

RESOLUTION NO. 061264

Calling upon the Kansas City Area Transportation Authority to suspend the negotiation and award of a contract for paratransit services.

WHEREAS, the voters of Kansas City, Missouri, did on November 7, 2006, approve the imposition of the renewal of the three-eighths of a cent transportation sales tax due to expire on March 31, 2009, for twenty-five years beginning April 1, 2009 and ending March 31, 2034, with said tax to be used solely to fund the construction, operation, maintenance, and beautification of certain light rail transportation within the City, as specified on the ballot of submissions; and

WHEREAS, the City currently uses the said tax to fund the Kansas City Area Transportation Authority ("KCATA"); and

WHEREAS, the City needs time to study the ramifications of the passage of the light rail proposition to determine its feasibility and its impact on the existing contract between the City and the KCATA; and

WHEREAS, KCATA staff has recommended to the KCATA Board a contract with Laidlaw Transportation Services which may dramatically increase the cost of the service currently being provided; and

WHEREAS, the City Auditor, at the request of the Mayor and Council, examined the request for proposals issued by the KCATA and determined that cost was ranked sixth out of ten criteria by the KCATA staff and that the KCATA management disclosed to the City Auditor that they expected the cost would go up with the new service delivery model and reimbursement method; and

WHEREAS, members of the Council have raised concerns about the lack of DBE participation in the Laidlaw proposal; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF KANSAS CITY:

That the Mayor and Council request that the KCATA hold in abeyance any further steps toward the award of any new contracts involving major financial commitments until the Council has had time to determine the impact of the express will of the voters in approving the public transportation petition initiative, and a new contract between KCATA and the City can be negotiated to protect the City from cost overruns of which, according to the City Auditor in his report of November 8, 2006, the City may be subject under the existing contract with KCATA.

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