

STAFF REPORT

DATE: July 24, 2023
TO: Sacramento Regional Transit Board of Directors
FROM: Jamie Adelman, VP, Procurement, Real Estate and Special Projects
SUBJ: APPROVING THE FIFTH AMENDMENT TO THE PERSONAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH DENISE STANDRIDGE

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt the Attached Resolution.

RESULT OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approving the Resolution will amend the Personal Services Contract for Denise Standridge, extending the contract through June 30, 2024, and increasing the total consideration to \$165,140.

FISCAL IMPACT

The current contract value is \$125,000, with a proposed increase in consideration in this amendment of \$40,140, to bring the total contract value to \$165,140. This additional amount is included in the FY24 Operating Budget.

DISCUSSION

On February 5, 2020, SacRT entered a Personal Services Contract with Denise Standridge to provide assistance to the Risk Management Department in managing and representing SacRT in personal injury tort claims filed against SacRT. Ms. Standridge continues to provide expert guidance and support in litigation matters.

Ms. Standridge will also be providing training, assistance, and consultation to the Attorney III, Artak Paskevichyan, in the Risk Department with handling litigation matters. This includes but is not limited to reviewing medical records; drafting legal documents and pleadings; taking and/or defending depositions; reviewing case files; interacting with experts; and making court appearances. With multiple trials set for fall of 2023, Ms. Standridge will also assist with trial preparation documents. This position will also be available to cover the sole Attorney III handling litigation whenever he is not available.

Ms. Standridge brings with her unique set of skills. She was general counsel and litigator for AC Transit and has extensive experience in transit and California public law. She has been in the transit industry since 2001 and has been handling civil litigation for 30 years.

She also spent 5-6 years litigating in Sacramento and was acting as settlement conference judge pro tem. She has handled 30 jury trials, thousands of depositions, and about 1,000 arbitrations and mediations. With trials being postponed due to Covid for the past couple years, 2023 and 2024 are anticipated to be extremely busy litigation years. SacRT's Attorney III will require the assistance and support of Ms. Standridge throughout the busy year to effectively defend lawsuits against SacRT.

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-07-072

Adopted by the Board of Directors of the Sacramento Regional Transit District on this date:

July 24, 2023

APPROVING THE FIFTH AMENDMENT TO THE PERSONAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH DENISE STANDRIDGE

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SACRAMENTO REGIONAL TRANSIT DISTRICT AS FOLLOWS:

THAT, the Board approves the execution of the Fifth Amendment to the Personal Services Contract Senior Attorney between Sacramento Regional Transit District, therein referred to as "SacRT," and Denise Standridge, therein referred to as "TEMPORARY EMPLOYEE," whereby the term is extended to June 30, 2024, and the total consideration is increased by \$40,140, to \$165,140, is hereby approved.

THAT, the Chair and General Manager/CEO are hereby authorized and directed to execute said Fifth Amendment.

PATRICK KENNEDY, Chair

A T T E S T:

HENRY LI, Secretary

By: _____
Tabetha Smith, Assistant Secretary