

STAFF REPORT

SUBJECT: FlexWork Santa Barbara Contract Amendment

MEETING DATE: July 17, 2008

AGENDA ITEM: 6B

STAFF CONTACT: Kent Epperson

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize amendment to existing contract with Telecommuting Advantage Group, Inc., extending the term to August 31, 2009 and increasing the contract budget by \$30,000 as part of the Hwy 101 Milpas to Hot Springs Curb Your Commute traffic mitigation program.

SUMMARY:

A Traffic Management Plan (TMP) is being implemented by Caltrans and SBCAG to reduce traffic congestion during the four years of construction on the 101 Operational Improvements project that is starting this month. A key component of the TMP, is the *Curb Your Commute* program being implemented by Traffic Solutions to facilitate commute options. The Telecommuting Advantage Group, Inc. (TAG) has been under contract with Traffic Solutions to stimulate more telecommuting and flexible work schedules in the south Highway 101 corridor with an emphasis on assisting private sector employers to implement flexwork (telecommuting, compressed work weeks and flexible schedules). Staff is recommending that the contract with TAG be extended to August 31, 2009 at a cost of \$30,000. Funding for the contract extension would come from the 101 TMP budget.

DISCUSSION:

In 2003, as part of 101 In Motion, several *Early Action* items were identified that would provide congestion relief prior to completion of the major capacity improvements on Highway 101. Demand management projects are important *Early Action* items because they are low cost congestion relief projects that are quick to implement. One of the first 101 In Motion *Early Action* items was the Phase I FlexWork Santa Barbara program which ran from 2004 to 2006. It was projected that the first phase of the project resulted in 109,000 fewer peak hour trips each year (73,000 from Highway 101 south to Ventura) and approximately 1.5 million fewer vehicle miles traveled (VMT).

As part of the Highway 101 Milpas to Hot Springs project, Caltrans and SBCAG developed a Traffic Mitigation Program (TMP) that serves to mitigate traffic impacts during construction. The demand management component of the TMP is called *Curb Your Commute* and managed by SBCAG Traffic Solutions. Included in the *Curb Your Commute* program is a two-year Phase II FlexWork program. The Board executed a contract with Telecommuting Advantage Group (TAG) for the first year of the two-year Flexwork program that expires on August 31, 2008. The FY08-09 SBCAG Budget includes an additional \$30,000 to fund the second year of the Phase II FlexWork program. Staff is now requesting the Board authorize an amendment to the existing contract with TAG, extending the term to August 31, 2009, increasing the contract budget by \$30,000 and increasing the billable rate from \$60 per hour to \$71 per hour to adjust for inflation.

With soaring gas prices, concerns over the economy and the 101 Milpas to Hot Springs project, flexwork is now widely recognized by many companies as a means to avoid the loss of valued employees due to the high cost of commuting and commuter frustrations during the Highway 101 construction project. Since November 2007, TAG has recruited several private sector participants including Ogilvy-Hill Insurance in Santa Barbara, Channel Technologies, Citrix Online, Yardi Systems and CenCal Health in Goleta, and Plan Member Financial Services and Clipper Windpower in Carpinteria. The contract extension will enable Traffic Solutions to assist these companies to fully implement flexwork programs over the next twelve months and recruit additional employers for the program. These programs will result in significant peak period trip reductions on Highway 101 helping to offset traffic impacts resulting from the 101 Milpas to Hot Springs construction project. Approximately 144,260 annual peak period trips (51,320 trips from Highway 101 south of Santa Barbara) have been removed as a result the TAG's work during the first year of the Phase II Flexwork contract. More than 15,000 employees in Santa Barbara County have benefited from the consulting work provided by TAG as part of the FlexWork Santa Barbara program.

COMMITTEE REVIEW: None.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A – FlexWork Santa Barbara Phase II Contract Amendment B

Attachement A

**AMENDMENT B
TO THE
AGREEMENT BETWEEN**

**THE SANTA BARBARA COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
AND
TELECOMMUTING ADVANTAGE GROUP, INC FOR
FLEXWORK SANTA BARBARA PHASE II TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

It is mutually agreed that the AGREEMENT made and entered into on August 24, 2006, by and between the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG) and Telecommuting Advantage Group, Inc. (hereinafter referred to as "CONTRACTOR") is hereby amended as stated below:

Amend Article 2 - Time of Performance, as follows:

All work described herein shall be completed by August 31, 2009. The contract term may be extended for an additional year, upon approval by SBCAG and the CONTRACTOR.

Amend Article 4 - Compensation as follows:

Total compensation for direct costs paid by SBCAG to CONTRACTOR shall not exceed \$90,000.

Amend APPENDIX B as follows:

Increase the hourly rate from \$60.00 to \$71.00 to adjust for inflation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, SBCAG and CONTRACTOR have executed this amendment to the FlexWork Santa Barbara Phase II Technical Assistance Agreement.

SANTA BARBARA AIRBUS, INC.

By: _____
Name: Rick Albiero
Title: CEO
Date: _____

**SANTA BARBARA COUNTY
ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS**

By: _____
Name: Brooks Firestone
Title: Chair, SBCAG
Date: _____

Attest:
By: _____
Name: Jim Kemp
Title: Executive Director
Date: _____

Approved as to Form and Procedure:

Dennis Marshall
County Counsel
By: _____
Deputy County Counsel,