



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo
CRA BOARD MEETING

#18-0691

TO: CRA Chairman & Board of Commissioners
Fort Lauderdale Community Redevelopment Agency

FROM: Lee R. Feldman, ICMA-CM, Executive Director

DATE: July 10, 2018

TITLE: Motion Approving Funding for Purchase of Las Olas Parking Garage Trams
– Specialty Vehicles - \$340,180

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Board of Commissioners approve funding for the purchase of new trams for the new Las Olas Parking Garage from Specialty Vehicles at a total cost of \$340,180.

Background

The Las Olas Boulevard Corridor Improvement Project is a \$49 million initiative that will bring two new waterfront parks to Fort Lauderdale Beach, along with more green space, open and inviting gathering places, a tree lined promenade, landscape and streetscape improvements, pedestrian connections, and a state-of-the art parking facility. One of the new waterfront parks is the Oceanside Park which is located at the corner of State Road A1A and Las Olas Boulevard.

During the 15% design review of the Las Olas Boulevard Corridor Improvement Project, the Beach Redevelopment Board (BRB) recommended that the Oceanside Park and the Parking Garage be designed to have a vehicular dropoff area on the south end of the park for both trams and cars. During the site plan approval process, it was determined by the City Commission to have the vehicular dropoff area restricted to trams only. Beach CRA staff and the design consultants redesigned the Parking Garage exterior and Oceanside Park to have a tram shuttle service transport people to and from the garage and the park.

Beach CRA staff, Transportation and Mobility staff, and Fleet Services staff met to discuss tram operations, routes, and vehicle types. The initial idea was to purchase an electric tram. After reviewing opportunities and constraints, staff recommended to purchase a gasoline powered tram. The tram vendor is Specialty Vehicles and the model is the Metro Power Tram. The Metro Power Tram is a sixteen (16) passenger tram that is handicap accessible. Staff also reviewed and recommended the purchase of the twenty-eight (28) passenger Metro Power Tram Trailer, which couples onto the Metro Power Tram. Finally, staff reviewed and recommended to add on the following options:

- Street side barriers
- Rain curtains
- Roof mounted strobe lights
- Hands free mic headset for the public announcement system
- Spare tire and wheel (one front and one rear)
- Small storage basket on the trailer
- Hydraulic electric brakes on the trailer

The cost of two (2) 16-passenger trams, one (1) 28-passenger trailer, and the above options is approximately \$295,000. On February 19, 2018 staff gave a presentation to the BRB and provided costs and descriptions of the trams (Exhibit 1). BRB recommended purchase of the trams.

City staff met again and determined that the above tram and trailer layout did not provide enough room to accommodate both passengers and their beach items such as coolers, chairs, strollers, etc. The vendor revised the tram and trailer seating layout to provide more legroom, but the vehicle seating capacity was reduced. The tram seating capacity was reduced from 16-passengers to 12-passengers and the trailer seating capacity was reduced from 28-passengers to 20-passengers. Staff recommends the purchase of two (2) 12-passenger trams and two (2) 20-passenger trailers, and the above options at a cost of \$340,180 (Exhibit 2). The CRA Funding contribution would remain at \$295,000 and the Parking Fund would contribute the balance of \$45,180.

The trams are available for purchase through the Houston-Galveston Area Council (HGAC) Cooperative Purchasing Program. H-GAC Cooperative Program assists local governments through a government-to-government procurement service. The City can piggyback onto the H-GAC contract to purchase the above items. Staff is seeking funding approval from the CRA Board of Commissioners to procure the trams.

Initial operation of the tram is planned to include Saturdays and Sundays year-round, weekdays during the summer season, and the major holidays with hours of operation between 10am and 6pm, using part time drivers. The annual cost to operate is estimated at \$32,000 and will be paid through revenues from the garage. The tram service is expected to begin service in the fall therefore there will be no impact to current fiscal year.

The Las Olas Boulevard Corridor Improvement Project furthers the Fort Lauderdale Beach Community Redevelopment Plan's goal of providing a mix of land uses that will foster family activity and recreation in the central beach area, and is identified by the Plan as one of the public improvements that should be considered. The tram shuttle service is described in the redevelopment plan as a component of the Las Olas Boulevard Corridor Improvement Project.

Resource Impact

CRA Funds in the amount of \$295,000 are available in the Fiscal Year 2018 Budget in the account listed below. Parking funds are contingent upon approval of the July 10, 2018 Consolidated Budget agenda item.

<i>Funds available as of June 14, 2018</i>					
ACCOUNT NUMBER	INDEX NAME (Program)	CHARACTER CODE/ SUB- OBJECT NAME	AMENDED BUDGET (Character)	AVAILABLE BALANCE (Character)	AMOUNT
346-P11900.346-6599	Las Olas Blvd Corridor Improvements	Capital Outlay/ Construction	\$43,595,708	\$5,707,892	\$295,000
461-P11900.461-6416	Las Olas Blvd Corridor Improvements	Capital Outlay/ Vehicles	\$36,500	\$36,500	45,180
TOTAL AMOUNT ►					\$340,180

Strategic Connections

This item is a *Press Play Fort Lauderdale Strategic Plan 2018* initiative, included within the Neighborhood Enhancement Cylinder of Excellence, specifically advancing:

- Goal 3: Be a community that finds opportunities and leverages partnerships to create unique, inviting, and connected gathering places that highlight our beaches, waterways, urban areas, and parks.
- Objective 1: Improve access to and enjoyment of our beach, River-walk, waterways, parks, and open spaces for everyone.
- Initiative 1: Create playful areas for all ages, considering families, active and passive sports, and pets.

This item advances the *Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale 2035 Vision Plan: We Are Community*.

Attachments

Exhibit 1 – February 19, 2018 Beach Redevelopment Board Tram Presentation
Exhibit 2 – Vendor Costs

Prepared by: Thomas Green, Beach CRA

Beach CRA Manager: Donald Morris, AICP