

RECOMMENDED ACTION AND JUSTIFICATION:

Expansion of Transit Service on Highway 140

1. Implement experimental transit service on Highway 140 through a subsidy of Merced Transportation Company. Direct staff to work with them to develop an agreement.
 - a. The agreement will result in twenty additional hours of operation per day, seven days per week over their existing service.
 - b. The schedule will be similar to Sample Schedule B in ATTACHMENT 1, would begin on August 17th, 1992 and would run through June of next year.
 - c. The subsidy would not cover Merced Transportation Company's existing VIA customers that travel from Merced to Yosemite and back.
2. As part of the experimental service, extend an offer to also subsidize existing Grayline runs on Highway 140 for local riders only. This would allow Grayline to reduce their fares so that these existing Grayline runs are more available to residents and visitors, at very little cost to the County. See ATTACHMENT 2.

Staff recommends dealing with a "sole source provider" for the short term experimental program due to the short lead time. Merced Transportation Company can expand their service to have buses operating by August 17th. They can also provide the necessary flexibility to adjust hours, fares, and routes to adjust to actual demand. The service will include the existing Butterfly Express program which they already have operated. The trial service will provide data to develop the RFP for future service, plus meet most existing demand for service.

August 17th is the day Merced College fall semester instruction begins. Initiation of the service on this date will also give two weeks for operation before the Labor Day weekend.

3. Direct staff to develop a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) and Request for Proposal (RFP) to be released in April 1993, for continued transit service on Highway 140. This would be based upon the results of the experimental program, and would be released for bids by all providers, to begin service after July 1, 1993.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

On May 26, 1992, the Board directed that "a cap of \$ 200,000 be funded from this year's and next year's Transient Occupancy Tax", with options for transit service to come back to the Board. The Board requested staff meet with the private sector to obtain additional information on a proposal for Highway 140 transit service.

LIST ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION

An alternative would be to continue the existing contract with Merced Transportation Company for the Butterfly Express Service to Merced, and then release a RFQ and RFP in the spring for extended service to Yosemite to begin July of 1993.

If the service is not implemented now, tourist industry employees will continue to drive into Yosemite. The service would also not be available to County visitors and residents.

Lack of transit availability can lead to more advertised Park closures, which adversely affect TOT revenues to the County.

EXPANSION OF HIGHWAY 140 TRANSIT SERVICES--7/14/92--ACTION FORM--page 2

COSTS: () Not Applicable
A. Budgeted current FY \$ 200,000
B. Total anticipated costs
C. Required Add'l funding \$
Source: TOT *

SOURCE: () 4/5ths Vote Required
A. Internal Transfers \$
B. Unanticipated revenues \$
C. Reserve for contingency \$
D. Description: _____

Balance in Reserve for Contingencies, if approved

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:
List the attachments and number the pages consecutively:
1. Extended Highway 140 Corridor Service
2. Existing Grayline schedule
* per Board action of 5/26/92

CLERK'S USE ONLY:
Res. No.: 92-394
Ord. No.: _____
Vote - Ayes: 4 Noes: _____
Absent: 0 Abstained: _____
WWS Approved () Denied
(X) Minute Order Attached

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:
This item on agenda as:
 Recommended
 Not Recommended
 For Policy Determination
 Submitted with Comment
 Returned for Further Action

The foregoing instrument is a correct copy of the original on file in this office.

Date: _____
ATTEST: MARGIE WILLIAMS
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
County of Mariposa, State of CA
By: _____
Deputy

Comment: _____

A.O. Initials: WWS

MARIPOSA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

MINUTE ORDER

TO: LARRY POLLARD, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR
FROM: MARGIE WILLIAMS, CLERK OF THE BOARD *mw*
RE: EXPANSION OF TRANSIT SERVICE ON HWY 140

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF MARIPOSA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
ADOPTED THIS Order on July 14, 1992

ACTION AND VOTE:

9:36 a.m. Larry Pollard, Public Works Director;
A) Resolution Implementing Experimental Expansion
of Transit Service on Highway 140; and Directing Staff
to Work with Merced Transportation Company to Develop
Agreement (Continued from May 26, 1992)
BOARD ACTION: Barry Brouillette provided input
concerning school bus costs. Gwen Foster/PWD-
Transportation Planner, to have consultant review
Catheys Valley run in conjunction with coordinating
transit services. Res. 92-394 adopted/Ayes:
(M) Baggett, (S) Erickson, Punte, Radanovich; Excused:
Taber.

cc: Transit
File