



City of Carson

Report to Mayor and City Council

June 17, 2014
New Business Consent

SUBJECT: CONSIDER APPROVING A CONTRACT EXTENSION WITH FIRST TRANSIT, INC. TO OPERATE THE CARSON CIRCUIT

Submitted by Cedric L. Hicks, Sr.
Director of Community Services

Approved by Nelson Hernandez
City Manager

I. SUMMARY

On July 15, 2008, the City of Carson awarded a five-year contract with First Transit, Inc. to operate its fixed route bus service, the Carson Circuit (Circuit), for the period January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2013, with two one-year extensions based on performance (Exhibit No. 1). Per the direction of the prior City Manager, staff requested and the City Council approved a six-month extension of its contract with First Transit to June 30, 2014, (Exhibit No. 2). A Request for Proposals (RFP) for this service is currently in development and will be released in July 2014. In order to permit sufficient time to complete the RFP process, select a vendor, and commence a new contract term, the City Council is asked to approve a one-year contract extension with First Transit for the period July 1, 2014, through June 30, 2015, at a cost of approximately \$1,714,908.00 (Exhibit No. 3).

II. RECOMMENDATION

APPROVE a one-year contract extension with First Transit, Inc. to operate the City of Carson's fixed-route bus system, the Carson Circuit, for the period July 1, 2014, through June 30, 2015, at a cost of approximately \$1,714,908.00.

III. ALTERNATIVES

TAKE another action the City Council deems appropriate.

IV. BACKGROUND

First Transit, Inc. has been operating the City of Carson's fixed route bus service, the Carson Circuit, since January 1, 2009. The Circuit is comprised of eight routes that run 40-minute loops, beginning at 5:30 AM and ending at 6:40 PM, in different areas of the City. In addition to providing local service to the Carson community, the Circuit acts as feeder/connector service to other regional transit providers, such as the Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA) for both bus and rail and Torrance Transit. All routes begin and end at the South Bay Pavilion Mall.

The original contract with First Transit ended on December 31, 2013. At the direction of the prior City Manager, a six-month contract extension was approved until the end of this fiscal year in hopes of completing the RFP process. An RFP

12

June 17, 2014

for the Carson Circuit service is currently in development with an anticipated release date of July 2014. Staff expects the RFP process to take between 60 to 90 days to complete, and a contract awarded at the beginning of 2015. A transition period of 2 to 3 months will follow, and a new contract term will commence on July 1, 2015.

In order to permit sufficient time for this entire process to run its course, the City Council now is asked to approve a contract extension with First Transit for the period July 1, 2014, through June 30, 2015, at a cost of \$1,714,908.00.

V. FISCAL IMPACT

Fund for this contract were included in the proposed FY 2014/15 in account numbers 19-90-999-180-6046 and 18-90-999-180-6045.

VI. EXHIBITS

1. Minutes, July 15, 2008, Item No. 20. (pgs. 3-4)
2. Minutes, September 3, 2013, Item No. 10. (pg. 5)
3. Letter from First Transit, Inc. (pg. 6)

Prepared by: Luchie Magante, Sr. Administrative Analyst

YO:Rev05-13-2014

Reviewed by:

City Clerk	City Treasurer
Administrative Services	Public Works
Community Development	Community Services

Action taken by City Council

Date _____ Action _____

ITEM NO. (20) CONSIDER APPROVAL TO AWARD A SERVICE CONTRACT TO FIRST TRANSIT, INC. TO OPERATE THE CARSON CIRCUIT (DEVELOPMENT SERVICES)

This item was heard after Item No. 19.

(Mayor Pro Tem Gipson exited and reentered the meeting at 11:58 P.M.)

Public Comments

Dr. Rita Boggs, 21328 Island, Carson, California 90745, urged the City Council to award the contract to Transportation Concepts, the low bidder.

Ronald Shimokaji, 1502 E. Carson Street, No. 135, Carson, California 90745, reiterated safety concerns expressed on July 1, 2008 relative to First Transit, the City's current provider.

(Mayor Pro Tem Gipson exited and reentered the meeting at 12:11 A.M. on July 16, 2008.)

Shawn A. Chaviva, 5357 Valley Boulevard, Los Angeles, California 90032, General Manager of Operations, representing First Transit, offered comments in support of the staff recommendation to award the contract to First Transit.

Eric Estell, 7581 Willow Drive, Ste. 103, Tempe, Arizona 85283, representing First Transit, offered comments in support of the staff recommendation to award the contract to First Transit.

Don White, 13501 Benson Avenue, Chino, California 91710, representing Creative Bus Sales, informed the City Council that his firm was the only bus dealership supplying AH Fuel-Low Fuel Buses who could offer an on-time guarantee for the Carson Circuit project.

Geri Willis, General Manager, SMS Transportation Services, discussed his desire for the opportunity to serve the City of Carson.

Delilah Lamoix, 915 Wilshire Boulevard, Ste. 1820, Los Angeles, California 90017, representing SMS Transportation Services, discussed her opposition to the staff recommendation to award the contract to First Transit.

