

STAFF REPORT



MEETING DATE:	February 26, 2025
SUBJECT:	Approve Amendment 4 to the Agreement for the Provision of Specialized Public Transportation Services with Dignity Health Connected Living (DHCL) Extending the Contract and Adding Federal Language Requirements
AGENDA ITEM:	15
STAFF CONTACT:	Jennifer Pollom, AICP, Senior Transportation Planner

SUMMARY:

SRTA contracts with Dignity Health Connected Living (DHCL) for specialized public transportation services, including state-required Consolidated Transportation Services Agency (CTSA) operations. The contract expires June 30, 2025, and the SRTA Board of Directors may extend the agreement until June 30, 2027. Staff also recommends modifying language in the agreement to assist with regional transit consolidation that SRTA, DHCL, and the Redding Area Bus Authority (RABA) are pursuing based on recommendations in SRTA's 2024 Shasta Coordinated Transportation Plan and 2040 Long-Range Transit Plan. The modified language makes DHCL compliant with federal transit operations requirements.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the board of directors:

1. Approve Amendment 4 to the Agreement for the Provision of Specialized Public Transportation Services with Dignity Health Connected Living (DHCL) extending the expiration date and adding federal language (Attachment A); and
2. Authorize the executive director to make minor administrative amendments as appropriate.

DISCUSSION:

Under contract to SRTA, DHCL provides specialized public transportation services, including state-required CTSA operations in areas not covered by RABA services in the Shasta Region. The current agreement ends on June 30, 2025, and may be extended until June 30, 2027, by the SRTA Board of Directors. Staff recommend the contract be extended as staff is satisfied with the critical state-required specialized transit services DHCL provides for our communities. The extension also allows time for the potential transition of services from being contracted under SRTA to RABA.

In addition to extending the contract, staff recommends modifying contract language to reflect all existing services that are provided, as shown in Attachment A "Sections 2(e) through 2(g)", which will assist with streamlining future regional transit consolidation efforts. RABA has requested to be designated the CTSA for the region starting in fiscal year (FY) 2025/26 (Attachment B). SRTA, RABA, and DHCL staff are reviewing potential steps to make this possible including how to assign the DHCL contract for ShastaConnect CTSA services to RABA starting July

1, 2025. Caltrans staff reviewed the existing agreement between SRTA and DHCL for federal compliance and commented on these sections as problematic for RABA taking over the contract. The agreement extension gives DHCL certainty regarding continuity of operations for the next two years and adds the language that will allow RABA, as a direct recipient of Federal Transit Administration funds, to take over the agreement from SRTA.

ALTERNATIVES:

The board of directors may request modifications to the amendment language, the addition of other edits, or not approve any of the changes. This may require review by SRTA and DHCL legal counsel before the contract amendment can be finalized. If the extension is not approved, SRTA staff will need to engage other specialized transportation providers through a request for proposals (RFP) process to determine the regional CTSA prior to July 1, 2025. This could require a short contact extension with DHCL until a new provider is contracted and may impact transit consolidation efforts underway.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

SRTA, DHCL, and RABA staff are coordinating on regional transit consolidation based on recommendations in SRTA's 2024 Shasta Coordinated Transportation Plan and 2040 Long-Range Transit Plan. Staff are working on the transit consolidation efforts systematically and bringing items before the SRTA Board of Directors, the RABA Board of Directors, and DHCL's executive committee for consideration and approval. Consolidation of regional transit services should improve costs and provide better service to riders.

/// The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) met on February 10, 2025, to review and discuss Amendment 4 to the agreement between SRTA and DHCL and to vote on the matter.///

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no direct fiscal impact to SRTA with these actions. SRTA staff time for CTSA administration and Transportation Development Act (TDA) management is included in SRTA's FY 2024/25 Overall Work Program. Five percent of Local Transportation Funds (LTF) are budgeted for CTSA services, which was estimated at \$475,384 in the FY 2024/25 TDA budget. SRTA and RABA provide additional funds through grants or other means for public transit services beyond the CTSA limitations set forth in the Transportation Development Act.

Sean Tiedgen, AICP, Executive Director

Attachments:

- A:** Draft Amendment 4 to the Agreement for the Provision of Specialized Public Transportation Services
- B:** Designation for Consolidated Transportation Service Agency for the Redding Area Bus Authority Letter

**AMENDMENT 4 TO THE AGREEMENT FOR THE
PROVISION OF SPECIALIZED PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SERVICES
BETWEEN THE
SHASTA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AGENCY
AND
DIGNITY HEALTH CONNECTED LIVING**

This fourth amendment is entered into between the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency (“SRTA”) and Dignity Health Connected Living (“DHCL”).

The following sections are hereby modified, replaced, or added in their entirety in the agreement between SRTA and DHCL for the purpose of providing specialized public transportation services, executed on July 1, 2017, first amended on November 8, 2019, second amended on May 11, 2022, and third amended on December 19, 2022:

Section 4 – Time of Performance and Extensions, is amended in its entirety as follows:

The services provided pursuant to this AGREEMENT is extended upon signing of this Amendment by SRTA and DHCL and shall continue until June 30, 2027.

