



SCHOOL BOARD ACTION REPORT

DATE: June 15, 2017
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For Introduction: June 28, 2017
For Action: July 5, 2017

1. TITLE

Approval of agreement with King County to purchase ORCA Business Passport Products (Metro Transportation)

2. PURPOSE

This Board Action Report recommends approval of a contract with King County Metro for student ORCA cards.

3. RECOMMENDED MOTION

I move that the School Board authorize the Superintendent to execute a contract with King County for \$2,461,364.60 in the form of the Agreement attached and presented to the School Board, with any minor additions, deletions, and modifications deemed necessary by the Superintendent, and to take any necessary actions to implement the contract.

4. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

a. Background

Seattle Public Schools students have been using King County Metro transportation for more than 20 years. ORCA cards are generally issued to secondary students residing outside walk zone boundaries who are not assigned to a yellow school bus.

Student ORCA cards provide full fare public transportation throughout the school year for regular bus services on Community Transit, Everett Transit, King County Metro, Kitsap Transit, Pierce Transit, and Sound Transit. Regular service is also provided on Sound Transit Link light rail, Sounder Train, Seattle Streetcar, King County Water Taxi, and Kitsap Transit Foot Ferry. Access Transportation is also provided on Kitsap Transit and Metro Transit for eligible riders.

In an effort to improve customer service and help contain costs for its users, King County developed an ORCA Business Passport Product, where annual costs are based on actual student-per-ride usage from the prior year. All cards are funded for the full school year unless a student loses their eligibility and has their card electronically blocked. During the 2017-2018 school year, the student's per month cost is projected to be \$29 per month compared to Metro's retail youth fare of \$54 per month. The 2017-2018 ORCA card

price is approximately \$290 per student annually. The full contract amount of \$2,461,364.60 includes the initial ORCA cards issued at the start of school, new issues throughout the year, and the cost for cards re-issued due to being damaged, lost, or stolen.

A separate ORCA program for students was piloted in February 2016. The purpose of the program was to enhance ORCA ridership for low-income students and was a joint venture between the City of Seattle, Metro, and the district. Although some students were able to take advantage of the program, the city and district determined that more students could be supported by allowing student ORCA cards outside the district's transportation standards. Therefore, the city expanded eligibility requirements outside of the district's service standards for the 2016-17 school year to include students living under 1 mile from school. This action does not affect the district's State funding for transportation. Due to this expansion, the city began managing their program separately including determining income eligibility. Students and families will need to contact the City of Seattle directly regarding participation in the City's program.

b. Alternatives

- 1) Not approve this contract. This is not recommended because there is no other public transportation alternative.
- 2) Increase the use of yellow bus transportation. This is not recommended as it will significantly increase overall transportation costs.

c. Research – Not Applicable.

5. FISCAL IMPACT/REVENUE SOURCE

The one-year agreement will total \$2,461,364.60, funded from the General Fund. State transportation funding will provide 100% coverage of the cards issued by the Seattle Public Schools Transportation Department.

There is no long-term fiscal commitment; in this agreement, annual approval is required.

The proposed action aligns with District's strategic, academic, and fiscal plans by minimizing operation costs.

Expenditure: One-time Annual Multi-Year N/A

Revenue: One-time Annual Multi-Year N/A

6. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

With guidance from the District's Community Engagement tool, this action was determined to merit the following tier of community engagement:

Not applicable

Tier 1: Inform

All local public transit agencies participated in providing a single rate ORCA card that allows students to use all available public transportation for to and from school, at a lessor cost to the district than regular student fares. The district will continue to communicate and provide students ORCA cards.

Tier 2: Consult/Involve

Tier 3: Collaborate

7. EQUITY ANALYSIS

A full equity analysis using the Equity Toolkit was not performed as this program has been in existence for decades. However, ORCA cards for SPS student's supports student equity and the district goal of closing the opportunity gap by providing transportation to school to and from school for students residing outside their attendance area walk zone. If such transportation were not available, disparities in equitable transportation may exist, negatively affecting students from lower income households without vehicles or the financial resources to support the student's school transportation.

8. STUDENT BENEFIT

The benefit of this agreement is the provision of safe and efficient transportation to and from school for secondary students residing outside the walk zone of their assigned school.

9. WHY BOARD ACTION IS NECESSARY

Amount of contract initial value or contract amendment exceeds \$250,000 (Policy No. 6220)

Amount of grant exceeds \$250,000 in a single fiscal year (Policy No. 6114)

Adopting, amending, or repealing a Board policy

Formally accepting the completion of a public works project and closing out the contract

Legal requirement for the School Board to take action on this matter

Board Policy No. _____, [TITLE], provides the Board shall approve this item

Other: _____

10. POLICY IMPLICATION

This motion is in alignment with Policy No. 0010, Instructional Philosophy, because student transportation is considered an integral element to ensure that all students receive an education that meets the goals enumerated in the District's Instructional Philosophy.

This motion is in alignment with Policy No. 6220, Procurement, because it uses sound business and financial practices that support the delivery of desired services and goods. Further, the policy is being followed by seeking Board approval where the value exceeds \$250,000.

This motion is in alignment with Policy Nos. 6600 and 6620, Transportation, and Special Transportation as the proposed contract provides multiple services enumerated in transportation policies promulgated by the Board.

11. BOARD COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

This motion was discussed at the Operations Committee meeting on June 15, 2017. The Committee reviewed the motion and recommended moving forward to the full Board for approval.

12. TIMELINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Upon approval of this motion, the contract will go into effect starting September 1, 2017.

13. ATTACHMENTS

- Agreement for purchase of ORCA Business Cards and ORCA Business Passport Products (for approval)