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Long Beach Transit to Hold Public Hearing
Public Comment Accepted Prior to and During Hearing

LONG BEACH, CALIF. (February 2, 2015) – Long Beach Transit (LBT) will hold a public hearing regarding the purchase of transit buses in compliance with a California statute. The hearing will commence at 12 p.m. on February 23, 2015 in the Long Beach City Council Chambers (333 W. Ocean Blvd. Long Beach, CA 90802). Public comments will be accepted at the hearing. Public comments will also be accepted through February 13, 2015 via Long Beach Transit’s Customer Service call center or LBT’s Customer Comment form online.

The public hearing will present information on Long Beach Transit’s need to replace buses over the next five years. The buses that will be replaced and retired have exceeded their useful life of 12 years. The new buses are needed to meet current and future air quality regulations and to accommodate current and future customer needs.

Long Beach Transit plans to introduce battery electric buses, which will be a new fleet class for the transit agency. It also plans to expand its current fleet class of compressed natural gas (CNG) buses. The Axle Weight Limit Statute, established in 1976, says that any one axle on a bus cannot exceed 20,500 pounds. However, bus weights across the industry have increased over time due to regulatory requirements and service characteristics. These factors have led to improved buses with mandatory ADA equipment, air quality regulations, advancements in durability and enhancements in comfort such as air conditioning and seating. An Assembly Bill passed in 2012 says that authorization of any buses that will be added to a fleet after January 1, 2013, and that may exceed the axle weight limit, must be preceded by a public hearing.

Individuals may comment during the Long Beach Transit public hearing or may do so before hand by visiting www.lbtransit.com and filling out the Customer Contact form or by calling LBT’s Customer Service team at (562) 591-2301.

About Long Beach Transit

Long Beach Transit serves over 28.6 million boarding customers in Long Beach, Lakewood and Signal Hill—as well as portions of Artesia, Bellflower, Carson, Cerritos, Compton, Hawaiian Gardens, Los Alamitos, Norwalk, and Paramount and Seal Beach. Water taxi services via AquaBus and AquaLink are available summer through early fall. For more information visit www.lbtransit.com.

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