



TRANSIT DIVISION – Service and Capital Planning

1 N. University Drive, Suite 3100A • Plantation, Florida 33324 • 954-357-8300 • FAX 954-357-8382

DATE: February 1, 2018
TO: Princess Brown, Purchasing Agent, Purchasing Division
FROM: Barney L. McCoy, Director - Service and Capital Planning
SUBJECT: **Permission to utilize Solicitation No. TRIPS-17-CA-CBS**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Barney L. McCoy", is written over the "TO:" and "FROM:" lines of the memo.

Broward County Transit's (BCT) Service and Capital Planning section is seeking the procurement of 20 cutaway type buses to immediately assist in replacing vehicles in the Community Bus Program (CB) that have surpassed their useful life per FTA guidelines. We have Inter-Local Agreements (ILA's) with 19 partnering municipalities, and the ILA's have provisions that Broward County will replace buses that we own used to support the service based on the FTA guidelines: five (5) years or 120,000 miles. Currently, we own 55 vehicles and these vehicles are leased to the cities. Although the ILA specifically states that the municipalities are responsible for the maintenance of the vehicles, 24 have currently surpassed the useful life based on miles, age or both. Of this 24, 20 are still in revenue service, but the age and/or mileage have increased operating and maintenance costs for the municipalities. Two of the (2) of the remaining four (4) are inoperable, but have surpassed the useful life, and two (2) are complete losses due to accidents.

Missed service and mechanical breakdowns are part of the operating environment, but both increase with the age and mileage of the vehicle. The problem is two-fold in that the municipalities must bear the fiscal burden for the increasing maintenance costs, and our customers suffer when the buses are late or not in service due to reliability. BCT maintains spare buses to support CB, but due to on-going mechanical issues with some of the buses, we have had to permanently assign most spares to the municipalities to maintain their daily service. The buses we would like to purchase are a heavier duty bus which is more conducive to the geography and operating environment. These buses will also be liquid propane gas powered (LPG). In addition to being environmentally friendly, based on our projections, the municipalities will capture savings on both the operating and maintenance sides specific to fuel costs and maintenance when required.

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) awarded a contract to Creative Bus Sales, Inc.(CBS) based upon a competitive solicitation issued by the Transit Research Inspection Procurement Service (TRIPS). Although there are other vendors on the State contract, CBS is the only vendor that meets the vehicle requirements needed to support CB. This is specific to vehicle type, vehicle size, seating capacity, type of fuel, and fueling capacity. The TRIPS program is a collaboration between FDOT's Office of Freight, Logistics and Passenger Operations and the University of South Florida's Center for Urban Transportation Research.

Cc: Brenda Billingsley, Director, Purchasing Division



Jacque-Ann D. Isaacs, Community Transit Officer
Jennifer Melendez, Contracts/Grants Administrator