



Agenda Item Summary

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**File #: 25-00200**

**Agenda Date: 3/25/2025**

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**Agenda Item Name:**

**Purchase Order to Matthews Bus Alliance, Inc., in the amount of \$210,266.00 for Cuscowilla Park via Public Works.**

**Presenter:**

Ramon D, Gavarrete, Public Works Director, 352.548.1214  
Theodore White, Procurement Manager, 352.374.5202

**Description:**

Purchase Order to Matthews Bus Alliance, Inc., in the amount of \$210,266.00 for the purchase of a Ford F-550, 19,500 GVWR Chassis, 45 Passenger Startrans Senator HD Bus for Cuscowilla Park via Public Works. The bus would be used for summer camp and other county department needs. Prices, terms and conditions are per the Florida Sheriffs Association Cooperative Purchasing Program FSA23-VEH21.0: Heavy Trucks & Buses.

**Recommended Action:**

Approve the issuance of a purchase order to Matthews Bus Alliance, Inc., in the amount of \$210,266.00.

**Prior Board Motions:**

N/A

**Fiscal Note:**

Amount for purchase of \$210,266.00 is budgeted in account 001.04.0492.572.64.00 (machinery & equipment > \$15,000)

**Strategic Guide:**

Other Mandatory and Discretionary Services

**Background:**

The department is requesting a 45-passenger bus to utilize for Cuscowilla summer camp. The purchase of a 45-passenger bus for our camp is crucial for the efficient transportation of campers and staff during various activities, outings, and excursions. This bus will enhance the overall experience of our campers by providing safe and reliable transportation to off-site locations, including field trips, outdoor adventures and other county departments during the rest of the year. Currently, we pay Alachua County School Board \$11,000 transportation for our summer camps. Owning our own bus would offer more flexibility in our programming and field trips. Parks has several employees with CDL licenses already that would become certified to drive this vehicle. Additionally, other county departments such as IFAS and EOC and Citizen's Academy would benefit from the bus for various

activities, including agricultural tours, field trips, evacuation transport, disaster relief efforts, and mass casualty incidents.

This purchase is exempt from the County's competitive bidding requirements pursuant to Section 22.3-302 (12) of the Alachua County Procurement Code, Procurement of Supplies or Services under Contract with federal, state, or municipal governments or any other governmental agency or political subdivision provided the vendor extends the same terms and conditions of the Contract to the County; however, since the dollar amount of the purchase exceeds the purchasing authority of the Procurement Manager, this is being submitted for Board consideration and approval.