



STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: November 15, 2023

TITLE:

Consider action to approve Resolution No. R-2023-168 of the City Council of the City of Bastrop, Texas, authorizing a three-month extension on the contract between the City of Bastrop and Electric Cab of Austin; attached in Exhibit B; authorizing the City Manager to execute all necessary documents; providing for a repealing clause; and establishing an effective date.

AGENDA ITEM SUBMITTED BY:

Candice Butts, Main Street Manager

BACKGROUND/HISTORY:

Since December of 2019, Bastrop has collaborated with the Lone Star Clean Fuels Alliance and E-Cabs of North America to provide a cost-free, emissions-free, micro-transit ride service using GEM low-speed battery electric vehicles. The US Department of Energy funded this two-year pilot project to explore how well these low-speed electric vehicles could meet a rural community's first and last mile transit needs. The grant program ended on November 30, 2022.

Because of its impact on the community, City Council appropriated funding for the continuation of services in November 2022. Following schedule was approved by City Council which began on December 1, 2022 through November 30, 2023:

- Thursday 3:00pm - 9:00pm
- Friday 2:00pm - 10:00pm
- Saturday 2:00pm - 10:00pm
- Sunday 10:00am - 6:00pm
- Monday – Wednesday services for Spring Break Week
- Additional cab services for Lost Pines Christmas on December 10, 2022.

The free community E-Cabs service has provided a means of transportation to 4,754 riders since December 1, 2022, averaging 432 riders per month. Data shows about 36 percent of users are individuals over 55 years old. In Fiscal Year 2023, the program was funded from the City's Hotel Occupancy Tax Fund, but due to usage statistics that show a less than 1% tourism usage an alternative funding source is needed.

On November 7, 2023, City Council found it to be in the public interest to extend the current contract with Electric Cab of North Amica for three months.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The three month renewal will be funded from the general fund's excess revenues account for one-time expenses.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of Resolution No. R-2023-168 of the City Council of the City of Bastrop, Texas, authorizing a three-month extension on the contract between the City of Bastrop and Electric Cab of Austin; attached in Exhibit B; authorizing the City Manager to execute all necessary documents; providing for a repealing clause; and establishing an effective date.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Resolution R-2023-168
- Extension of Contract for Electronic Transportation

