



## **Board Agenda Item No. 10**

### **March 24, 2022**

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#### **RECOMMENDED ACTION**

To authorize the President and CEO to enter into a contract with BYD Coach & Bus, LLC for the purchase of five zero-emission 45-foot electric commuter buses and charging infrastructure.

#### **STAFF REPRESENTATIVE**

James Scott, Executive Director/VP, Maintenance and Infrastructure

#### **BACKGROUND**

In 2019, Long Beach Transit (LBT) implemented a successful commuter shuttle pilot program to provide service from Long Beach to the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) campus. The pilot program, referred to as the UCLA/Westwood Commuter Express, was deemed successful and provided customers greater mobility options and reduced greenhouse gas emissions by decreasing single-occupancy vehicle travel.

On April 23, 2020, based on the success of the pilot program, the Board approved adopting the UCLA/Westwood Commuter Express service as a permanent LBT service. In addition, LBT applied for, and was awarded Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) funding for the purchase of five zero-emission 45-foot electric buses to deploy on the commuter service.

The purchase of the additional commuter buses and charging infrastructure would allow LBT to not only increase service on the UCLA/Westwood Commuter Express routes, but also the ability to provide seasonal Museum Express service using zero-emission vehicles. In addition, the commuter buses would provide LBT's customers transportation to jobs and educational opportunities by utilizing public transit. This helps accomplish LBT's STAR Initiative commuter bus objectives. LBT would also be contributing to the reduction of congestion of urban freeways by directly taking cars off the freeway.

#### **PROCUREMENT**

LBT procurement policies allow LBT to purchase rolling stock and related equipment from a state cooperative contract. A "cooperative procurement contract" means a contract entered into between a state government and/or eligible nonprofit entities and one or more vendors, under which the vendors agree to provide an option to purchase rolling stock and related equipment to multiple participants.

BYD Coach & Bus, LLC (BYD) located in Lancaster, California, has an existing contract with the State of Georgia that includes commuter buses that meet all LBT requirements. LBT elected to access the existing cooperative agreement for rolling stock and related equipment. The BYD contracted price was found to be fair and reasonable by LBT's Procurement department.



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### **DBE/SBE PARTICIPATION**

When purchasing bus vehicles, LBT is required to verify approved Transit Vehicle Manufacturer (TVM) status and the approved annual Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) goal with Federal Transit Administration (FTA). This information has been verified. BYD is an approved FY22 FTA TVM with an annual DBE goal of 2.5%. Therefore, BYD is responsive and in compliance with the DBE program.

### **ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED**

Staff did not consider alternative options, as the Board adopted a resolution to approve funding for this project.

### **BUDGETARY/FISCAL IMPACT**

On July 23, 2020, LBT's Board of Directors approved a resolution authorizing the President and CEO to execute a Master Agreement, Baseline Agreement and Program Supplements for State Funded Transit Projects funded through the TIRCP. TIRCP funds will be utilized for this procurement and these funds were identified in a previously approved capital budget.

### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Staff is recommending LBT's Board of Directors to authorize the President and CEO to enter into a contract with BYD Coach & Bus, LLC for the purchase of five zero-emission 45-foot electric commuter buses and charging infrastructure at a cost of \$6,590,339, with a 5% contingency of \$329,517, for a total amount not to exceed \$6,919,856.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading 'Lisa Patton'.

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Lisa Patton

Executive Director/VP, Finance and Budget