



# CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

## COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

**AGENDA DATE:** August 4, 2009

**TO:** Mayor and Councilmembers

**FROM:** Transportation Division, Public Works Department

**SUBJECT:** Sole Source Vendor For Clean Air Express Passes

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council find it in the City's best interest to approve the City of Lompoc as the sole source vendor for purchase of Clean Air Express passes for city employees participating in the Work Trip Reduction Incentive Program, without bids, as authorized by Municipal Code Section 4.52.080 (k).

### **DISCUSSION:**

On January 23, 2007, Council received a report from staff describing proposed enhancements to the City's existing Alternative Transportation Demand Management Program. This program was refashioned into the Work Trip Reduction Incentive Program. The program's purpose is to help the City meet both its Sustainability and Circulation Element Goals by setting the example as a model employer, and reducing the employee drive-alone rate by providing commuter benefits.

Among the benefits and incentives the City offers employees is a 75% subsidy towards long distance bus passes. The Clean Air Express is the only service to provide long distance transit from Santa Maria and Lompoc to Santa Barbara.

### **BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:**

Currently, the City of Lompoc is the only vendor from which to purchase the Clean Air Express service. The cost for this year's expenses for the Clean Air Express is estimated to be \$35,000, making adjustments for potential fee increases and anticipated increased participation. Last year's cost was \$27,500. Program participation showed a 50% increase in monthly ridership from the beginning of last fiscal year. There are sufficient funds in Transportation's Journey to Work Fund to cover the cost of the services.

**SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT:**

The Clean Air Express, with its current employee participation, saves over 250,000 miles per year of drive-alone trips.

Since the Work Trip Program's initiation on July 1, 2007, over 970,000 miles have been cut out of City employee commutes, a reduction of 27,000 workplace trips and 46,000 gallons of fuel. As a result, 900,000 pounds of emissions were reduced and over \$500,000 in employee commuting costs were saved. Over the last two years, 296 employees have chosen not to drive alone to the workplace and the program has achieved over an 18% participation rate.

**PREPARED BY:** Browning Allen, Transportation Manager/SG/kts

**SUBMITTED BY:** Christine F. Andersen, Public Works Director

**APPROVED BY:** City Administrator's Office