



May 9, 2024

To: Transit Committee

From: Darrell E. Johnson, Chief Executive Officer 

Subject: Amendment to Cooperative Agreements with Non-Profit Agencies to Provide Senior Mobility Program Services

Overview

The Senior Mobility Program is designed to offer transportation alternatives to seniors in addition to local fixed-route and paratransit service. Three non-profit agencies participate in the Senior Mobility Program and receive funding from local sources other than Measure M2. The current funding agreements with these three agencies require amendments to include fiscal year 2024-25 funding in order to continue the service.

Recommendations

- A. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Amendment No. 3 to Cooperative Agreement No. C-1-3259 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and Abrazar, Inc., in the amount of \$93,610 to provide funding through June 30, 2025.
- B. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Amendment No. 3 to Cooperative Agreement No. C-1-3260 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and Korean American Senior Association of Orange County, in the amount of \$115,087 to provide funding through June 30, 2025.
- C. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Amendment No. 3 to Cooperative Agreement No. C-1-3261 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and Southland Integrated Services, Inc., in the amount of \$101,193, to provide funding through June 30, 2025.

Discussion

The Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) established the Senior Mobility Program (SMP) in 2001 to help expand transportation services for seniors. The SMP was funded with Transportation Development Act funds from 2001 through 2011. On November 7, 2006, Orange County voters approved the Measure M (M2), renewing the one-half cent sales tax for transportation improvements. M2 Project U apportions funding to support specialized transportation programs for seniors and persons with disabilities, including the SMP. One percent of net M2 revenues is allocated to the SMP and distributed via formula to participating Orange County cities. The formula is based upon each city's population of residents age 60 and older.

To date, 32 cities have implemented SMP services. In addition to these city-initiated programs, four local non-profit agencies operated SMP services before M2 became the primary funding source for SMP and have been grandfathered into the program. These agencies provide services to seniors for trips that cross city boundaries, but do not qualify for M2 funding because the programs are run by local non-profit agencies, not local jurisdictions. Because of the significant transportation benefit provided to the community, OCTA has continued to support these SMP programs using other local transit funding. As of December 31, 2018, the Jewish Federation and Family Services, one of the four non-profit agencies, discontinued its SMP.

The three non-profit agencies that remain in the SMP are Abrazar, Inc., Korean American Senior Association of Orange County, and Southland Integrated Services, Inc., formerly doing business as the Vietnamese Community of Orange County. These three non-profit agencies provided 11,818 trips in fiscal year (FY) 2022-23 and received \$292,334 in funding. For FY 2023-24, the allocated funding is \$299,585 and by the third quarter, the number of completed trips provided by these agencies, totaling 8,794, is expected to exceed the budgeted amount. Although ineligible to receive M2 funding, they comply with all SMP guidelines and continue to receive funding from OCTA to provide a key link in the transportation network.

In 2011, a baseline reimbursement was set based on anticipated annual trip volume. Following that, since 2012, funding for each subsequent year has been determined by a formula utilizing the prior year's actual funding received and percentage of the anticipated growth of M2 net sales tax revenue. This growth rate aligns with M2 to uphold the program's guidelines. Consistent with funding provided to participating cities for SMP, OCTA funds 80 percent of the trip cost and the organization must provide at least a 20 percent match. The current

funding agreements with these three non-profit agencies require amendments each year to provide funding for the subsequent FY.

In order to preserve these services and support OCTA's goal under M2 Project U to expand mobility choices for seniors and persons with disabilities, Board of Directors' approval is necessary to execute amendments to provide the funds for these services through June 30, 2025. The total local funding allocation necessary for these services is \$309,890 per year and has been included in OCTA's proposed FY 2024-25 Budget.

Fiscal Impact

These services are included in OCTA's proposed FY 2024-25 Budget, Operations Division, account nos. 0030-7831-D1502-PDK, 0030-7831-D1502-PDW, and 0030-7831-D1502-PEE using local transportation funds.

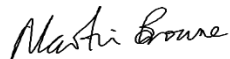
Summary

Based on the information provided, staff recommends the Board of Directors authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute amendments in the total amount of \$309,890 between Orange County Transportation Authority and Abrazar, Inc., Korean American Senior Association of Orange County, and Southland Integrated Services, Inc., three SMP non-profit agencies, to provide trips to local seniors in Orange County through June 30, 2025.

Attachments

- A. Non-Profit Agency Funding Projections, Fiscal Years 2023-24 to 2024-25
- B. Abrazar, Inc., Cooperative Agreement No. C-1-3259 Fact Sheet
- C. Korean American Senior Association of Orange County, Cooperative Agreement No. C-1-3260 Fact Sheet
- D. Southland Integrated Services Inc., Cooperative Agreement No. C-1-3261 Fact Sheet

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