

ADVANCED TRANSIT VEHICLE CONSORTIUM

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

June 22, 2005

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TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

SUBJECT: HYBRID ARTICULATED BUSES

**ACTION: AUTHORIZE THE NEGOTIATION AND PURCHASE OF
UP TO 3 GASOLINE HYBRID ARTICULATED BUSES
FROM NEW FLYER OF AMERICA**

RECOMMENDATION:

- A. Authorize the president of the ATVC to enter into a negotiated procurement not to exceed \$3,800,000 with New Flyer of America (NFA) for the purchase of up to 3 advanced design, gasoline hybrid articulated vehicles to be used in evaluation and testing of the hybrid propulsion system and operation on Metro and Municipal routes and lines.
- B. Request the Metro Board take appropriate steps and actions necessary to program the funds in FY06 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 high capacity 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 high capacity articulated hybrid bus will offer a solution to Metro's need for high capacity vehicles, will meet 2007 emissions regulations, and serve as a stepping stone to 2010 zero emission vehicles.

Due to Metro's need for high capacity alternate fuel vehicles, the proposal submitted to the ATVC would be the first gasoline powered articulated hybrid vehicle that NFA has produced.

Several meetings and discussions have been held between NFA and staff to determine the technologies employed, operating characteristics and styling features of the vehicle they would ultimately produce.

The final proposal submitted to the ATVC by NFA represents the latest proven technology that is capable of meeting the 2007 emissions regulations in a high capacity configuration.

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 will need to be programmed into the FY06 Metro Vehicle Technology budget. Local funds necessary for matching requirements on this grant will be identified by the Vehicle Technology department and Metro Operations from existing vehicle procurement projects.

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. These funds will not be used in this procurement and will be programmed into the ATVC work plan in FY07.

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John B. Catoe, Jr.
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