

Service Provider asking to “pillage” funding for Para Transit

It has only been eight months since the new service provider for specialized transportation took over the delivery of this form of public transit.

It appears that the new service provider is attempting the same end run as the former service provider was accused of...going back to the County for more money.

This is how this entire mess began in 2012!

The County issued an RFP that was clear: you have to abide by your quote. If you, as a business, decide to quote low and then can't fulfill the contract, you have two choices: live with your inaccurate calculations and continue with the contract running in the red; or, cancel the contract and let us find someone who can provide the service as described.

Since 2012,, those of us with disabilities have endured a complete lack of respect and dignity as we have been blamed for everything wrong with the specialized transportation service.

“We” have never been the problem! The RFP and selection process are the problem!

As an inclusive community, we deserve a stable, functioning, sustainable and affordable specialized transportation /public transit service.

We are now facing a significant increase in fare simply because a service provider can't fulfill their legal contract.

Everyone who bid on the contract had access to all of the information needed to submit an accurate quote.

We cannot keep giving the service providers of specialized transportation service/public transit more money because they can't calculate the cost of a potential contract.

We can't increase fares for specialized transportation/public transit simply because a service provider can't provide an accurate quote.

The County can cancel the contract and reissue the RFP (Request for Proposals) again, this time selecting a service provider with proven and documented specialized transportation/public transit experience who can adhere to the legal contract.

If we can't develop a well-functioning process for selecting qualified service providers who can live up to their legal obligations for specialized transportation, there is no hope for implementing a larger public transit system in the future.

Please contact your Councilor and support those of us who use specialized transportation service/public transit.

We, as a community, cannot continue letting service providers for what is a public transit service, hold those of us with disabilities hostage while pillaging the County funds and forcing unaffordable fare increases simply because they cannot calculate a realistic quote.