

ADVANCED TRANSIT VEHICLE CONSORTIUM

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
One Gateway Plaza
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Board of Directors:

August 24, 2005

Yvonne Brathwaite-Burke,
*Metro Board Member and
Supervisor, Second District
Los Angeles County*

Michael D. Antonovich
*Metro Board Member and
Supervisor, Fifth District
Los Angeles County and
Governing Board
S.C.A.Q.M.D*

Beatrice LaPisto-Kirtley
*Councilmember City of Bradbury
and
Governing Board
S.C.A.Q.M.D*

Antonio Villaraigosa
*Metro Board – Chair and
Mayor City of Los Angeles*

John Fasana
*Metro Board Member and
Councilmember City of Duarte*

Frank C. Roberts
*Metro Board Member, and
Mayor City of Lancaster*

Zev Yaroslavsky
*Metro Board Member and
Supervisor, Third District
Los Angeles County*

Alternates:

Michael Bohlke
*Assistant Chief Deputy
Second District
Los Angeles County*

Michael Cano
*Deputy
Fifth District
Los Angeles County*

Dr. S. Roy Wilson
*Supervisor, Fourth District
Riverside County and
Governing Board
S.C.A.Q.M.D.*

Todd McIntyre
*Alternate
Mayor, City of Los Angeles*

Samantha Bricker
*Deputy, Third District
Los Angeles County*

President:

John B. Catoe, Jr.
*Deputy Chief Executive Officer,
Metro*

Executive Vice President:

Richard Hunt
*Service Sector General Manager, San
Fernando Valley
Metro*

Chief Financial Officer

Josie Nicasio
*Controller
Metro*

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**FROM: JOHN B. CATOE JR.
PRESIDENT**

SUBJECT: HYBRID BUSES

**ACTION: AUTHORIZE THE REQUEST OF ASSIGNMENT OF
OPTIONS FOR UP TO SIX GASOLINE HYBRID BUSES
FROM LONG BEACH TRANSIT AND PURCHASE FROM
NEW FLYER OF AMERICA**

RECOMMENDATION:

- A. Authorize the president of the ATVC to request the assignment of up to six gasoline hybrid vehicle options from Long Beach Transit.
- B. Authorize the president of the ATVC to enter into a contract not to exceed \$4,300,000 with New Flyer of America (NFA) for the purchase of up to six advanced design, gasoline hybrid vehicles to be used in evaluation and testing of the hybrid propulsion system and operation on Metro and Municipal routes and lines.
- C. Requesting the Metro Board to take appropriate steps and actions necessary to program the funds in FY07 to execute this procurement action.

BACKGROUND:

At the March, 2004 ATVC Board meeting, staff was given authorization to proceed with soliciting manufacturers for proposals on alternative fuel hybrid vehicles.

North American Bus Industries (a major bus supplier to Metro) declined to participate. New Flyer responded that they were interested in submitting a proposal.

Over the past few years, NFA has emerged as a leader in hybrid powered transit vehicles. NFA has built and delivered gasoline and diesel 40 foot hybrid vehicles that are in operation currently in Southern California with other transit agencies. A gasoline powered hybrid bus will meet 2007 emissions regulations, and serve as a stepping-stone to 2010 zero emission vehicles.

While other properties are obtaining forty-foot gasoline hybrid buses, none of those properties have similar operating profiles such as our level of service and severe operating conditions. Purchasing a small number of vehicles to test on Metro's lines is imperative to truly test the technology in a heavy-duty environment. Metro will be much better served in the long run to identify any potential technology weaknesses with this test than to forge ahead blindly into a large scale purchase.

This purchase would also give Metro hands-on experience with developmental hybrid technologies that may be necessary to meet future emission requirements, and at the same time realize savings from purchasing options without the need for a negotiated or RFP procurement.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Grant funds were awarded to Metro from the Bus Operators Subcommittee (BOS) and the Call For Projects that total \$5.114 million and these funds will need to be programmed into the FY07 Metro Vehicle Technology budget.

At the September Metro Special Board meeting to address Consent Decree Service additions, staff will make a request to program \$1,000,000 in local funds to be used as the local match for ATVC activities including this procurement.

As described in the financial review report to the ATVC Board dated June 22nd, 2005, in the spring of 2005 Metro Executive management requested that the ATVC funds previously identified and transferred by Metro to the ATVC be held in abeyance in FY05 and FY06.

Prepared by: Richard Hunt, Service Sector General Manager, San Fernando Valley
Steven Schupak, Sr. Analyst, Vehicle Technology

John B. Catoe, Jr.
President, Advanced Transit Vehicle Consortium