



**MAY 10, 2007**

**AGENDA ITEM # 6**

**CONTRACT FOR FREEWAY SERVICE PATROL ON HIGHWAY 50**

**Action Requested:** Authorize Executive Director

**Key Staff:** Norman Hom, Associate Planner

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**Recommendation**

Authorize the Executive Director to execute Contract 07-FSP-01 with Sierra Hart Auto Center for the provision of motorist assistance services on FSP Beats 3 and 4.

**Discussion**

As directed by your Board, a Request of Proposals (RFP) for motorist assistance services on FSP Beats 3 and 4 was made available on March 9, 2007. The RFP calls for two tow trucks on Beat 3 (Highway 50 between Interstate 5 and Bradshaw Road) and two tow trucks and one service truck on Beat 4 (Highway 50 between Bradshaw and Scott Roads).

Letters of Invitation explaining the RFP process were sent out to every tow company in the Sacramento metropolitan area that we were able to identify (approximately 210 total). Notices were also published in the Sacramento Bee, El Hispano, the Sacramento Observer and on the STA website. We fulfilled requests for six RFP packets but received only one proposal, that being from the incumbent contractor, Sierra Hart Auto Center.

Sierra Hart Auto Center's bid rates are:

- Cost per hour per tow truck: \$65.00
- Cost per hour per service truck: \$52.00
- Total cost per hour: \$312.00 (4 tow trucks and 1 service truck)

Compared to the current prices on the expiring contract—which was entered into in 2003 when fuel was approximately \$1.90/gallon of regular unleaded—the proposed new rates are \$10/hour higher. Increased fuel costs, driver wages and stricter emissions requirements for tow vehicles account for this increase. Still, this rate compares favorably with current rates for other northern California FSP contracts and to quotes we received from another contractor from our previous RFP in 2006.

Sierra Hart is currently the contractor for all of the Sacramento FSP beats. Their performance with the FSP Program has been and continues to be consistently excellent. Sierra Hart's proposal confirms our prior experience with them that they have a keen understanding of the local FSP program and are committed to providing the highest quality service. Staff therefore recommends that Sierra Hart Auto Center be awarded the contract for these two beats.

Upon approval by your Board, Sierra Hart will have approximately six weeks to secure the trucks and other equipment specified in the contract and to have it pass inspection by the California Highway Patrol. The start date of the contract is July 1, 2007 and will run for a period of three years.