

DEPARTMENT: Board

BY: PHONE: 966-3222

RECOMMENDED ACTION AND JUSTIFICATION: (Policy Item: Yes___ No_X_)

Authorize the Chairman to Sign a Letter in Support of the Application for a Federal Public Lands-Highways Grant in the Amount of \$917,000 for FY 00-01 and \$1,300,000 for FY 01-02, which will Augment Service and Enlist Innovative Technology to Inform Riders of Route Information and Bus Arrivals in Regard to the Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System (YARTS) Project

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

LIST ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

⇒
⇒

COSTS: (x) Not Applicable	
A. Budgeted current FY	\$ _____
B. Total anticipated costs	\$ _____
C. Required additional funding	\$ _____
D. Internal transfers	\$ _____
SOURCE: () 4/5ths Vote Required	
A. Unanticipated revenues	\$ _____
B. Reserve for contingencies	\$ _____
C. Source description: _____	
Balance in Reserve for Contingencies, if approved: \$ _____	

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:
List the attachments and number the pages consecutively:

CLERK'S USE ONLY:
 Res. No.: 09-229 Ord. No. _____
 Vote - Ayes: 5 Noes: _____
 Absent: _____ Abstained: _____
 Approved () Denied
 Minute Order Attached () No Action Necessary

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

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

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:
This item on agenda as:

Recommended
 Not Recommended
 For Policy Determination
 Submitted with Comment
 Returned for Further Action

Comment: _____
C.A.O. Initials: JH

Mariposa County Board of Supervisors



JANET HOGAN
County Administrative Officer

MARGIE WILLIAMS
Clerk of the Board

P.O. Box 784
MARIPOSA, CALIFORNIA 95338
(209) 966-3222
1-800-736-1252

FAX (209) 966-5147

District 1.....PATTI A. REILLY
District 2.....DOUG BALMAIN
District 3.....ROBERT C. STEWART
District 4.....GARRY R. PARKER
District 5.....BOB PICKARD

June 20, 2000

Federal Highway Administration
Office of Program Administration
ATTN: Mr. Larry Beidel
400 7th Street, SW, Room 3134
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Mr. Beidel:

The Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System (YARTS) is a newly formed Joint Powers Authority composed of Mariposa County, Merced County and Mono County. The Authority's purpose and goal is the provision of transit service between the counties' communities and Yosemite National Park. The service will provide visitors, employees, and residents a "transit alternative" to automobile travel to and from Yosemite. Service will be provided through contracts with private vendors who will own and operate the transit vehicles, and service began in mid-May 2000.

Funding for the service is being provided by Mariposa County, Merced County, and the National Park Service. Caltrans, through the State Transportation Improvement Program, is funding construction of bus stops and project development for "staging areas" which will be needed in later years. In addition, a significant portion of the service funding will also be achieved through passenger fares. However, the initial two-year demonstration transit service program would greatly benefit from marketing and additional transit service that is significantly under funded.

To augment the service and enlist innovative technology to inform the riders of route information and bus arrivals, application for a federal Public Lands-Highways application is being made in the amount of \$917,000 for FY 00-01, and \$1,300,000 for FY 01-02.

YARTS is an innovative transportation partnership of the private sector, local, state, and federal governments. It's a partnership that could be a model for other rural and heavily visited National Parks, US Forest, and other public lands throughout the United States. I lend my support to the YARTS Public Lands-Highways application and urge your favorable consideration.

Sincerely,


Garry R. Parker

Chairman, Mariposa County Board of Supervisors