

Office of the City Manager

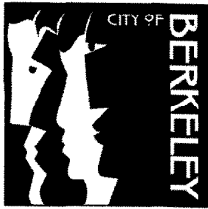
SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA MATERIAL

Meeting Date: December 14, 2004
Item Number: 7
Item Description: Program Changes for Paratransit Services

This is an addition to the report from the Housing Department. The Commission on Disability is providing an information item expressing its support of the proposed changes to Berkeley Paratransit Services.

Phil Kamlarz, City Manager

(This cover sheet should be used only if the agenda item the material refers to is in addition to or is a revision of the material included in the original report)



Commission on Disability

INFORMATION CALENDAR

December 14, 2004

To: Honorable Mayor and
Members of the City Council

From: Commission on Disability

Subject: Program Changes for Berkeley Paratransit Services

INTRODUCTION

At its December 8, 2004 meeting, the Commission on Disability passed a motion in support of the proposed changes to the Berkeley Paratransit Services program (Arellano/Rodolfo-Sioson, Ayes: Unanimous)

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

Berkeley Paratransit Services provides a vital service to the elderly and disabled residents of Berkeley through its taxi scrip and wheelchair van programs. The proposed changes to this service are designed to reduce the administrative costs, base the program more upon economic need, while striving to serve additional consumers. Currently the program is very heavy on administrative costs and is available to people with the economic means to provide their own transportation.

BACKGROUND

The Housing Department has been working diligently for over a year to revamp Berkeley Paratransit Services in order to provide better service to the users of the program while reducing administrative costs. Staff has actively sought both Commission and public input throughout this process, and has kept the Commission fully apprised of the proposed changes as they were developed.

POSSIBLE FUTURE ACTION

Prior to the implementation of the proposed changes, the Commission on Disability hopes that the Housing Department notifies all of the users of Berkeley Paratransit Services of these changes, if approved. Stable transportation is essential to everyone's well being, and adequate notification of any changes will allow people to make alternative provisions, hopefully in a timely manner.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF POSSIBLE FUTURE ACTION

Notify people that Berkeley Paratransit Services are changing. This will involve staff time to prepare the notice, and associated costs with mailing and distribution.

Program Changes for Berkeley Paratransit Services

INFORMATION CALENDAR
December 14, 2004

CONTACT PERSON

Ed Gold, Chair, Commission on Disability 981-6342

Paul Church, Secretary, Commission on Disability 981-6342

Approved:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ed Gold", written in a cursive style.

Ed Gold

