



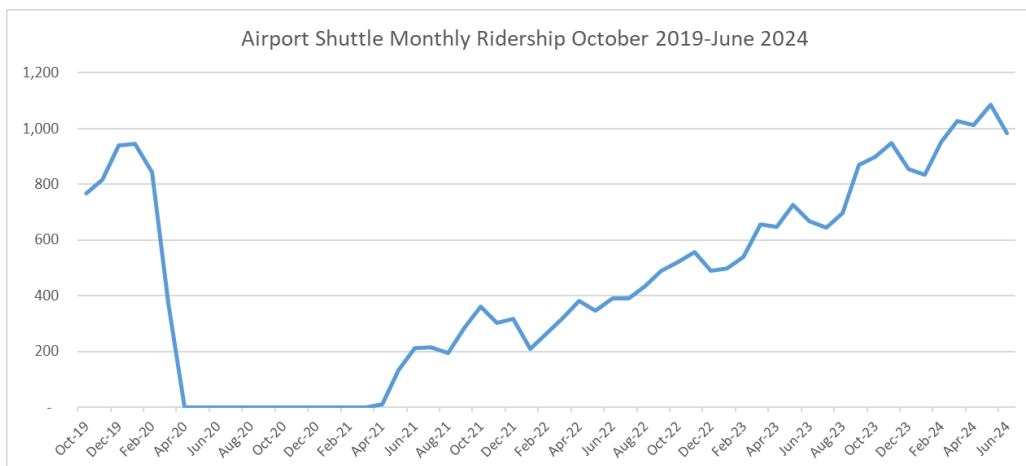
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To: Livingston County Board of Commissioners
From: Greg Kellogg, Transportation Director
Date: July 23, 2024
Re: Resolution Authorizing an Agreement with Indian Trails, Inc. DBA Michigan Flyer, LLC to Provide Airport Transportation Services – LETS

Shuttle bus service between Livingston County and Detroit Metro Airport (DTW) was identified as a high priority for County residents during the extensive public engagement process for the 2019 Livingston County Transit Master Plan. In multiple surveys and public open houses residents ranked alternative transportation options between Livingston and DTW among the top priorities for new public transportation services. LETS Transportation does not possess the scale or experience to provide this service directly but can partner with a third-party operator to provide the service under contract.

The Board of Commissioners authorized a five-year agreement with private motorcoach operator Indian Trails, Inc. in October 2019, which operates airport shuttle service from Brighton to DTW through its subsidiary, Michigan Flyer, LLC. During its first five years of operation the shuttle service has become an asset to the community and has gained a loyal base of repeat customers who desire an alternative to driving and costly airport limo services.

Despite a one-year hiatus during the pandemic only months after the initial launch, ridership has grown steadily since service resumed in April 2021 and reached an all-time high in June 2024. Moreover, the service is a tremendous value to Livingston County taxpayers because the County’s contribution is limited to State passthrough funds that are restricted for public transportation purposes in the State budget.



In accordance with the County’s Procurement Policy, a formal bid process was performed in collaboration with Fiscal Services and CoPro+ to request proposals for Airport Transportation Services per the attached bid synopsis.

The evaluation committee recommends a contract award to Indian Trails, Inc. DBA Michigan Flyer, LLC, the incumbent vendor, using the cost structure in Attachment A – Pricing Proposal. The agreement term will be five (5) years beginning October 1, 2024 and ending September 30, 2029.

The contract is eligible to receive grant funding from the State Local Bus Operating program, which will fund approximately 35% of the gross operating cost, with passenger fares and a contribution from Indian Trails, Inc. DBA Michigan Flyer, LLC funding the remaining cost. The County's financial contribution is estimated at \$767,795 annually but will not exceed the amount of grant funds received from the State. No local funds will be required. The Contract Services expense is included in the LETS 2024 budget.

The proposal from Michigan Flyer, LLC maintains the [current schedule](#) of 12 round-trips per day between Brighton and DTW, with a stopover at the Blake Transit Center in Ann Arbor. The service operates 365 days/year between 3:00am and Midnight. Customers may also travel between Brighton and East Lansing or Brighton and Ann Arbor with advanced reservations. The [Brighton stop is currently located](#) in a designated area within the Meijer parking lot that includes a bus shelter with real-time bus tracking (the stop location was negotiated separately between Michigan Flyer and Meijer). Overnight parking is available at a cost of \$2.50 per day. Round trip passenger fares between Brighton and DTW are currently \$44 for one adult, \$76 for two adults, and \$22 for a child accompanying an adult. A complete fare schedule is available [here](#).

The vendor will be responsible for all operational aspects of the service, including ticketing, scheduling, passenger assistance, baggage handling, passenger notification, data collection, fare collection, marketing, complaint/accident investigation and resolution, and all other personnel, vehicle, and customer service functions.

Thank you, and as always please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions at 517-540-7843.