

STAFF REPORT**CITY OF OCEANSIDE**

DATE: April 17, 2013

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers

FROM: Neighborhood Services Department

SUBJECT: **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPLICATION TO THE SECTION 5317 NEW FREEDOM GRANT PROGRAM FOR SENIOR TRANSPORTATION SERVICES**

SYNOPSIS

Staff recommends that the City Council adopt a resolution authorizing application to the Section 5317 New Freedom Grant program in the amount of \$437,809, commit general fund match funds in the amount of \$260,300, commit in-kind volunteer services with a value of \$181,509 for fiscal years 2014-2017 for the senior transportation program; and authorize the City Manager to accept awarded funds and execute all associated grant documents.

BACKGROUND

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5317 New Freedom (NF) Program is authorized under the provisions set forth in SAFETEA-LU, of which provisions authorize the U.S. Secretary of Transportation to apportion funds to each state for grants to these programs. The Governor of California has designated the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) Division of Mass Transportation as the recipient of all FTA grants for the purpose of administering those funds in accordance to state and federal laws, statues, and regulations.

In February 2013, Caltrans opened a competitive grant opportunity for local agencies that included support for enhancement of same day, door-to-door services, voucher programs, and expansion of volunteer driver programs. The City of Oceanside has been operating such programs for 5 years for seniors over the age of 65 years that cannot access other modes of publicly available transportation.

In February 2013, the City received notice that it will be drastically reduced in awarded funds in the amount of \$152,000 for fiscal years 2014-16 from the TransNet Senior Mini

Grant program administered by SANDAG. The City has been recommended for funding in the amount of \$47,695 in Fiscal Year 2014-15 and not recommended for funding in Fiscal Year 2015-16.

ANALYSIS

Solutions for Seniors on the Go is the City of Oceanside transportation program for senior residents. The program provides transportation to needed medical appointments, the pharmacy, and the grocery store for 1,200 senior residents that are registered in the program. Many seniors report that without the rides, they would have to cancel their appointments. Grant funds are vital to the sustainability of Oceanside senior transportation services which include shuttle, taxi scrip, and volunteer driver service and are currently funded through TransNet grant funds through FY 2013-14 with a City match funded by the General Fund (931935101). With the recent notification from SANDAG of a reduced allocation in Fiscal Year 2014-15 and no allocation for Fiscal Year 2015-16, it is imperative to apply for funds from the NF Program.

The NF Program funds are available to local government organizations that support new public transportation services beyond those required by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA). The definition of "new service" is any service or activity that was not implemented or operational before August 10, 2005. Services beyond those required by ADA include services to seniors who are not ADA eligible, yet still cannot access other publicly available services.

The NF Program is currently in Cycle 7, the last year of funding through SAFETEA-LU. However, this program has developed a surplus of funds and funding will be allocated over the next three program years until all funds are spent. This surplus has made three years of funding potentially available through a single application to Cycle 7. Additionally, the program provides a credit toward a project's local share for certain expenditures through Transportation Development Credits (Toll Credits). Historically, toll credits were only available where locally earned; however in Cycle 7 all toll credits will be expended and will include all applicants. These toll credits, if available, may be credited toward the local match requirement. Should the City of Oceanside be awarded grant funds, there is potential that the General Fund match would be covered or reduced by toll credits in the first year.

FISCAL IMPACT

Through adoption of the Resolution, the City Council is authorizing the City Manager to apply for grant funds and commit the appropriate proportion of City match funds as part of the Fiscal Year 2014-15, 2015-16, and 2016-17 Budgets.

Year	Reduced SANDAG Award		Funds Committed by this Action		
	TransNet	General Fund Match to TransNet	Caltrans NF Grant Funds	General Fund Match to Caltrans NF	In-Kind Match
2014-15	\$47,695	\$10,039	\$116,308	\$67,500	\$48,808
2015-16	\$0	\$0	\$154,703	\$95,100	\$61,603
2016-17			\$166,798	\$97,700	\$71,098
Total			\$437,809	\$260,300	\$181,509

Should the City accept the TransNet allocation in Year 2014-15, a General Fund allocation of \$10,539 would be required to maintain a 20 percent match to that grant award in addition to the \$67,500 General Fund allocation toward the 50 percent match to Caltrans NF, a net increase of \$17,000 of the General Fund from Fiscal Year 2013-14. In Fiscal Year 2015-16 the General Fund allocation will have another net increase of nearly \$30,000 due to the loss of the TransNet Grant. SANDAG has not released applications for Fiscal Year 2016-17 and potential for those grant funds still remains.

Caltrans will allocate funds on an ongoing basis until all funds are expended, beginning with Fiscal Year 2014-15. Grant funds would be accepted and match funds allocated on an annual basis. Should match funds not be allocated on an annual basis, the City would forfeit the grant funds and the program would be eliminated for 1,200 seniors.

