

City of Culver City, California
City Council Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: May 4, 2009		Item Number: <u>A-2</u>	
AGENDA ITEM: Approval of a Memorandum of Understanding Between West Los Angeles College and the City of Culver City to (1) Allow West Los Angeles College's Campus Shuttles to Utilize One Bus Stall at the Fox Hills Mall Transit Center and (2) Reimburse the City for the Revenue Loss Caused by the Campus Shuttles' Operations			
Contact Person/Dept.: Art Ida / Transportation		Phone Number: (310) 253-6540	
Fiscal Impact: Yes ☒ No ☐		General Fund: Yes ☐ No ☒	
Public Hearing: ☐		Action Item: ☒ Attachments: ☒	
Public Notification: West Los Angeles College by e-mail on 04/27/09, Westfield 04/21/09 and Metro 04/27/09 Master E-Mail Notification List (04/29/09)			
Department Approval: Art Ida (04/23/09)		City Attorney Approval: Carol Schwab (by H. Baker) (04/29/09)	
Chief Financial Officer Approval: Jeff Muir (by M. Noller) (04/29/09)		City Manager Approval: Jerry B. Fulwood (04/29/09)	
<u>RECOMMENDATION:</u> Staff recommends the City Council approve a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City and West Los Angeles College (WLAC) to allow WLAC's Campus Shuttles to utilize one bus stall at the Fox Hills Mall Transit Center and to reimburse the City for the revenue loss caused by the Campus Shuttles' operation. <u>BACKGROUND:</u> The Fox Hills Mall Transit Center has been in operation for 14 years and has been used by Culver CityBus and Metropolitan Transportation Authority in order to provide feeder bus service to the subregion. Culver CityBus has been using the transit center since it opened. The transit center serves as a major stop for four of Culver CityBus' lines (Lines 2, 3, 4, and 6). Four stalls are available for the use of Culver CityBus. On February 9, 2009, WLAC implemented a free shuttle service (the "Shuttle Service") for its students. The Shuttle Service is proposed to be in place for two years and has three routes connecting WLAC to the Fairfax, Palms, and Slauson areas. The Shuttle Service has the following routes:			

City of Culver City, California
City Council Agenda Item Report

Fairfax (at West LA Transit Center) Route

This shuttle runs from WLAC to Washington Blvd. at Fairfax Avenue area via Overland Avenue, Jefferson Boulevard, La Cienega Boulevard, and Fairfax Avenue. This route overlaps with most of Culver CityBus' existing Line 4 service between WLAC and the West LA Transit Center.

Palms Route

This shuttle runs from WLAC to the Palms area via Overland Avenue. This route overlaps with a major segment of Culver CityBus' existing Line 3 service between WLAC and Palms.

Slauson Route

This shuttle runs from WLAC to the Crenshaw Boulevard and Slauson Avenue areas via Slauson Avenue. This route overlaps Culver CityBus' existing Line 3 and 4 services on the segment between the Fox Hills Transit Center and WLAC.

DISCUSSION:

Because of the overlap in existing Culver CityBus service, when staff was notified of the Shuttle Service, staff had some major concerns. Such overlap will create significant impacts to Culver CityBus' transit system, most directly through the loss of ridership and revenues. Culver CityBus' funding is based on a formula allocation which takes into account the amount of farebox revenue collected. Since the Shuttle Service is free, the City will experience a decline of fare revenues as well as the formula allocated transportation funds.

Furthermore, the Shuttle Service Slauson Route stops at the Fox Hills Mall Transit Center, owned by Westfield. The City has an MOU with Westfield that grants the City the right to use the transit center, and each of the bus stalls at the transit center is designated to a specific bus line that utilizes the stall. Therefore, WLAC College's shuttles are not authorized to use the transit center. However, City has obtained permission from Westfield to share a stall at the transit center with WLAC.

The proposed MOU spells out the terms of how WLAC will reimburse the City for its loss of revenues caused by the Shuttle Service. The proposed MOU would also allow the WLAC's shuttles to utilize one bus stall at the transit center, sharing the stall with Culver CityBus' Lines 2 and 4.

If approved by the Council, the MOU would terminate on February 9, 2011. Upon termination, WLAC use of the Shuttle Services would cease.

City of Culver City, California
City Council Agenda Item Report

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

Staff has estimated the City would lose approximately \$108,757 per year in fares and transportation grant funds. The MOU provides for full reimbursement of these losses by WLAC.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Authority from Westfield allowing WLAC to use the Transit Center

MOTION:

That the City Council:

- 1) Approve a Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Culver City and West Los Angeles College to allow the WLAC Campus Shuttle to utilize one Culver CityBus' stall at the Fox Hills Mall Transit Center and to reimburse the City \$108,757 annually for the life of the shuttle service; and
- 2) Authorize the City Attorney to review/prepare the necessary documents; and,
- 3) Authorize the City Manager to execute such documents on behalf of the City.