



# EXECUTIVE DECISION DOCUMENT

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| <b>GENERAL MANAGER APPROVAL:</b>  |   | DocuSigned by:<br><i>Michael Jones</i><br>47000790F2D7463...                          | <b>GENERAL MANAGER ACTION REQ'D:</b><br>Yes                              |   |  |
| <b>DATE:</b> 5/8/2026   |   | 5/21/2026   | <b>BOARD INITIATED ITEM:</b> No  |   |  |
| <b>Originator/Prepared by:</b> Mili Choudhury<br><b>Dept:</b> General Manager | <b>General Counsel</b>  | <b>Chief Financial Officer</b>  | <b>District Secretary</b>  | <b>BARC</b>   |  |
| <b>Signature/Date:</b>  | Signed by:<br><i>Mili Choudhury</i><br>0DE359804002483<br>5/20/2026 | DocuSigned by:<br><i>Amelia Sandoval-Smith</i><br>2528C067C44147D...<br>5/20/2026 [ ] | Signed by:<br><i>Joseph Beach</i><br>7D9A7C6E7348456...<br>5/20/2026 [ ] | DocuSigned by:<br><i>Robert Franklin</i><br>AFF4529E1F0D45C...<br>5/21/2026 [ ] | DocuSigned by:<br><i>Sylvia Lamb</i><br>D00DF55389F4A3...<br>5/21/2026 [ ] |

## Agreement No. 6M2131 with Contra Costa County Health Services, Community Response Division for the CORE BART Homeless Outreach Team

### PURPOSE:

To obtain Board authorization for the General Manager or his designee to execute Agreement No. 6M2131 with Contra Costa County Health Services, Community Response Division to provide one dedicated Coordinated Outreach Referral, Engagement (CORE) program outreach team in Contra Costa County, in an amount not to exceed \$310,000 for a one-year term.

### DISCUSSION:

The challenges related to homelessness in the Bay Area have had a direct and significant impact on the BART transit system. The use of transit facilities for shelter can create a range of negative effects that can directly impact the rider experience. Customers may encounter individuals experiencing mental health crises, substance use on trains, and other behaviors that can undermine the safety and cleanliness of the system. Such behavior can also contribute to delays in train service.

Additionally, tents and makeshift shelters often established beneath aerial trackways and near critical BART infrastructure have led to incidents that have resulted in substantial service disruptions and costly infrastructure repairs.

In alignment with BART’s mission to provide safe, reliable, clean, and quality transit service, it is essential that BART be able to address the presence of unhoused individuals within stations and around critical infrastructure. Homeless outreach teams play a vital role in this effort by engaging individuals, connecting them with appropriate community based services, and reducing reliance on the transit system for shelter. These teams possess the resources

and connection to the county's Coordinated Entry System that BART, as a transit agency, does not have access to.

BART engaged with Contra Costa County Health, Housing and Homeless Services (H3) in Fall 2018 to establish a dedicated homeless outreach team for BART with the county's Coordinated Outreach Referral, Engagement (CORE) program. CORE is the mobile team in Contra Costa County that serves as an entry point into the county's Coordinated Entry System (CES), conducting necessary assessments to connect unsheltered individuals to the system of care, and linking them to appropriate health and housing services. The CORE BART program was formalized in January 2019.

BART Police Department's Crisis Intervention Team, operating within the Progressive Policing and Community Engagement Bureau, facilitates a warm hand-off to the CORE BART team for unhoused individuals encountered in Contra Costa County. The CORE BART team also conducts daily visits to each station and surveys areas surrounding critical BART infrastructure to identify encampments and engage unhoused individuals.

From Fall 2018 through December 2025, the CORE BART program has delivered a total of 74,255 services, encompassing healthcare coordination, housing navigation, and benefits referrals. During this timeframe, the CORE BART program served and exited 1,847 unique individuals from its program. Of those served, 732 individuals (40%), were successfully transitioned into housing solutions, including permanent housing, short term housing, and shelter placements. Among those housed, 700 individuals (96%), remained housed and did not return to homelessness.

The CORE BART team continues to play a critical role in supporting BART's operations by reducing reliance on the transit system for basic needs, and connecting individuals to appropriate, long term resources. Quality of Life programs, such as the CORE BART program, are contributing to the positive experiences of safety and cleanliness, minimizing service disruptions, and improving the overall rider experience.

Recently, the CORE program transitioned out of Contra Costa County's Health, Housing and Homeless Division and is now part of the county's newly formed Community Response Division. The CORE program functions remain the same, and the services provided by the CORE BART program are uninterrupted. This Agreement seeks to continue the CORE program services provided in Contra Costa County.

This interagency Agreement is funded in part by a grant from the Department of Justice (DOJ). The DOJ grant does not provide for Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) goals.

The Office of the General Counsel will approve the Agreement as to form.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Contra Costa County's CORE BART program is a Quality of Life initiative and the cost of the program remains the same as in previous years, accounting for the necessary cost of living adjustments at 5% per year. The maximum compensation under Agreement 6M2131 shall not exceed \$310,000 for the one-year term from July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027.

Funding from a Department of Justice (DOJ) grant has been identified to support the CORE BART program in FY 2027. The DOJ grant term expires on September 30, 2026 and so the DOJ funding may only be applied to expenditures incurred during the first quarter of FY 2027, providing up to \$77,500 in eligible reimbursement. This allocation is expected to reduce operating costs for FY 2027 by up to 25%.

Funding for this Agreement is included in the Preliminary FY 27 Operating Budget in Department 0604368, Account 681300. This action is not anticipated to have any fiscal impact on unprogrammed District reserves for FY 27.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

The alternative is not to authorize this Agreement.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the Board adopt the following motion.

**MOTION:**

The General Manager or his designee is authorized to execute Agreement No. 6M2131 with Contra Costa County Health Services, Community Response Division to provide one dedicated CORE program outreach team in Contra Costa County, in an amount not to exceed \$310,000 for a one-year term.