County of Los Angeles
Sheriff's Department Headquarters
4700 Ramona Boulevard
Monterey Park, California 91754-2169

LEROY D. BACA, SHERIFF

August 12, 2008

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

AUTHORIZE THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT TO PURCHASE EIGHT INMATE TRANSPORTATION BUSES (ALL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)

SUBJECT

The recommended action will help the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (Department) replace aging inmate transportation buses.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

Authorize the County's purchasing agent to proceed with the purchase of eight prisoner transportation buses costing in excess of $250,000 each.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

The Department is planning the purchase of eight inmate transportation buses as part of an effort to replace its aging fleet. The eight buses will cost approximately $439,225 each, plus tax. As a result, the Department is requesting authority to purchase these eight buses, consistent with your policy requiring Board approval of fixed assets costing more than $250,000.

Background

The Department currently operates 78 prisoner transportation coach-style buses, that in total, are driven more than 2.4 million miles in a typical year. Based on industry standards, the buses should be replaced after 12 years or 500,000 miles. However, the

Department has not kept pace with its ongoing bus replacement needs in the last decade due to budget constraints. The Department currently has 47 buses that meet or exceed the replacement criteria. The age and condition of these buses has resulted in some untimely breakdowns.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

These recommendations are consistent with the County's Strategic Plan Goal 1, Service Excellence, by reducing fleet down-time for repairs and maintenance; Goal 4, Fiscal Responsibility, as the costs are completely financed from within the Department's budget; and Goal 8, Public Safety, as these recommendations support our public safety mission.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

Funding for six of the buses exists within the Department's Processing Fee Fund. Funding for the other two buses exists within the Department's General Fund.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Your approval is required in order to purchase fixed asset items in excess of $250,000. This Board letter has been reviewed and approved as to form by County Counsel.

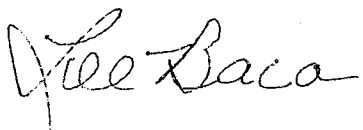
IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

This action will improve the operation of the inmate transportation program. The purchase of replacement buses will greatly reduce the risk of buses breaking down, including the associated disruptions when inmates are on board.

CONCLUSION

Upon approval by the Board, please return two adopted copies of this letter to the Department. The Department's contact for this requested Board action is Lieutenant Glyn Morgan and he can be reached at (213) 974-4564.

Sincerely,



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