

Public Hearing: June 11, 2012

FACT SHEET

TITLE: StarTran/UNL Agreement for Bus Service

SPONSOR: Public Works & Utilities

OTHER DEPARTMENTS AFFECTED:

OPPONENTS:

APPLICANT: Public Works & Utilities and University of Nebraska - Lincoln

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: For

REASON FOR LEGISLATION:

StarTran has provided bus service (Route #24-Holdrege) in conjunction with the UNL transportation program since 1994. The current agreement will expire in August 2012. StarTran and UNL desire to continue and expand this service for a period of 5 years.

History

- Public transit services operated between Downtown/UNL Campus and UNL East Campus since 1926.
- Currently...
 - » Public route #24 - "Holdrege" (inter-campus) operated by StarTran and UNL.
 - * StarTran - 4 buses, weekdays, 6:40A - 5:40P during fall and spring semesters – UNL faculty, students and staff pay no fare – UNL pays City capital and operating costs – about 400,000 annual ridership.
 - * UNL - 4 buses, weekdays, 7:00A - 9:00P during fall and spring semesters—no fare—and, 7:00A-6:10P in summer and between semesters – using UNL buses and staff.

Agreement Results In

- No changes to route/schedule of #24 - "Holdrege" route.
- StarTran continues 4 buses, weekdays during fall and spring semesters.
- StarTran assumes services now operated by UNL – 4 additional buses fall and spring semesters, evening service to 9:00P, summertime and between semesters—using StarTran buses and staff—expected additional 300,000 ridership/year.
- UNL to pay...
 - » All StarTran operating costs (personnel, maintenance, fuel, etc.) – need 7 additional StarTran drivers and one supervisor.
 - » All StarTran capital costs – need 4 additional and 1 spare bus, with radios, AVL, surveillance, fareboxes.
- 5 year agreement, beginning August 20th – StarTran assumes additional UNL service at start of 2nd semester (January 2, 2013) – total UNL cost about \$2 million/year (capital and operating).
- Actions by UNL Board of Regents & President on June 8th and by Lincoln City Council on June 18th (1st reading, 6/4, and public hearing on 6/11).

Advantages to City

- Opportunity to expand transit services (including limited evening service), and secure 300,000 additional ridership with no City general fund cost.
- Continues 100% cost/revenue recovery rate for this transportation program.
- Continues/enhances 86 year program relationship with UNL and reinforces UNL student current and future utilization of public transit.

Advantages to UNL

- Provides complementary transportation mode to enable flexibility in future planning of campus utilization/development.
- Reduce UNL transit-related responsibilities, affording continued UNL focus on parking services.

POLICY OR PROGRAM CHANGE: No

COST OF TOTAL PROJECT: \$9,391,991

SOURCE OF FUNDS:

CITY: None

NON CITY: UNL to pay all operating and capital costs.

FACT SHEET PREPARED BY:

Larry Worth / Scott Tharnish, StarTran

REVIEWED BY:

Miki Esposito, Director of Public Works & Utilities