

KINGS COUNTY AREA PUBLIC TRANSIT AGENCY
Board of Directors
Special Meeting (Date, Time and Place)

610 W. 7th Street - Hanford, California 93230 (559) 852-2692 www.kartbus.org

Meeting Date: February 28, 2024

Time: 2:00 PM

In Person: City of Hanford Council Chambers
400 N Douty Street
Hanford, CA 93230

Avenal City Hall, Conference Room
919 Skyline Blvd.
Avenal, CA 93204

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83803518674?pwd=oJthPEQSBUfIGhzENUASC5jYSCl.1>

Meeting ID: 838 0351 8674

Passcode: Kart02/28

Link to our Website: www.kartbus.org

If you need special assistance to participate in this meeting or language assistance, please contact the Clerk of the Board at (559) 852-4623 by 4:00 PM on the Monday before this meeting. The Agenda backup information and any public records provided to the Board after the posting of the agenda for this meeting will be available for public review at 610 W. 7th Street, Hanford, CA 93230.

HYBRID MEETING AGENDA

KINGS COUNTY AREA PUBLIC MEETING PROTOCOL

KCAPTA hereby provides notice that effective March 1, 2022, it will return to in-person and public meetings.

Members of the public who wish to participate in this meeting can do so in one of the following three ways: **(1) by attending the meeting in person, (2) via Zoom Meeting, or (3) by submitting written comments** on any matter within the KCAPTA Board's subject matter jurisdiction, regardless of whether it is on the agenda for KCAPTA's consideration or action and those written comments will be entered into the administrative record of the meeting.

To submit written comments by U.S. Mail or email for inclusion in the meeting record, they must be received by the KCAPTA Office no later than 11:00 a.m. on the day of the noticed meeting. To submit written comments by email, please forward them to info@kartbus.org. To submit such comments by U.S. mail, please forward them to Clerk of the Board, KCAPTA at 610 W. 7th Street, Hanford, CA 93230.

<u>ITEM #</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
1.	CALL TO ORDER <i>Roll Call – Clerk of the Board</i>	
2.	UNSCHEDULED APPEARANCE <i>Any person may directly address the Board at this time on any item on the agenda or on any other topics of interest to the public that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board. Five (5) minutes are allowed for each item.</i>	
3.	CONSENT ITEMS <i>All items listed as consent items are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion. Any discussion of any consent item will be removed at the request of any Board member and made a part of the regular agenda.</i> A. Summary Minutes of Meeting January 24, 2024	ACTION
4.	PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE COMMENTS ON UNMET TRANSIT NEEDS (Open Hearing/Receive Testimony/Continue Hearing)	PUBLIC HEARING
5.	APPROVE REPLACEMENT OF THE E-JEST	ACTION
6.	APPROVE CHANGE ORDER FOR THE KART TRANSIT CENTER CONSTRUCTION PROJECT	ACTION
7.	APPROVE AMENDMENT 3 WITH RRM DESIGN GROUP	ACTION
8.	APPROVE AGREEMENT 2405 WITH CALSTART	ACTION
9.	APPROVE AMENDMENT 1 TO THE CONTRACT WITH MV TRANSPORTATION	ACTION
10.	APPROVED EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO WORK WITH BOTH CALTRANS AND THE SAN JOAQUIN JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE FUNDING TO INCREASE SERVICE ON ROUTE 15, VISALIA	ACTION
11.	AUTHORIZE STAFF TO OFFER FIXED ROUTE QUARTER PASSES AND FREE TRANSIT DAYS	ACTION
12.	MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS FROM STAFF	INFORMATION

Attachments:

- A – MINUTES OF JANUARY 24, 2024
- B – QUIRING LLC, CONTRACT CHANGE ORDER #001
- C – QUIRING LLC, CONTRACT CHANGE ORDER #002
- D – RRM AGREEMENT 2104, AMENDMENT 3
- E – AMENDMENT 1 TO AGREEMENT 2305 WITH MV TRANSPORTATION
- F – CALSTART AGREEMENT 2405

