

Robert P. Astorino
County Executive

Department of Social Services

Kevin M. McGuire
Commissioner

26647

Date: May 1, 2012

To: Board of Acquisition and Contract

From: Kevin M. McGuire
Commissioner
Department of Social Services

Subject: Authority for the County of Westchester to amend an agreement with All County Bus, LLC to provide transportation services for children placed under Article 1017, Article 1055 or children currently in foster care to transport them to and from court ordered visitation with custodial and/or non-custodial caretakers for the period June 1, 2011 through May 31, 2012 for an amount not to exceed \$170,000 with the County's option to extend for five (5) additional one-year periods by increasing the amount not to exceed by \$30,000 from an amount not to exceed \$170,000 to a new total amount not to exceed \$200,000 to be paid in accordance with the rate set forth in the bid document and subject to appropriation

On June 9, 2011, pursuant to a Bid process, your Honorable Board approved a resolution authorizing the County of Westchester to enter into an agreement with All County Bus, LLC to provide transportation services for children placed under Article 1017, Article 1055 or children currently in foster care to transport them to and from court ordered visitation with custodial and/or non-custodial caretakers for the period June 1, 2011 through May 31, 2012 for an amount not to exceed \$170,000 with the County's option to extend for 5 additional one-year periods. The Agreement was subsequently executed.

Authority is now requested to amend the Agreement with All County Bus, LLC to increase the amount not to exceed by \$30,000 from an amount not to exceed \$170,000 to a new total amount not to exceed \$200,000. The additional funding is to cover the cost associated with the unanticipated rise in the use of the service during the current contract term.

This contract serves a **public purpose** because it promotes the health, safety and welfare of families and children in Westchester County by promoting attachment between parents and children and strengthening their relationships as a result of frequency and consistency of visitations. Additionally, regular visitation between children who are currently in foster care and

their families facilitates family assessments and can help the Department, as well as, the court to determine whether reunification is the best permanency option for the child.

The **goals and objectives** of this contract are to provide transportation services for children placed under Article 1017, Article 1055 or children currently in foster care to transport them to and from court ordered visitation with custodial and/or non-custodial caretakers.

The **goals and objectives are in the best interest of the County in terms of public health and safety** of the children of Westchester County. Visitation allows for the preservation and strengthening of parent-child relationships, as well as, serving as a strategy for reunifying families and achieving permanency. Visitation also reduces the negative effects of separation for the child and the parent.

The **goals and objectives are in the best interest of the County in terms of fiscal responsibility** as the visitation program enables the Department to determine an appropriate plan or timeframe for reunification, thereby, decreasing the length of stay in foster care placement and avoiding the associated costs. Additionally, the provision of transportation for the purpose of court ordered visitations affords the Department the ability to remain in compliance, thereby preventing possible sanctions and/or fines. Lastly, by providing transportation services versus using a case manager to provide the same service, the case manager will have more available routine work hours to focus on other aspects of their jobs such as case planning and case management activities.

The **goals and objectives as stated in the resolution will be tracked and monitored** to evaluate success through the monitoring of established performance measures as stipulated in the contract, reviewing of periodic reports submitted by the vendor, and making onsite visits.

Except as specifically amended hereby, all other terms and conditions of the original contract shall remain the same.

Accordingly, the County of Westchester is hereby requesting permission to amend an Agreement with All County Bus, LLC for the above stated purpose.

An appropriate resolution is attached herewith requesting your Honorable Board's approval.

RESOLUTION

Upon a communication from the Commissioner of Social Services, be it hereby

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester is hereby authorized to amend an agreement with All County Bus, LLC to provide transportation services for children placed under Article 1017, Article 1055 or children currently in foster care to transport them to and from court ordered visitation with custodial and/or non-custodial caretakers for the period from June 1, 2011 through May 31, 2012 for an amount not to exceed \$170,000 with the County's option to extend for 5 additional one-year periods by increasing the amount not to exceed by \$30,000 from an amount not to exceed \$170,000 to a new total amount not to exceed \$200,000 to be paid in accordance with the rate set forth in the bid document to cover the cost associated with the unanticipated rise in the use of this service during the contract term; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this contract is subject to County Appropriation; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Agreement is also subject to further financial analysis of the impact of any New York State Budget (the "State Budget") proposed and adopted during the term of this Agreement. The County shall retain the right, upon the occurrence of any release by the Governor of a proposed State Budget and/or the adoption of a State Budget or any amendments thereto, and for a reasonable period of time after such release(s) or adoption(s), to conduct an analysis of the impacts of any such State Budget on County finances. After such analysis, the County shall retain the right to either terminate this Agreement or to renegotiate the amounts and rates approved herein. If the County subsequently offers to pay a reduced amount to the Contractor, then the Contractor shall have the right to terminate this Agreement upon reasonable prior written notice; and be it further

RESOLVED, that except as specifically amended hereby, all other terms and conditions of the original contract shall remain the same; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Executive or his authorized designee is hereby authorized to execute all instruments and take all actions necessary to implement this Resolution.

Original contract amount:	\$170,000
This amendment:	<u>\$ 30,000</u>
Total:	\$200,000

Account to be

Charged/Credited

Fund	Dept	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub- Object	Trust Account	Dollars
101	22	8900	5880	-----	\$30,000

Budget Funding Year(s) 2012
(must match resolution)

Start Date: N/A

End Date: N/A

Funding Source

Tax Dollars: 25%

State Aid: 47%

Federal Aid: 28%

Other: _____

\$30,000

(must match resolution)

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 05/24/2012 - JOMARY VEIRA, SECRETARY