes the City's centralized fleet services to maintain vehicles. Fleet services analyzes maintenance costs and advises COLT regarding the replacement schedule for COLT vehicles. Fleet services staff recommend COLT currently replace five buses due to those vehicles requiring frequent major repair work.

Discussion:

Upon completion of the purchases the COLT fleet will have five new buses, six others that are less than five years old, one shuttle that is four years old, and two new shuttles. Those purchases will greatly enhance the reliability of the COLT fleet. COLT will then dispose of older vehicles, which are no longer needed and which have become inordinately expensive to maintain, which will greatly reduce the overall maintenance costs of the COLT fleet.

Fiscal Impact:

Transit services and transit capital purchases, such as buses and shuttles, are funded from a variety of sources dedicated to transit, requiring no General Fund support. The primary funding source for transit capital purchases is state Transportation Development Act (TDA) funding. Another source, used primarily for operational costs, is the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). A third funding source, also proposed to be used for this purchase, is the State of Good Repair Program (SGR), funded under Senate Bill 1 (SB1).

Buses are available for purchase under the California Association of Coordinated Transportation (CalAct) competitively awarded contract. CalAct is a cooperative

¹ Transportation Development Act

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purchasing association of California transit agencies who have joined together with a goal of combining their purchasing power. The Lompoc Municipal Code (LMC) provides for cooperative purchases such as through CalAct. While the bus purchases are utilizing state TDA and SGR funds, the CalAct procurement process meets the TDA and the SGR procurement guidelines. After the City Council's authorization, the five buses will be ordered, and are anticipated to be delivered after September 2021. The bus purchases will be under the current contract prices, terms and conditions of the CalAct contract.

The Biennial Budget included \$555,000 of appropriations for bus/shuttle purchases in the biennial budget for FY 2019-21. Additionally, the City was awarded \$480,196.31 of SGR funds for bus purchases. At its October 20, 2020, meeting, the City Council authorized the expenditure of \$195,265.02 for the purchase of two ADA shuttles. The purchase of five replacement buses will use \$759,054.42 and will require \$399,320 in supplemental appropriations, expending all of the City's remaining SGR funding, in addition to a portion of the TDA funding currently included in the Biennial Budget.

Staff will continue working to enhance the dependability and cost efficiency of the COLT fleet and service.

Conclusion:

The purchase of five COLT buses from A to Z Bus Sales will allow COLT to operate more efficiently and enhance the reliability of its services to COLT customers.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Fernbaugh, Aviation/Transportation Administrator

Dirk Ishiwata, Fleet & Facilities Superintendent

Ray Ambler, Purchasing and Materials Manager

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL TO THE CITY MANAGER:

Michael Luther, Public Works Director

Dean Albro, Management Services Director

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL TO THE CITY COUNCIL:

Jim Throop, City Manager

Attachment: Resolution No. 6392(21)