STAFF REPORT

3. CONSENT ITEM:

A. Summary Minutes of Meeting January 24, 2024

4. PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE COMMENTS ON UNMET TRANSIT NEEDS (Mark Pedreiro):

Each year, KCAPTA holds Public Hearings to receive testimony concerning any unmet transit needs within our service area that are reasonable to meet. Today is the first of two hearings; the next hearing is scheduled for March 27, 2024. Kings County Association of Governments (KCAG) will hold two additional hearings. After the final hearing is held by KCAG, staff will review, evaluate, and make recommendations on any needs identified during the public hearing timeframe.

Hearing notices are posted at the Hanford Transit Center, KART Administration Office, in the local newspaper, and on the KART website.

Recommendation

Staff recommends the Board to Open the Public Hearing, Receive Testimony, and Continue the Hearing to the March 27, 2024, Board Meeting.

5. APPROVE REPLACEMENT OF THE E-JEST (Angie Dow):

At the August 24, 2022, Board Meeting, the Board approved the purchase of an E-JEST from Damera Bus. The E-JEST is manufactured by Karsan, a Turkish commercial vehicle manufacturer based in Bursa, Turkey. With its business partners and game-changing innovations, Karsan buses operate in twenty countries worldwide.

KCAPTA took delivery of the first E-Jest deployed in the US Market in 2023 and began operating in revenue service in April of 2023. Since then, other US transit operators have ordered and taken delivery of the E-Jest. Staff is also participating in a Buy America Waiver Request for the E-Jest that would allow the bus to be funded with federal funds. As a condition of getting the Buy America Waiver, Karsan commits to manufacturing the bus in the United States and meeting Buy America Requirements within a limited time frame.

As California Transit Agencies analyze how to effectively transition to a 100% electric bus fleet, early indications have shown that having a diversified fleet will be critical to achieving a 100% electric fleet. Resizing bus fleets to meet peak and off-peak ridership makes practical sense. This will allow transit agencies to extend the range of our larger electric buses by preserving their limited range to when it is most needed, at peak ridership.

As we began operating the bus, mainly in our GoKART service, we began experiencing higher-than-normal breakdowns. We worked closely with Damera Bus, repairs were made quickly, and the bus returned to service. We also provided Damera Bus with the design and operational improvements needed.

After reviewing the performance of the bus with Damera and comparing it to the other buses deployed, we determined that although Damera was quick to respond to and repair issues with the bus, the higher-than-normal breakdowns made the bus “unreliable.” Per our discussion with Damera and their follow-up with the manufacturer, Karsan, Damera has concluded that the bus needs to be replaced.

Damera has picked up the bus and transported it to their facility in Canada for further testing and analysis of some of the issues we were experiencing. They will also be providing us with a replacement bus free of charge.

For KCAPTA to complete this transaction, KCAPTA will need to transfer the title of the E-JEST to Damera Bus and register the new Bus.

Recommendation

Staff is recommending the Board authorize the Executive Director to execute documents to transfer ownership of the E-Jest to Damera Bus and execute documents to register ownership of the new Bus to KCAPTA.

6. APPROVE CHANGE ORDERS FOR THE KART TRANSIT CENTER CONSTRUCTION PROJEC

(Angie Dow):

In October 2023, KCAPTA awarded a Construction Contract to Quiring General LLC (Quiring) to construct the KART Transit Multi-Modal Transit Center. Quiring has submitted two Change Orders for the Board’s Consideration.

Change Order #001 is an administrative change order that clarifies the required Builder Risk for Earthquake & Flood Limits. Paragraph 8.1.6.1 of the General Conditions did not clarify the earthquake and flood insurance limits. After discussion with all parties, it was determined that a \$5 million limit concerning flood and earthquake for the Builder’s Risk Insurance was acceptable.

