

**Lincoln Public Schools
Lincoln, Massachusetts**

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING OF MARCH 20, 2025

9.0 FACILITIES AND FINANCIAL

AGENDA ITEM:

9.4 First Reading - Doherty's Bus Transportation Contract Extension

Supporting Documents: Enclosed N/A Forthcoming

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Information Only

Discussion/Review

First Reading

Second Reading

VOTE to:

BACKGROUND:

Administrator for Business and Finance Angela Wang will provide information on the request by Doherty's Garage, Inc. for a contract extension for school bus transportation services for Lincoln Public Schools.

DOHERTY'S GARAGE, INC.

161 LINCOLN ROAD, LINCOLN, MA 01773

Mobil



Tel: 781-259-8484

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Charter Buses
Rubbish Removal
Recycling
Auto Detailing

Date: March 14, 2025
To: Lincoln Public Schools
Attn: School Committee
Subject: Request for Execution of Option Years on Contract for School Bus Transportation

Dear Lincoln Public Schools Committee,

Doherty's Garage, Inc. (Doherty's) is pleased to provide school transportation services for the Lincoln Public Schools under our current contract, which commenced on August 1, 2023, and is set to conclude on July 31, 2026. In alignment with our commitment to supporting the district's long-term sustainability initiatives, we respectfully request the execution of Option Years 1 and 2, extending the contract through July 31, 2028.

To support our application for grant funding, due April 7th, 2025, and to facilitate our investment and transition to electric school bus technology, we propose the following amendments to the contract:

1. Specifications, Subsection 4) Equipment:

- Allow operation of vehicles up to eight (8) years old.
- Waive the new vehicle purchase requirements for Contract Years 3 and 4, provided that Doherty's has given proof of ordering at least one electric school bus for us by October 31st 2025.

2. Compensation for Option Years:

- **Option Year 1 (2026-2027):** Adjust the daily rate to **\$510.19**, with an annual rate of **\$642,840**.
- **Option Year 2 (2027-2028):** Adjust the daily rate to **\$529.32**, with an annual rate of **\$666,947**.

The modifications above will ensure Doherty's can take guaranteed steps to electrify the Lincoln fleet. If grants are secured we believe we can introduce up to six electric buses into the fleet. If grants are not secured, Doherty's is committed to invest in an unsubsidized electric school bus.

An unsubsidized bus and charging infrastructure can cost over twice as much as an equivalent diesel bus, hence our request to waive the two new diesel bus purchases in Years 3 and 4.

Doherty's believes that electrification must be achieved without compromising safety, reliability, or affordability. Therefore, we will retain the existing diesel buses as backups and for athletics for the duration of the contract. This is viable with the extension of vehicle age from six (6) to eight (8) years. Additionally, Doherty's is working with the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center's "Fleet Advisor" program and Beverly-based Highland Electric Fleets to ensure proper planning, financing, and execution.

We appreciate your consideration of this request and look forward to continuing our partnership in providing safe, reliable, and healthy transportation for Lincoln Public Schools. Please do not hesitate to contact me at (781) 259-8484 or CindyM@dohertysgarage.com at your convenience with any questions or clarifications.

Sincerely,



Cindy Murphy
President
Doherty's Garage, Inc.