



SAN DIEGO CITY SCHOOLS

EUGENE BRUCKER EDUCATION CENTER ♦ 4100 Normal Street, San Diego, CA 92103-2682 ♦

Office of the Superintendent

Executive Summary Board Date: May 25, 2004

SUBJECT: SCHOOL BUS RENEWAL PROGRAM	X	OPEN/ACTION
		INFORMATION
		CONSENT

Recommendation(s):

The superintendent recommends the Board of Education approve the procurement of 208 buses, delivered over two years, beginning in budget year 2004-05, and authorize planning for an on-going replacement cycle following the initial two-year period.

Summary of Previous Board of Education Discussion and Action:

The Board of Education reviewed and recommended a replacement schedule in 1989, but due to budget restraints for the past two years, all replacements have been on hold. This recommendation renews a school bus replacement cycle.

Summary of Key Issue(s):

Due to budget shortfalls over the past two years, school bus replacement has been on hold. Because vehicles have not been replaced on a scheduled cycle, there has been an increase in breakdowns/repair, maintenance costs have risen, warranty reimbursement to the district has decreased, transmission repair has begun, resale value has plummeted, increased number of spare buses are needed, and most importantly, the safety, reliability and service to customers, while still above minimum levels, has decreased. The department is not staffed for this increase in work, and is currently working 17 mechanics on 979 vehicles, a 56 vehicle-per-mechanic ratio (the national average is 20 vehicles per mechanic).

- Bus replacement has not occurred for two years
- Fleet maintenance costs rising due to increased repairs/breakdowns and decreased warranty reimbursement.
- Resale value has plummeted
- Facilities/staff/routes at capacity
- Private carriers utilized more than ever
- Service to customers decreasing

Fiscal Analysis:

Several financing options are under consideration by the Chief Financial Officer. Budget impact is approximately \$9M per year. The financing plan will include a combination of integration, Title I, and State School Facilities funds in proportion to programs served.

Chief Business Officer

Chief of Staff