Change Order #002 is related to the add Alt#3 Bulbous on the corners of 7th and Harris and 7th and Brown intersections. The City of Hanford made some changes to the Bulb-outs that were not included in the bid documents. The most significant changes included added storm drainage utility inlets and line extensions, traffic signs, and added demolition of trees. Quiring General requests an additional \$214,250.71 to construct the Bulb-outs per the City’s approved design requirements. If approved, this would increase the cost of Add Alt # 3 from \$310,000 to \$524,250.71. Quiring’s total contract value would be increased from \$29,205,000 to 29,419,250.71.

Recommendation

Staff recommends the Board to approve Change Orders #001 and #002 and authorize the Executive Director to sign the Change Orders.

7. APPROVE AMENDMENT # 3 WITH RRM DESIGN GROUP (Angie Dow):

In June of 2021, KCAPTA entered into Agreement 2104 with RRM Design Group (RRM) for the design and engineering services for the KART Multi-Modal Transit Center Project.

On April 26, 2023, the Board approved Amendment # 1 to include the City of Hanford’s required bulb-outs design improvements on the corners surrounding our Project area.

On September 27, 2023, the Board approved Amendment # 2 for additional costs associated with re-bidding the project after the first bidding process resulted in a single-bid situation.

RRM is requesting additional funds, Amendment # 3, to redesign the sewer lines due to unforeseen circumstances that will mitigate the existing conditions of the City of Hanford’s sewer lines in the alley right of way.

Original Contract Award:	\$1,697,674
Amendment 1	\$ 68,400
Amendment 2	\$ 38,000
Amendment 3	\$ 8,600
Total Contract Value	1,812,674

Staff and our Construction Management Firm, CM Construction, have reviewed RRM’s request for additional compensation of \$8,600 and determined the request is fair and reasonable.

Recommendation

Staff recommends the Board approve Amendment No. 3 to Agreement 2104 with RRM Design Group, Inc., increasing the total compensation to \$1,812,674 and authorizing the Board Chair to execute Amendment No. 3.

8. APPROVE AGREEMENT 2405 WITH CALSTART (Angie Dow):

In 2022, KCAPTA Staff worked with Tulare County Regional Transit Agency and CALSTART to submit a competitive grant for the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) for funding for the KART Transit Center Project and electric bus purchases for both KCAPTA and Tulare County. CALSTART was a critical partner in writing the grant and calculating the required CARB calculation.

Collectively, we requested \$33,769,154 in TIRCP funds. Tulare County would receive \$10,052,716, KCAPTA would receive \$23,491,284 and CALSTART would receive \$325,000. In July of 2022, we were notified that our grant application had been successful. After the grants were awarded, we began working with TIRCP staff to get all the required documents executed. During this process, we were informed by TIRCP Staff that CALSTART could not apply for the funds directly. CALSTART would need to establish agreements with Tulare County and KCAPTA for their task.

KCAPTA staff worked with Tulare County and CALSTART to determine how CALSTART tasks and budgets would be distributed between Tulare County and KCAPTA. Tulare County will receive \$225,000 and KCAPTA will receive \$100,000.

For KCAPTA, CALSTART will be completing and supporting KCAPTA with the TIRCP reporting requirements related to the construction of the KART Transit Center. They will also provide additional support with route modeling needed for the deployment of the electric buses. The TIRCP grant fully funds CALSTART's tasks.

Recommendation

Staff recommends the Board approve Agreement 2405 with CALSTART in an amount not to exceed \$100,000 and authorize the Board Chairman to execute the Agreement.

9. BOARD TO APPROVE AMENDMENT 1 TO AGREEMENT #2305 WITH MV TRANSPORTATION (Angie Dow):

Staff has been working with MV Transportation (MV) to improve the Paratransit and GoKART services' efficiency. Since these two services use the same buses and reservation software, the services would be more efficient if combined.

