

SBCAC STAFF REPORT

SUBJECT: TNC Access for All Agreement with Ventura Transit System Inc.

MEETING DATE: July 21, 2022 **AGENDA ITEM:** 4E

STAFF CONTACT: Maya Kulkarni

RECOMMENDATION:
Approve and authorize the Chair to execute and Agreement with Ventura Transit Incorporated to provide on-demand and demand response wheelchair accessible vehicle services within Santa Barbara County 24 hours a day, 7 days a week in an amount not to exceed \$343,435 with a period of performance from August 1, 2022 to June 30, 2024. Approval and authorization of this Agreement completes the TNC Access for All Program of Projects for Fiscal Years 19/20 and 20/21.

DISCUSSION:
The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) established a transportation network company (TNC) Access for All (AFA) Program to incentivize expansion and accessibility of TNC on-demand services for persons with disabilities and those who need a wheelchair accessible vehicle (WAV). Examples of TNCs include Uber and Lyft. The program is funded by collecting a \$0.10 Access Fee from each TNC trip, which can be invested by the TNCs to expand their WAV services. The remaining money not claimed by the TNCs is put into an Access Fund that is distributed by SBCAG to local Access Providers, or organizations that can provide WAV services in Santa Barbara County. The guidelines and application materials to become an Access Provider are available on the SBCAG website at www.sbcag.org/programming.html.

SBCAG currently has an allocation of \$211,702 available from FY 19/20 that has been combined with \$192,340 from FY 20/21 for a two-year total of \$404,042. Per the program guidelines, as the fund administrator, SBCAG is allowed to use 15% of funds for a remaining total of \$343,435. FY 19/20 funds must be expended by June 30, 2023, and FY 20/21 funds must be expended by June 30, 2024.

Ventura Transit System Inc. was the only agency that applied to receive Access for All funds in Santa Barbara County. SBCAG received feedback from other agencies who didn't apply due to the extensive administration required by the CPUC. A summary of the proposed distribution is provided in the below table. Staff recommends that the SBCAG Board approve and authorize the Agreement with Ventura Transit System, Inc. in the amount of \$343,435 which would program all TNC Access funds for fiscal years 19/20 and 20/21.

Recipient	Project Description	Amount	Funds Used By
Ventura Transit System, Inc.	Operating/Fleet Expansion	\$179,946	June 30, 2023
Ventura Transit System, Inc.	Operating/Fleet Expansion	\$163,489	June 30, 2024

COMMITTEE REVIEW:

The TNC Access for All Program guidelines and application were presented to the Santa Barbara County Transit Advisory Committee (SBCTAC) in April for feedback, and the committee was given until April 22, 2022 to provide comments. At their meeting on May 4, 2022, the committee unanimously recommended approval by the SBCAG Board.

ATTACHMENT:

- A. Agreement between SBCAG and Ventura Transit System, Inc. (web posting only)