

ADVANCED TRANSIT VEHICLE CONSORTIUM

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
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JANUARY 19, 2006

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FROM: JOHN B. CATOE, JR., PRESIDENT

**SUBJECT: AWARD TWO YEAR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT
TO ARIELI AND ASSOCIATES**

RECOMMENDATION:

Award two-year contract through September 2007, at a cost not to exceed \$200,000 per year, to Arieli Associates to provide technical advisory services in support of the Advanced Transit Vehicle Consortium (ATVC).

BACKGROUND:

As requested at the November 21, 2005 ATVC Board Meeting, attached is a detailed work plan for Dr. Arieli and Associates on behalf of ATVC.

During the next two years, Metro should review and consider implementation of a number of emerging technologies that will be required to meet pending local, state and federal regulations. In addition to upcoming more-stringent emission reduction regulations, ATVC should also be considering implementation of reduced noise vehicles, higher capacity vehicles, and improved neighborhood circulator systems. Among the emerging technologies that should be considering are improved hybrid drive trains, hydrogen/CNG engines, electrical, chemical and mechanical energy storage systems, fuel cells and several others. Between now and 2010, Metro will need to consider many of these new technologies to meet future emission regulations, and these technology choices are likely to have significant impact on the operating cost and reliability of Metro's future bus operations. This contract would preclude any work associated with Metro Connections or Consent Decree.

DELIVERABLES:

The ATVC Consultant will be asked to develop and provide reports and Board recommendations for new technologies, to organize and conduct technology workshops, and to represent ATVC with affiliated agencies and other technology project partners.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

At the last ATVC Board Meeting, staff was asked to consider a significantly reduced contract, and authorized an interim contract until the next ATVC meeting. Staff did develop a revised workplan where the scope was reduced to 25% of the proposed contract value, however this approach is not recommended. By reducing the ATVC consulting contract to \$50,000/year, several important technology programs and demonstration projects were dropped out of the revised work plan. During the next four years, there are several proposed regulatory changes that carry significant new technology risks to LA Metro. Due to these pending changes, staff does not recommend a reduced scope contract for the ATVC consultant because his work will have a direct impact on several critical technology decisions coming up during the period covered by this contract.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The Advanced Transit Vehicle Consortium will provide funding for this contract.

Prepared by: John Drayton, Manager Vehicle Technology

Attachment: Detailed ATVC Technical Consultant Work Plans

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