To combine the services, their billing rates and revenue hours are the same with this amendment. Amendment 1 to Agreement 2305 revises the Paratransit services billing rate and definition of revenue hours to the same as On-Demand (GoKART).

Recommendation

Staff recommends the Board approve Amendment #1 to contract #2305 with MV Transportation.

10. APPROVE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO WORK WITH BOTH CALTRANS AND THE SAN JOAQUIN JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE FUNDING TO INCREASE SERVICE ON ROUTE 15, VISALIA (Angie Dow):

The San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority (SJPPA) was formed in 2012 to protect and promote improvements on the San Joaquin Rail Service. During COVID-19, Amtrak San Joaquins reduced service due to low ridership, including eliminating several Thruway Bus Route Services. As Amtrak's ridership returned, we began discussions with SJPPA staff on how KCAPTA's Route 15 bus services between Hanford and Visalia could be increased and coordinated to serve riders transferring from the Rail system to the bus system. The SJPPA set aside \$115,000 to fund an increase in bus service between the Hanford Station and the Visalia Transit Center.

Caltrans Environmental Department evaluates its activities' environmental benefits and consequences and implements practices that minimize environmental impacts. Caltrans' Delano to Pixley 6-lane with Pavement Rehabilitation project is estimated to increase Vehicle Miles Traveled by 47,706,213, and mitigation measures must be considered to mitigate the

increase in Vehicle Miles Traveled. Off-system mitigation, outside Caltrans' right-of-way, required cooperation with local jurisdictions and transportation systems outside Caltrans' direct control.

Caltrans' mitigation measures must be incorporated into the project through a Cooperative Agreement with local partnership. KCAPTA worked with Caltrans staff to identify transportation mitigation measures. Caltrans mitigation measures included \$252,000 to subsidize the expansion of the KCAPTA vanpool program and \$2,215,422 to subsidize increased service on KCAPTA's Route 15 Visalia for 20 years. This increase in service would include one (1) additional trip during the week and two (2) weekend trips.

Tulare County is working on plans to begin operating trips between Visalia and Hanford (CVC). They propose to running three (3) trips during the weekday and two (2) trips on the weekend. Collectively, we have been discussing how both KCAPTA and Tulare County could use the funding to provide six (6) trips during the week, four (4) trips on Saturday, and two (2) trips on Sunday.

During KCAPTA's fiscal year 24/25 budget request, we will propose adding one (1) additional trip during the week and two (2) trips on Saturday, starting July 1, 2024. To fund the increase in service, staff will need to finalize funding agreements with the SJJPA and Caltrans. We anticipate the Cooperative Agreement between Caltrans and KCAPTA will be presented to the KCAPTA Board around August 2024.

If Tulare County cannot begin adding routes to Hanford starting July 1, 2024, KCAPTA will finalize a funding agreement with the SJJPA.

Recommendation

Staff is requesting the Board to approve the Executive Director to continue working with the SJJPA and Caltrans to finalize funding agreements that will subsidize an increase in services on Route 15, Visalia.

11. AUTHORIZE STAFF TO OFFER FIXED ROUTE QUARTER PASSES AND FREE TRANSIT DAYS

(Heather Corder):

KCAPTA has received notice from LCTOP that the 23/24 projects have been approved and funded. The 23/24 LCTOP projects are Quarterly Passes for \$300,000 and Free transit for \$31,923. Staff would like to start rolling out the quarterly passes beginning in April. The first pass will be for April – June, then July – September, and finishing the year with October - December.

The free fares project have a balance of \$26,398 after the free fares in December. KCAPTA would like to offer free fares for two weeks in March. After March, if there are funds remaining, KCAPTA would like to provide "Free Fridays" until the grant funds are expended.

Recommendation

Staff recommends the Board approve the start of the quarter pass in April 2024 and free fares for two weeks in March, followed by "Free Fridays" until grant funds are expended.

12. MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS FROM STAFF: