
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: LAURA TSCHABOLD, STAN PRIMOZICH
FROM: CYNTHIA THOMPSON
SUBJECT: USED BUS PURCHASE PROPOSAL
DATE: DECEMBER 14, 2016
CC: RENEE GUERRERO

I am writing to request approval to purchase two (2) 2009 StarTrans low floor buses from Creative Bus Sales. As you know YCTA will acquire new buses in the near future but it will be almost a year before YCTA receives 2 mid-size buses and most likely a year to 16 months before the larger buses are delivered.

The buses we purchased from Salem have not turned out to be very helpful even though we requested they be road worthy they have had some significant issues and only one of the buses has been used in service. The good news is we didn't spend a lot of money on the buses so even if we only get 1 year of service from one of the buses it is still worth the expenditure. But it doesn't solve the issue we originally were trying to solve which is to fill the gap until new buses arrive.

First Transit is working with our fleet but is experiencing breakdowns, engine, transmission and other issues on a regular basis. There is a definite need for additional spares until the new buses are placed in service and even beyond. Some of the buses that are handling the heavy lifting right now will be aging and may not be as reliable one to two years from now. If required, I will ask First Transit to provide a written summary of all the various bus breakdowns and issues they have been dealing with over the last year or so. First Transit has been doing their best to keep service on the street but I know there have been many days that have been touch and go.

During one of my regular meetings with First Transit, Renee and I looked at some sites with used buses. We found these StarTrans buses with low miles at a decent price. I contacted Kimberly, the sales representative for Creative Bus Sales, located in Canby, Oregon. She agreed to sell both buses to us for \$100,000 which is a savings of \$19,500 from the list price. Below are links to the buses;



Figure 1 2009 StarTrans

<http://www.creativebussales.com/default/inventory/2009-startrans-president-lf.html>

<http://www.creativebussales.com/default/inventory/2009-startrans-president-lf-53113.html>

The benefit of these particular buses are the 6.6 diesel engines and Allison transmissions which are standard. The low miles (21,000 and 27,000). The fact they are low floor ramp access buses is in line with our goal to have all YCTA buses eventually be low floor ramp access vehicles is a plus.

The downside is the manufacturer is not around any longer so there isn't a warranty. Renee and I aren't too concerned about it because the major components are standard. First Transit mechanics have been able to solve the parts issues or find something that works to solve problems on other buses in similar state.

The next question to be answered is how do we pay for these buses. You may recall there has been \$114,000 carried forward in the budget for a while to be used as match for the next bus purchase. When I applied for the last STF Discretionary funds there was an opportunity to apply for match dollars for bus purchases. YCTA was approved for \$157,131 in funds YCTA can use toward match for bus purchases.

Below is a summary of the upcoming bus grants and required match amounts.

Grant	Description	Project Cost	Match Required
5339	3 buses	\$593,000	\$88,950
STIP-now 5311	3 buses	\$1,050,000	\$107,835
Total		\$1,643,000	\$196,785
County	Match Reserve	\$114,000	<i>-\$114,000</i>
STF Discretionary	\$\$ to be used for Match	\$157,131	<i>-\$157,131</i>
Total	Funds available		74,346
	Purchase 2 used buses	\$100,000	\$100,000
Total additional funds needed			\$25,654

I propose we purchase these buses for \$100,000 using most of the \$114,000 that is included in this FY 2016/17 Transit budget. I will apply for the difference of \$25,654 in the next round of 5310 or STF funds to make up the difference. Worst case scenario the County may have to provide \$25,654 in match dollars when we finalize the purchase of the 6 buses described above. The good news is if we had not received the STF Discretionary match grant, YCTA would have needed \$82,785 in addition to the \$114,000 in match funds to purchase the buses approved through the grants.

I experienced delays in getting this proposal to you, so now I am anxious to receive a response. I know the delay I caused should not create a crisis for you. I realize it is also holiday season and vacation time etc. so if it will be awhile, please let me know and I will contact Creative Bus Sales and see if they can hold the buses a bit longer for us.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Accepted by Yamhill County
Board of Commissioners on
1-26-17 by Board Order
17-26