



May 11, 2023

To: Transit Committee

From: Darrell E. Johnson, Chief Executive Officer

Subject: Amendments to Cooperative Agreements with Special Agencies for the Provision of Transportation Services

Overview

The Orange County Transportation Authority contracts with six agencies to help manage the demand for OC ACCESS service. On October 22, 2018, the Board of Directors approved five-year cooperative agreements with six agencies to provide this transportation service. These cooperative agreements are to be amended each year to adjust the per trip reimbursement rate and the maximum obligations. Board of Directors' approval is requested to amend the cooperative agreements with five special agencies for the continued provision of transportation services.

Recommendations

- A. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Amendment No. 4 to Cooperative Agreement No. C-8-1917 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and North County Senior Services, LLC, doing business as Acacia Adult Day Services, for continued services in the amount of \$667,586, and to adjust the per trip rate to \$17.51, effective July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. This will increase the maximum obligation of the agreement to a total contract value of \$1,970,207.

- B. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Amendment No. 4 to Cooperative Agreement No. C-8-1918 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and Alzheimer's Family Center for continued services in the amount of \$475,467 and to adjust the per trip rate to \$17.51, effective July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. This will increase the maximum obligation of the agreement to a total contract value of \$1,819,066.

- C. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Amendment No. 4 to Cooperative Agreement No. C-8-1919 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and Alzheimer's Orange County for continued services in the amount of \$364,751, and to adjust the per trip rate to \$17.51, effective July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. This will increase the maximum obligation of the agreement to a total contract value of \$960,877.

- D. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Amendment No. 4 to Cooperative Agreement No. C-8-1920 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and Community SeniorServ, doing business as Meals on Wheels Orange County, for continued services in the amount of \$788,983 and to adjust the per trip rate to \$17.51, effective July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. This will increase the maximum obligation of the agreement to a total contract value of \$2,151,776.

- E. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Amendment No. 4 to Cooperative Agreement No. C-8-1921 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and Orange County Adult Achievement Center, doing business as My Day Counts, for continued services in the amount of \$2,080,669, and to adjust the per trip rate to \$18.08, as well as the Regional Center of Orange County pass-through per trip rate to \$6.44, effective July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. This will increase the maximum obligation of the agreement to a total contract value of \$5,452,289.

Discussion

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires agencies that operate fixed-route bus service to provide complementary paratransit service for individuals with disabilities who are unable to use the fixed-route system. To comply with the ADA, the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) implemented OC ACCESS service in 1993. In October 2004, the OCTA Board of Directors (Board) approved the Paratransit Growth Management Plan. Since the implementation of the paratransit growth management strategies beginning in 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 the OC ACCESS service.

A significant portion of OC ACCESS trips are provided to and from special agency programs (Programs) that serve persons with disabilities and are eligible OC ACCESS riders. The services provided by these Programs include nutrition, educational or social services, rehabilitative services, sheltered workshops, and vocational services. OCTA has had long-standing cost sharing agreements with six Programs in which OC ACCESS riders have been transitioned to alternative transportation service providers. OCTA provides a reimbursement of up to 80 percent of the total cost per trip and the Programs pay a minimum of 20 percent of the total cost per trip. Through these cooperative agreements, OCTA provides an operating subsidy based on a per trip cost for OC ACCESS-eligible riders traveling between their homes and the Programs utilizing an alternative transportation service provider. Since 2006, OCTA has worked in coordination with these Programs and their transportation service providers to successfully transition more than 750 OC ACCESS riders to transportation services provided through the Programs receiving these subsidies. The per trip subsidy provided by OCTA ranges from \$16.76 per trip to \$16.85 per trip. In fiscal year (FY) 2023, Innovative Integrated Health, formerly known as Sultan Adult Day Health Care, was removed from the Programs because they received trip reimbursement from CalOptima and OCTA will not subsidize trip expenses if the agency is reimbursed from other sources.

Implementation of these community transportation partnerships has helped to provide transportation options to those using the Programs and has provided benefit to both OCTA and the Programs. OCTA's potential cost savings for FY 2023-24 projected 219,506 trips provided by these agreements is estimated to be \$13.6 million if these trips were provided by OC ACCESS (FY 2021-22 average cost per trip of \$79.70).

Under the terms of the current agreements, the total cost for all five agreements for FY 2023-24 is projected to be \$3.7 million. OCTA's share is estimated at \$2.96 million based on the per trip subsidies provided, and the Programs' share is estimated \$742,000. There is a provision in the agreements to increase the reimbursement rate by Consumer Price Index on an annual basis. The agreements also cap the annual number of trips subsidized by OCTA for each Program at an increase rate of 1.1 percent. However, there is a provision in each contract that allows for the total number of trips to grow beyond the cap amount if the Program can provide information to OCTA that demonstrates that the additional trips would provide a direct cost offset to the OC ACCESS service.

Fiscal Impact

The project is included in the Proposed OCTA FY 2023-24 Budget, Operations Division, account nos. under 2131-7312-D1208, and is funded through the Local Transportation Fund.

Summary

Staff recommends the Board of Directors authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute amendments to cooperative agreements with North County Senior Services, LLC, doing business as Acacia Adult Day Services, Alzheimer's Family Center, Alzheimer's Orange County, Community SeniorServ, doing business as Meals on Wheels Orange County, and Orange County Adult Achievement Center, doing business as My Day Counts, in the total amount of \$4,377,456, to adjust the maximum contract obligations and cost per trip rates that will provide an operating subsidy for trips transitioned from OC ACCESS service to alternate service providers effective July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.

Attachments

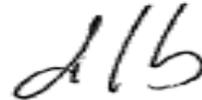
- A. North County Senior Services, LLC, doing business as Acacia Adult Day Services, Cooperative Agreement No. C-8-1917 Fact Sheet
- B. Alzheimer's Family Center, Cooperative Agreement No. C-8-1918 Fact Sheet
- C. Alzheimer's Orange County, Cooperative Agreement No. C-8-1919 Fact Sheet
- D. Community SeniorServ, doing business as Meals on Wheels Orange County, Cooperative Agreement No. C-8-1920 Fact Sheet
- E. Orange County Adult Achievement Center, doing business as My Day Counts, Cooperative Agreement No. C-8-1921 Fact Sheet

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