
CITY OF TEMPE
REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION**Council Meeting Date: 4/24/2014**
Agenda Item: 5C2

ACTION: Adopt a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a contract change order to an intergovernmental agreement with the City of Phoenix, as the designated recipient of federal transit grants, which will extend the term of the agreement to June 30, 2016. (Resolution No. R2014.41)

FISCAL IMPACT: The federal and local match funds are programmed in the Capital Improvement Program budget. The local match requirement of \$125,000, for bus purchases, is budgeted in Capital Improvement Project No. 6006752, Bus Purchases.

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt Resolution No. R2014.41.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The City of Tempe received Grant AZ-04-0011 (IGA C2011-148), which provides \$500,000 in federal funds for the purchase of neighborhood circulator buses from the Federal Transit Administration's Bus and Bus-Related Facilities Program, 49 U.S.C. § 5309. These funds are intended to help replace the current light-duty buses, which are high floor, compressed natural gas powered vehicles with low floor, alternative fueled or electric hybrid mini-buses with a longer useful life and more favorable life-cycle cost.

Transportation Division staff will solicit additional community input on any potential Orbit prototypes being considered. Staff did conduct a public involvement process from August to December 2013 to gather input from residents and passengers regarding the use of a midsize, medium -duty bus model on Orbit routes. The majority of comments received were positive about the bus size and riding experience. Specifics of the public involvement process are listed below.

- A public meeting was held on Sept. 28, 2013 with an opportunity to comment online or via onboard surveys on the MiDi bus through Dec. 31, 2013.
- Direct mail/door hangers and/or emails were sent to residents and Neighborhood and Homeowners' Associations living along the five Orbit routes promoting the public meeting and opportunity to comment.
- Informational flyers were placed on all five Orbit routes promoting the public meeting and opportunity to comment.
- Press releases and social media were also used to notify the public about the public meeting and opportunity to comment.

Staff will provide an update to the Transportation Commission prior to recommending a purchase contract and seek approval from the City Council.

The Orbit neighborhood circulator program helps connect Tempe neighborhoods with other bus routes, light rail, Tempe schools, Arizona State University, downtown Tempe, Rio Salado, and the Tempe Library Complex. There were 3 million boardings in CY 2013.

ATTACHMENTS: Resolution and Change Order.

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