

TRANSPORTATION

MOTION

LADOT contracts the operation of the City's DASH, Commuter Express, Cityride, and LAnow transit services through five separate contracts: the North Region DASH/Commuter Express (C-140191), South Region DASH/Commuter Express (C-140192), and Cityride (C140036) with MV Transportation, Inc.; the Downtown DASH (C-134341) and Mid-City DASH/LAnow (C-134340) with MV Public Transportation, Inc. (a wholly-owned subsidiary of MV Transportation, Inc.).

Since 2020, changes in labor markets have impacted transit agencies' and operators' hiring and retention rates nationwide. An industry survey conducted in October 2022, found that 96% of 190 transit agencies across the nation reported a workforce shortage overall. Many agencies have boosted pay, offered bonuses, streamlined hiring practices, initiated additional driver safety measures, and improved driver schedules to address the situation.

The City's existing transit service contracts were approved in 2019, 2020, and 2021 and included wage rates that do not reflect the current economic conditions. Without enough drivers, LADOT will delay implementation of several initiatives funded and approved by City Council under the Transit Service Analysis in 2018 (Council File # 18-0244), including updating route alignments citywide, launching new DASH routes, and increasing the frequency of operating Community DASH routes.

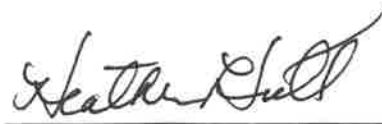
I THEREFORE MOVE that the Council direct LADOT, in coordination with the City Administrative Officer, to report on the bus driver shortage and its effect on the City's contract transit services, including the number of bus operator vacancies per contract, any ongoing reduction in service that the public is experiencing, the estimated cost of any recommended contract driver wage increases and the fiscal impact on Council-approved initiatives, as well as other efforts the Department is taking to address the national bus driver shortage situation.

PRESENTED BY:



PAUL KREKORIAN
Councilmember, 2nd District

SECONDED BY:



ORIGINAL

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JAN 18 2023