

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

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*Flex your power!  
Be energy efficient!*

December 1, 2009

Dear Transit/Paratransit Operators:

I want to assure you that the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) shares your concerns about expending the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) federal transit dollars as quickly as possible. Caltrans is also committed to providing quality paratransit vehicles to improve mobility for the elderly and disabled citizens throughout California.

On October 27, 2009, a letter was issued through the Division of Mass Transportation (DMT) informing affected operators of the status of the bid process for the State vehicle contract for paratransit buses. As you may know, the Department of General Services (DGS) is directly responsible for the administration of this vehicle procurement contract. However, since Caltrans is the primary customer for this program, we have a vested interest in the swift resolution of this contractual matter by DGS, and we are working very closely with them to assist in this process.

DGS has informed us that they will finalize the Type 1, 2, and 3 vehicle bid package within the coming weeks. A revised bid schedule has been submitted to DMT for the solicitation release of the Type 1, 2, and 3 vehicle specifications for the date of December 14, 2009, with the new anticipated contract award date also revised to March 1, 2010. DGS realizes that this is significantly beyond the dates identified in the October 27, 2009, letter. However, they are working to ensure that these new dates remain firm.

To assist operators in procuring vehicles now, DMT is working very closely with larger transit agencies across the State to collaborate on their vehicle procurement contracts (also known as "piggybacking"). I am pleased to inform you that more piggybacking opportunities are now available for vehicle contracts with San Mateo County Transit District, the Yolo County Transit District, and the CalACT Consortium who will be coming on-line in December 2009. Please refer to the DMT Procurement Branch Web site for the latest information and piggybacking contacts at: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/MassTrans/Procurement-Grants-Management.html>.

We strongly encourage transit agencies to take advantage of these piggybacking options in order to expend federal transit ARRA funds more quickly. Please contact Kimberly Gayle, Office Chief, Federal Transit Grants Programs, at (916) 654-8074 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "M. Tuttle".

MARTIN TUTTLE  
Deputy Director  
Planning and Modal Programs

c: Kimberly Gayle, California Department of Transportation  
Roger Anderson, Department of General Services, Procurement Division