Sections 2(e) through 2(g) of Appendix A – DHCL Scope of Work and Performance Standards are amended as follows:

2. DHCL shall provide public transportation services that meet the following criteria:
 - e. Provide curb-to-curb or door-to-door services, as those services are commonly defined in the industry, to individuals over the age of sixty (seniors) and any disabled individual over 18 years of age and to the general public.
 - f. Active FTA 5310 assets are to be used to transport seniors and individuals with disabilities exclusively. Active FTA 5310 assets are subject to the terms and conditions of the Caltrans 5310 standard agreement with DHCL.
 - g. Assets owned by eligible funds other than FTA 5310 funding will be used to serve the general public on a regular and continuing basis. Ride availability on vehicles will be subject to any federal or state rider eligibility restrictions on the use of said vehicles.

All other terms of the agreement remain unchanged by these amendments.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, SRTA and DHCL executed this fourth amendment on the day and year set forth below. By their signatures below, each signatory represents that he/she has the authority to execute this agreement and to bind the party on whose behalf his/her execution is made.

Shasta Regional Transportation Agency:

Sean Tiedgen, AICP, Executive Director

Date:

John Kenny, SRTA Legal Counsel

Date:

Dignity Health Connected Living:

Duly authorized DHCL signatory

TAX ID#: 23-7115371

Date:



February 3, 2025

Sean Tiedgen, AICP, Executive Director
Shasta Regional Transportation Agency (SRTA)
1255 East Street, Suite 202
Redding, CA 96001

Re: Designation for Consolidated Transportation Service Agency for the Redding Area Bus Authority (RABA)

Dear Mr. Tiedgen,

The Redding Area Bus Authority (RABA) is submitting this formal request for consideration by the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency (SRTA) to re-designate RABA as the Consolidated Transportation Service Agency (CTSA) for Shasta County.

Background:

In 1979, AB120 was enacted providing the "Social Services Transportation Improvement Act" which called for the consolidation or coordination of social service transportation through the designation of "Consolidated Transportation Service Agencies" commonly referred to as "CTSAs." CTSAs were developed to provide consolidated transportation services within a specified geographical area, which are designated by the regional transportation planning agency (RTPA), and intended to reduce inefficient or duplicative social service transportation programs in existence at the time. The designation process is described pursuant to Government Code section 15975 and California Code of Regulations, Title 21, section 6680.

CTSAs are eligible for local transportation funding generated from sales tax revenue, sourced primarily from the Local Transportation Fund (LTF) and the State Transit Assistance Fund (STA). Up to 5% of the available funds before apportionment may be set aside for purposes of Transportation Development Act (TOA) Article 4.5, claims for "community transit services" (Pub. Util. Code §§ 99275-99277). SRTA has always allocated the full 5% as allowed by the code.

Since 1996, SRTA has contracted with a non-profit provider, presently Dignity Health Connected Living to manage rural transit services that was operating outside the former RABA service area and to provide trips to areas within the RABA service area if trips was originated outside the RABA service area. The latest contract was executed by SRTA and Dignity Health Connected Living in 2017 after a request for proposals (RFP).

RABA Application/Eligibility for CTSA Designation:

RABA is eligible to be designated as a CTSA in accordance with section 15975 of the Government Code, because RABA is a public agency organized as a joint powers authority, as well as an operator. In addition, RABA is a common carrier of persons as defined in section 211 of the Public Utilities Code, engaged in the transportation of persons. In accordance with Transportation Development Act (TDA) Statutes and California Code of Regulations, the transportation planning

REDDING AREA BUS AUTHORITY

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agency "may designate one or more" CTSA and "... the geographic areas of consolidated transportation service agencies may be overlapping." The guidelines explain that the division of responsibility between CTSA's shall be by the transportation service provided (i.e., by geographic area, route, time, clientele, etc.). RABA is a provider of transportation services to persons with disabilities and the elderly (social service recipients) in accordance with the intentions of the Social Service Transportation Improvement Act.

RABA proposes as part of the designation as the CTSA, to assume the management of ShastaConnect (subject to approval by the RABA and SRTA Board of Directors) and to consolidate that service with the current RABA Demand Response service to provide a senior and persons with disabilities demand response service using a shared fleet operated by Dignity Health Connected Living. In addition, RABA will provide mobility management services, travel training instruction, vehicle maintenance support, vehicle sharing, driver training support and dispatching/scheduling software support.

Therefore, as an eligible provider, providing a CTSA eligible activity, RABA should be designated by SRTA as a CTSA for Shasta County as soon as reasonably possible. RABA requests that the designation is approved and appropriate actions are taken to provide for RABA's ability to submit claims in Fiscal Year 2026 for TDA Article 4.5 funding up to the 5% cap as allowable by law.

The RABA Board of Directors at its October 2024 meeting did authorize RABA staff to begin negotiations with SRTA in regard to the transition of ShastaConnect services and contract to RABA and to return to the RABA Board of Directors with an Agreement for consideration.

We respectfully request your consideration of this request and for placement of this matter on the next possible SRTA Board of Directors meeting.

Should you have any questions regarding this request, please contact me at 530.245.7116 or email jandoh@rabaride.com.

Sincerely,



John C. Andoh
Transit General Manager
Redding Area Bus Authority

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