



February 13, 2025

To: Transit Committee

From: Darrell E. Johnson, Chief Executive Officer

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Darrell E. Johnson", is written over the name in the "From:" field.

Subject: Amendment to the Cooperative Agreement with Orange County Adult Achievement Center for the Provision of Special Transit Service

Overview

On June 24, 2024, the Orange County Transportation Authority Board of Directors approved a cooperative agreement with the Orange County Adult Achievement Center, doing business as My Day Counts, to cost share in the provision of special transit services. This cost sharing arrangement, is mutually beneficial to both agencies and provides specialized transportation services directly to the My Day Counts programs, thereby reducing the demand and cost for OC ACCESS. An amendment to that agreement is necessary to address growth in ridership.

Recommendation

Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Amendment No. 1 to Cooperative Agreement No. C-4-2291 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and the Orange County Adult Achievement Center, doing business as My Day Counts, in the amount of \$250,000, to provide funding to support growth in ridership through June 30, 2025.

Discussion

Since 2005, the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) has been proactive in establishing community partnerships and encouraging the availability of alternative transportation programs as a viable option for OC ACCESS riders to help reduce the growth in the demand and cost of OC ACCESS service. An estimated 11 percent of OC ACCESS-eligible trips are provided to and from cooperative agency facilities and day programs (Programs). OCTA has established long-standing cost-sharing agreements with five cooperative agencies to transition OC ACCESS riders attending these facilities and programs to alternative transportation service providers.

In June 2024, the OCTA Board of Directors (Board) approved a cost-sharing cooperative agreement with the Orange County Adult Achievement Center, doing business as My Day Counts (My Day Counts), to provide an alternative transportation option for OC ACCESS eligible riders who attend the My Day Counts adult day program. The agreement outlines a per trip rate of \$25, with an annual increase based on the Consumer Price Index. In fiscal year (FY) 2023-24, My Day Counts provided 68,096 trips to 140 unique OC ACCESS eligible riders, for an estimated cost savings to OCTA of \$2.7 million assuming these trips would have otherwise been provided on OC ACCESS FY 2023-24 average cost per trip of \$65.78.

Through collaborative outreach and regular reviews of trip patterns with My Day Counts, approximately 8,000 trips per month have been successfully transitioned from OC ACCESS to My Day Counts, generating an annual savings of approximately \$4 million. In the first half of FY 2024-25, expanded program capacity allowed My Day Counts to transition an additional 16 daily passengers from OC ACCESS to their transportation program. However, due to the increase in the number of passengers served, the maximum obligation outlined in the agreement has been exceeded by 18 percent. In order to continue this beneficial cost-sharing arrangement, and amendment to the current agreement is necessary to increase funding.

The agreement allows for the maximum number of reimbursable trips to increase annually by 1.1 percent. Any trip growth beyond this threshold requires My Day Counts to demonstrate that these additional trips provide a direct offset to the OC ACCESS service. In this case, when My Day Counts expanded their facility capacity, they worked collaboratively with OCTA staff to identify 16 eligible OC ACCESS passengers to shift to the My Day Counts alternative transportation program, aligning with OCTA's goal of managing demand for OC ACCESS service.

Fiscal Impact

Funding for Amendment No. 1 to Cooperative Agreement No. C-4-2291 is included in the OCTA Fiscal Year 2024-25 Budget, Operations Division, Specialized Transit Services Department, Account No. 2131-7312-D1208-33M, and will be funded through the Local Transportation Fund.

Summary

Staff requests Board of Directors' approval to authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Amendment No. 1 to Cooperative Agreement No. C-4-2291 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and the Orange County Adult Achievement Center, doing business as My Day Counts, in the amount of \$250,000, which will increase the maximum obligation to \$1,634,075.

Attachment

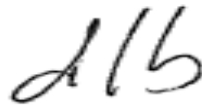
- A. Orange County Adult Achievement Center doing business as My Day Counts, Agreement No. C-4-2291 Fact Sheet

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