



Metro

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June 8, 2004

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THROUGH: ROGER SNOBLE
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

FROM: JOHN B. CATOE JR.
DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

SUBJECT: CONTRACT FOR ALTERNATIVE WORK SERVICE PROGRAMS
WITH LOS ANGELES COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT

ISSUE

Contract OP36301035, which provides for Juvenile Alternative Work Services (JAWS) and Probation Adult Alternative Work Services (PAAWS) programs under the supervision of the Los Angeles County Probation Department (LACPD), will expire on June 30, 2004. Metro is not renewing this contract.

DISCUSSION

On July 5, 1995, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was executed to authorize the use of juvenile probationary workers to conduct weed and trash cleanup and graffiti removal from MTA buses at terminal locations at a cost of \$550 per work crew per day, five days per week. On May 25, 1999, the Board approved an extension of the MOU for one year with three additional one-year periods not to exceed \$740,000 annually. On April 18, 2001, the Board approved a new three-year contract for an amount not to exceed \$465,000 as a replacement for the MOU. At this time the juvenile workers were restricted to weekend work only. The rate for each crew has increased from \$550 in 1995 to \$750 in FY04.

The workers are supervised by Probation Department Officers and not by MTA staff. LACPD work crews are often cancelled due to constraints on their ability to provide supervision. Since January 2004, crews have been unavailable over 40 percent of the time. The workers were originally assigned to perform graffiti and trash removal from MTA buses at terminal locations. Due to an Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU) arbitration decision, these workers are now limited to only clean graffiti from buses. The remaining allowable work on buses by this group is too limited for the amount of people assigned; therefore, the

LACPD workers are now only assigned to clean portions of Metro's inactive rail rights of way.

In their proposed replacement contract, beginning July 1, 2004, the LACPD is requesting a 23 percent rate increase from \$750 to \$925 per crew per day. Rates are not firm or fixed for additional years. MTA requested supporting cost documentation from the LACPD in February 2004 but have not been provided this information to date.

The weekend bus graffiti removal at non-division locations and the cleaning of Metro's inactive rail rights of way performed by LACPD crews will be continued through MTA's Metro Clean Program utilizing Community Service Workers from the court system's volunteer services program at no charge.

NEXT STEPS

Staff will not renew the contract for Alternative Work Service Programs because it is not cost effective. It is more advantageous to use Community Service Workers from the court system's volunteer services program at no charge to the MTA.

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