DATE: NOVEMBER 17, 2005

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: JAMES K. HARTMANN, CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DONATION OF SURPLUS TRANSIT BUSES TO THE CITY OF NEW ORLEANS REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

ISSUE: Resolution authorizing the donation of six surplus transit buses to the City of New Orleans Regional Transit Authority.

RECOMMENDATION: That the City Council adopt the attached resolution authorizing the City Manager to convey six surplus transit buses to the City of New Orleans Regional Transit Authority.

DISCUSSION: Hurricane Katrina severely impacted much of the upper Gulf Coast region. The New Orleans area was particularly hard-hit, suffering devastating damage and extensive losses, and restoration of important public services continues to be a difficult and expensive challenge. As a result of Hurricane Katrina, the City of New Orleans Regional Transit Authority (RTA) sustained significant damages to its fleet of public transit vehicles and has since been working to rebuild this fleet and restore public transit services within the area. In this regard, the RTA has requested the donation of surplus transit vehicles from the City of Alexandria (Attachment 1).

The Alexandria Transit Company, DASH, is currently retiring four transit buses from service as replacement vehicles are being delivered and anticipates retiring two additional vehicles in January 2006 (Attachment 2). These model year 1991 vehicles have been inspected by a representative of the New Orleans RTA and found suitable for service in New Orleans as the City continues to recover from Hurricane Katrina. Inasmuch as these transit vehicles are no longer necessary to provide public transit service in Alexandria and would help New Orleans’ recovery efforts, I am recommending that these six transit vehicles be donated to the City of New Orleans RTA.

FISCAL IMPACT: These transit vehicles have no usefulness to the City and otherwise would have been sold as surplus property. The estimated value of the donation of these 6 buses is $18,000.

ATTACHMENTS:
Attachment 1: Proposed Council Resolution
Attachment 2: Letter from New Orleans Regional Transit Authority
Attachment 3: List of Transit Vehicles Being Retired from Services
STAFF:
Richard J. Baier, Director, T&ES
Sandy Modell, General Manager, DASH
RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, as a result of Hurricane Katrina, the City of New Orleans sustained significant damages to its fleet of public transit vehicles; and

WHEREAS, in order to restore much needed transit services in New Orleans, a substantial amount of equipment must be replaced; and

WHEREAS, the City of Alexandria has six (6) transit vehicles that are being removed from service; and

WHEREAS, the Regional Transit Authority of New Orleans has inspected and requested the donation of these buses to help restore public transit services in the city.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this resolution authorizes the City Manager to convey six (6) buses of City of Alexandria’s surplus to the following organization:

Regional Transit Authority of New Orleans
6700 Plaza Drive
New Orleans, Louisiana 70127-2677

ADOPTED: November 22, 2005

WILLIAM D. EUILLE MAYOR

ATTEST:

Jacqueline M. Henderson, CMC City Clerk
October 28, 2005

Ms. Sandy Modell
General Manager
DASH
116 South Quaker Lane
Alexandria, VA 22314

R1: Interest in transfer of vehicles

Dear Ms. Modell:

As you know as a result of Hurricane Katrina the Regional Transit Authority in New Orleans sustained significant damages to its fleet of public transit vehicles. The RTA has been working with the FTA to identify transit agencies that have surplus vehicles that are available for transfer to the RTA. Thank you for the courtesy you extended in allowing Mr. Joseph Gabriel of the RTA QA Department to inspect the vehicles your agency has available for transfer. Please allow this letter to serve as notification of RTA’s interest in these vehicles. We appreciate your willingness to assist us in this matter. I look forward to working with you to accomplish this transfer. Please contact me at 225-357-3944 or 3958 if you need any additional information.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Gerald Robichaux
Deputy General Manager
Regional Transit Authority

6700 Plaza Drive,
New Orleans,
Louisiana
70127-3677

Administration
504-849-9600
Faximile
504-849-3637
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RESOLUTION NO. 2169

WHEREAS, as a result of Hurricane Katrina, the City of New Orleans sustained significant damages to its fleet of public transit vehicles; and

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