Derek C. Donnell, 915 Wilshire Boulevard, Ste. 1820, Los Angeles, California 90017, representing SMS Transportation Services, discussed his opposition to the staff recommendation to award the contract to First Transit.

Sandi Schmidt, 12 Mauchly, Building I, Irvine, California 92618, representing Transportation Concepts, offered comments in support of awarding the contract to Transportation Concepts.

Nick Promponas, 7581 Willow Drive, No. 103, Tempe, Arizona 85283, representing First Transit, offered comments in support of the staff recommendation to award the contract to First Transit.

Rich Rogers, 12 Mauchly, Building I, Irvine, California 92618, representing Transportation Concepts, offered comments in support of awarding the contract to Transportation Concepts.

(Council Member Santarina exited and reentered the meeting at 12:34 A.M., on July 16, 2008.)

Brett Baum, 12 Mauchly, Building I, Irvine, California 92618, representing Transportation Concepts, offered comments in opposition to the award of the contract to the incumbent firm.

Gill Barrett, 12 Mauchly, Building I, Irvine, California 92618, representing Transportation Concepts, expressed concern about the process which was taking place after the original proposals were submitted and over the last two City Council meeting.

(Santarina exited and reentered the meeting at 12:51 A.M., on July 16, 2008.)

RECOMMENDATION for the City Council:

TAKE the following actions:

1. APPROVE a five-year contract with First Transit, Inc. to operate the Carson Circuit in an amount not to exceed \$8,406,412.00.
2. AUTHORIZE the Mayor to execute the contract prepared by the City Attorney.

ACTION: It was moved to reject staff recommendation No. 1 and approve a 5-year contract with Transportation Concepts to operate the Carson Circuit in an amount not-to-exceed \$8,768,080 and approve staff recommendation No. 3 on motion of Williams, which was not considered due to lack of a second.

It was moved to approve staff recommendation Nos. 1 and 2 on motion of Davis-Holmes and seconded by Santarina.

Mayor Dear offered a substitute motion to reject all bids and direct staff to issue a new request for proposal to operate the Carson Circuit, which was not considered due to lack of a second.

Mayor Dear requested a roll call vote. Whereupon, a discussion ensued regarding whether or not a challenge to the request of the Mayor was allowed and let the City Council vote electronically.



**ITEM NO. (10) CONSIDER APPROVING A SIX-MONTH CONTRACT EXTENSION WITH
FIRST TRANSIT, INC. TO OPERATE THE CARSON CIRCUIT AND
AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR
FIXED-ROUTE BUS SERVICE (COMMUNITY SERVICES)**

RECOMMENDATION for the City Council:

TAKE the following actions:

1. APPROVE a six-month contract extension with First Transit, Inc. in the amount of \$857,454.00, to operate the City of Carson's fixed-route bus service, the Carson Circuit, for the period January 1, 2014 through June 30, 2014.
2. AUTHORIZE the Mayor to execute the contract extension, following approval as to form by the City Attorney.
3. AUTHORIZE staff to issue the Request for Proposal for fixed-route bus service.

ACTION: Item No. 10 was approved on the New Business Consent Calendar on motion of Dear, seconded by Gipson and unanimously carried by the following vote:

Ayes:	Mayor/Authority Chairman/Agency Chairman Dear, Mayor Pro Tem/Authority Vice Chairman/Agency Vice Chairman Santarina, Council Member/Authority Commissioner/Agency Member Davis Holmes, Council Member/Authority Commissioner/Agency Member Gipson, and Council Member/Authority Commissioner/Agency Member Robles
Noes:	None
Abstain:	None
Absent:	None



7581 Willow Dr.
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Tempe, AZ 85283
Tel: 480 456 5600

Monday June 2, 2014

Mr. Cedric Hicks Sr., Director
Community services Department
City of Carson
701. E. Carson Street
Carson, CA 90745

Re: Two month extension of current Fixed Route Services agreement

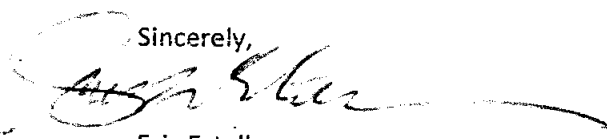
Mr. Hicks,

As discussed on Thursday May 29, 2014, First Transit proposes to extend the current Fixed Route services agreement between the City of Carson and First Transit, Inc. for a two-month period beyond the current termination date of June 30, 2014. The lease agreement for the facility from which First Transit currently operates and maintains the Carson Circuit buses, does not expire until August 31, 2014. First Transit further proposes for these two months, July and August 2014, all terms and conditions of the current agreement, including the current rate per hour, will be continued.

Both parties are seeking a solution for a temporary facility from which First Transit can operate the Carson Circuit for a time period of six to twelve months beyond August 31, 2014. Should such a facility be determined, First Transit will provide the City of Carson a revised cost proposal for continuing the service within the extension period allowed in the current agreement.

Please contact me should you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,


Eric Estell
Region Vice President
First Transit, Inc.

CC: Luchie Magante
Nick Promponas
Jesse Roach
Letty Ochoa

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