



George Latimer  
County Executive

Department of Health

Sherlita Amler, M.D.  
Commissioner

**78694**

DATE: August 18, 2020

TO: Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Sherlita Amler, M.D.  
Commissioner  
Department of Health

SUBJECT: Authority to exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy, pursuant to Section 3(a)(xxi) thereof, the procurement of an agreement with Astra Transportation Corp., pursuant to which it will provide transportation services for pre-school children with special needs, for the period from September 1, 2020 through August 31, 2021.

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Authority is hereby requested from your Honorable Board to exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy, pursuant to Section 3(a)(xxi) thereof, the procurement by the County of Westchester (the "County") of an agreement with Astra Transportation Corp. ("Astra"), pursuant to which Astra will provide transportation services for pre-school children with special needs for the "Elizabeth Seton/John A. Coleman School", "CSED - Hawthorne", "CSED - Ossining", and "The Guidance Center, Inc. - Uriah Hill Elementary School/Peekskill" programs (the "Programs"), for the period from September 1, 2020 through August 31, 2021 (the "Agreement").

The "Elizabeth Seton/John A. Coleman School" program is currently included within the scope of work of contract E/T531 and the "CSED - Hawthorne" and "CSED - Ossining" programs are currently included within the scope of work of contract E/T548. However, Royal Coach Lines, Inc., which is the contractor for both E/T531 and E/T548, notified the County that it would not provide transportation services, in contravention of its contractual obligations. Accordingly, the Department of Health ("DOH") has had to search the marketplace for available transportation services to replace the services that were to be provided by Royal Coach Lines, Inc. under E/T531 and E/T548. DOH has also had to search the marketplace for services for a new program: "The Guidance Center, Inc. - Uriah Hill Elementary School/Peekskill". Those

inquiries ultimately yielded the current offer from Astra for the Programs.

DOH reviewed and analyzed the current offer from Astra and determined that it would be most prudent for DOH to recommend that the County enter into an agreement with Astra for transportation services for pre-school children with special needs for the Programs, for the period from September 1, 2020 through August 31, 2021.

Based upon the foregoing, it is proposed that the best interests of the County would be served by exempting the procurement of the Agreement from the Westchester County Procurement Policy, pursuant to Section 3(a)(xxi) thereof. Accordingly, a resolution to exempt the procurement is hereby submitted for your consideration.

I respectfully recommend the adoption of the attached resolution.

SA/MY/bdm/nn

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 09/20/2020 - LISA MARIJAS SECRETARY

**RESOLUTION**

Upon a communication from the Commissioner of Health, be it hereby

**RESOLVED**, that pursuant to Section 3(a)(xxi) of the Westchester County Procurement Policy, it is hereby determined that application of the procedural requirements contained therein, including the necessity of soliciting proposals, is neither cost effective nor expedient, and accordingly, not in the best interests of the County of Westchester in connection with the procurement of an agreement with Astra Transportation Corp. (“Astra”), pursuant to which Astra will provide transportation services for pre-school children with special needs for the “Elizabeth Seton/John A. Coleman School”, “CSED - Hawthorne”, “CSED - Ossining”, and “The Guidance Center, Inc. - Uriah Hill Elementary School/Peekskill” programs, for the period from September 1, 2020 through August 31, 2021.

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APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 08/20/2020 - LISA M. PIAZZA, SECRETARY