
C I T Y O F H E R M O S A B E A C H
M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: DECEMBER 7, 2004
TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
FROM: WAVE/TRANSIT SUBCOMMITTEE (YOON/REVICZKY)
RE: APPROVE CHANGES IN THE WAVE DIAL A RIDE PROGRAM
OPERATION WITH THE CITY OF REDONDO BEACH

Recommendation:

That the City Council approve the changes in the Wave Dial a Ride Program operation; authorize the continued participation in the Wave Dial a Ride Program for a period of two years; and, direct the City Manager to return with appropriate cooperative agreements with the City of Redondo Beach.

Background:

The City of Redondo Beach recently completed a comprehensive transit route and utilization study. The report was the subject of presentation to the City Council earlier this year. Following the presentation, a RFP was issued by the City of Redondo Beach for a different transit service for the Wave Dial a Ride program as well as two transit routes that will be implemented in Redondo Beach.

The revised Wave Dial a Ride Program will be changed to provide service to only seniors (ages 62 and above) and disabled riders. This will mean that it will no longer be available to the general public riders. These changes will be implemented over a 6-month period beginning on January 1, 2005 when the number of vehicles will be reduced from 9 to 5 and service will still be provided to the general public riders. On July 1, 2005, only seniors and disabled will be able to use the Wave Dial a Ride. The general public riders will be encouraged to use the regular routes operated by the MTA and Beach Cities Transit. These changes will result in significant savings to the city which can be spent on other Proposition A funding activities, including the City's taxi voucher program, after school transportation, or a beach route bus that links the three beach cities. There are other options that the City could spend Proposition A funds which the City Council may wish to consider at some future date.

Hermosa Beach residents interested the subcommittee in receiving additional information on the use of the Wave Dial a Ride in order to evaluate the cost effectiveness of the program. Staff has contacted Redondo Beach transit staff and this information will be collected and available to us on a regular ongoing basis. Much of the additional information will become available once the changes are made and a new identity card is implemented. This information will be available beginning in October 2005.

The subcommittee has also recommended that it meet with representatives of Manhattan Beach to work together to design and consider the implementation of a beach route bus program. This would be a three-city program.