



Date: January 9, 2024

Honorable Mayor and Council Members:

Author and title: Alfred Knotts, Transportation Program Manager

Title: Approval of Team CivX Contract Amendment for Additional Public Opinion Surveys

Jen Callaway, Town Manager

Recommended Action:

Authorize the Town Manager to amend the current contract with Team CivX by \$42,114, increasing the current Not To Exceed Amount of \$75,000 to an amended Not To Exceed amount of \$117,114 to conduct additional public opinion surveys, as outlined in Attachment A.

Discussion:

Budget Amendment and Additional Surveys:

In August 2023 Council approved a contract with Team CivX to conduct public opinion surveys related to Measure V, also referred to as the “Roads Tax” which is scheduled to expire in 2028. Specifically, the public opinion surveys focused on obtaining public opinion on the renewal of existing Measure V at its current rate of ½% as well increasing Measure V to 1% with expanded uses for broader transportation programs, services, and initiatives, such as transit capital and operations and maintenance.

To support this effort, a contract with Team CivX was approved by the Council on August 8, 2023 for a Not To Exceed amount of \$75,000. As part of that approval, Council also approved a budget amendment reallocating \$10,000 from the “FY 23/24 Pilot Operations” line item of \$2,800,000 to the “Consultant Support for Polling” line item of \$65,000 resulting in the following amended budget:

	Approved FY 23/24 Budget	August 8, 2023 Amendment
FY 23/24 Pilot Operations	\$2,800,000	\$2,790,000
Consultant Support for Polling	\$65,000	\$75,000
TOTAL	\$2,865,000	\$2,865,000

Following approval of the contract, Team CivX completed the public opinion survey and returned that information to the Town in fall of 2023. This resulted in obtaining surveys from approximately 587 registered voter respondents which provided a margin of error of +/- 3.9% and an overall confidence level of 95%.

Information obtained from this polling effort was intended to provide information to Council to make a decision on pursuing a ballot measure for the March 2024 Primary Election or look to a future election date where such a ballot measure could be contemplated.

Staff returned to Council on October 10, 2023, with the public opinion survey results, and at that time Council decided not to pursue a ballot measure in March 2024 and work paused with Team CivX. Both the October 10, 2023 Staff Report and associated survey results can be found at the following links:

October 10, 2023 Staff Report: <https://mccmeetingspublic.blob.core.usgovcloudapi.net/truckeeca-meet-31c195a96cc24abcbfb55b0033d06117/ITEM-Attachment-001-a5993c290bca4db8b54af8870a2025f8.pdf>

2023 Transportation Survey Results: <https://mccmeetingspublic.blob.core.usgovcloudapi.net/truckeeca-meet-31c195a96cc24abcbfb55b0033d06117/ITEM-Attachment-001-a77d2d1f0153499e8c8ad23c4c4c2608.pdf>

Given the survey results, which illustrated that areas of important community interest include reducing traffic, maintaining local streets and roads and creating local, affordable housing, public safety, etc. the Council directed staff to bring forward a future conversation about a general sales tax measure which could fund services beyond roads and transit. A general sales tax measure could be considered by voters in November of 2024. As such, the Council directed staff to return in early 2024 to discuss a path to a possible November 2024 general sales tax measure, as well return with a funding plan to continue ongoing TART Connect Pilot Funding beyond June 30, 2024.

Consistent with this direction, staff is recommending additional public opinion surveys be conducted in the coming months to better determine the viability of a potential general sales tax measure that could be voted on as early as November 2024. The deadline for placing a sales tax measure on the November 2024 ballot is July 8, 2024.

TART Connect Funding Plan Update:

Staff recommends that the future of TART Connect and funding align with the conclusion of the community polling and review of the results, to better understand the community's support for a sales tax initiative. If polling demonstrates that there is not sufficient support for a general sales tax initiative, or another identified funding solution, and Council decided to not pursue a general tax measure, staff's recommendation would be to discontinue TART Connect services on June 30, 2024. However, should polling indicate community support to pursue a general sales tax in November of 2024 which could be used among other things to fund continued TART Connect services, then staff would be recommending gap funding of approximately \$1.2 million to cover the cost of continued TART Connect services for the months of July 2024-November 2024 as a part of the FY 24/25 budget process. This gap funding would most likely need to come from either the general fund, or from reprogramming of transit specific funding that had been planned to fund other transit activities. Once polling data is received and Council direction regarding a general sales tax measure, TART Connect funding will be discussed as part of the FY 2024/25 budget.

Summary:

To proceed with the additional survey effort as outlined in Attachment A, Staff is recommending an amendment of \$42,114 to the existing Team CivX contract from \$75,000 to \$117,114. Similar to the previous amendment, these additional funds would come from the "Pilot Operations" line item. The current operating contract for the 2023/2024 TART Connect Program is approximately \$2,294,250. Therefore, this budget amendment would have no adverse impact to the current program as there would be sufficient funds in "FY 23/24 Pilot Operations" line item to carry out the program consistent with the current contract and scope of service.

It should also be noted that a Notice of Work Suspension was issued to Team CivX on November 1, 2023, resulting in retention of approximately \$28,000 of the original contract budget, and this carryover amount will go towards supporting the additional survey effort.

This would result in the following amendment to “C2313 – Microtransit Program.”

Fiscal Year 2023/2024 Budget Table:

	Approved Budget	August 8, 2023 Budget Amendment	Proposed January 9, 2024 Budget Amendment
FY 23/24 Pilot Operations	\$2,800,000	\$2,790,000	\$2,747,886
Consultant Support For Polling	\$65,000	\$75,000	\$117,114
TOTAL	\$2,865,000	\$2,865,000	\$2,865,000

Priority:

Enhanced Communication
 Climate and Greenhouse Gas Reduction
 Housing
 Infrastructure Investment
 Emergency and Wildfire Preparedness
 Core Service

Fiscal Impact: The fiscal impact associated with this item is an increase of \$42,114 for the Team CivX public opinion polling contract. Approval of this action would result in a budget amendment increasing “Consultant Support for Polling” from \$75,000 to \$117,114.

Staff is recommending a corresponding reduction in the “FY23/24 Pilot Operations” line item by \$42,114 from \$2,790,000 to \$2,747,886 with no change in the overall project budget or negatively impact the current operations of the 2023/2024 TART Connect Program.

Public Communication: This current Staff Report and associated agenda posting as well as the following:

- August 8, 2023 Staff Report authorizing Town Contract with Team CivX.
- August 16, 2023 Transit Working Group meeting held at Town Hall.
- Polling of 587 registered voters conducted between approximately September 5th and September 14th.
- October 10, 2023 Staff Report providing update on Public Opinion Survey results

Attachments:

Attachment A Team CivX Scope of Work and Fee