Fiscal year 2013-14 is budgeted for a \$198,300 grant award with a \$61,000 match requirement. If further grant funds are not applied for or are not awarded, the program would be reduced in fiscal year 2014-15 to minimal service in the form of either taxi scrip sales or volunteer driver services and eliminated thereafter.

COMMISSION OR COMMITTEE REPORT

The Parks & Recreation Commission will hear this item at its April 9, 2013 meeting.

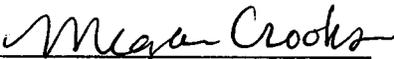
CITY ATTORNEY'S ANALYSIS

The referenced documents have been reviewed by the City Attorney and approved as to form.

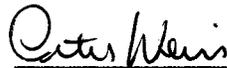
RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the City Council adopt a resolution authorizing application to the Section 5317 New Freedom Grant program in the amount of \$437,809, commit general fund match funds in the amount of \$260,300, commit in-kind volunteer services with a value of \$181,509 for fiscal years 2014-2017 for the senior transportation program; and authorize the City Manager to accept awarded funds and execute all associated grant documents.

PREPARED BY:


Megan Crooks
Management Analyst

SUBMITTED BY:


Peter A. Weiss
City Manager

REVIEWED BY:

Michelle Skaggs Lawrence, Deputy City Manager

Margery Pierce, Neighborhood Services Director

Teri Ferro, Financial Services Director





Attachments:

Resolution
Draft Program Budgets Fiscal Years 2014-2017

RESOLUTION NO.

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OCEANSIDE AUTHORIZING APPLICATION TO THE SECTION 5317 NEW FREEDOM GRANT PROGRAM IN THE AMOUNT OF \$437,809, COMMITTING GENERAL FUND MATCH FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$260,300, COMMITTING IN-KIND MATCH FUNDS WITH A VALUE OF \$181,509, STATING THE ASSURANCE OF THE CITY OF OCEANSIDE TO COMPLETE THE PROJECT, AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT AWARDED FUNDS AND EXECUTE ALL DOCUMENTS PERTAINING TO THE GRANT

WHEREAS, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is making available funds for a Section 5317 New Freedom Grant Program through a competitive process for Cycle 7;

WHEREAS, the City of Oceanside wishes to receive \$437,809 in New Freedom Grant Program funds for the Solutions for Seniors on the Go transportation program;

WHEREAS, the City of Oceanside understands that the New Freedom Grant Program requires a fifty percent match and will commit up to \$260,300 in General Fund Match and \$181,509 value of in-kind volunteer services;

WHEREAS, Caltrans requires the City Council to delegate an Authorizing Representative to sign all documents on behalf of the City;

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Oceanside does resolve as follows:

SECTION 1. The City of Oceanside approves the filing of an application in the amount of \$437,809 for the Solutions for Seniors on the Go program.

SECTION 2. The City of Oceanside certifies that it will have available the required matching funds and approved in-kind resources in the amounts of \$260,300 and \$181,509 respectively to carry out the terms and conditions of the grant award.

1 SECTION 3. The City of Oceanside delegates the authority to the City Manager to
2 accept awarded grant funds, conduct all negotiations, sign and submit all documents, including,
3 but not limited to, applications, amendments, agreements, and payment requests, which may be
4 necessary for the grant scope.

5
6 PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Oceanside, California,
7 this _____ day of _____, 2013 by the following vote:

- 8 AYES:
9 NAYS:
10 ABSENT:
11 ABSTAIN:
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14 _____
15 Mayor Of The City Of Oceanside

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17 ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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20 _____
21 City Clerk

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City Attorney

DRAFT Estimated Program Budget

Expense Item	Total Amount	Rides	Fares	TransNet	Citys GF Match	Balance	CalTrans	Citys GF Match	In-Kind Match
Shuttle Service Contract	\$123,500	3,250	(\$32,500)	\$47,695	\$9,539		\$116,308	\$67,500	\$62,101
Taxi Vouchers	\$72,000	4,000	(\$28,000)			\$91,000	(\$45,500)	(\$45,500)	
Volunteer Mileage	\$16,103	2,850		(\$12,882)	(\$3,221)	\$44,000	(\$22,000)	(\$22,000)	
Vol Recognition/Training	\$500				(\$500)	(\$1)			
Ride Scheduling Software	\$3,600			(\$2,880)	(\$720)	\$0			
Regional Coordination	\$1,000			(\$800)	(\$200)	\$0			
Personnel (loaded)	\$80,000			(\$26,794)	(\$4,398)	\$48,808	(\$48,808)		(\$48,808)
IT Allocation	\$2,000			(\$1,000)	(\$1,000)	\$0			
Admin Allocation	\$3,339			(\$3,339)					
Total Project Cost	\$302,042		(\$60,500)	(\$47,695)	(\$10,039)		(\$116,308)	(\$67,500)	-48808
Balance	\$302,042	10,100		\$0	(\$500)		\$0	\$0	\$13,293
Balance Check	(\$302,042)			80.00%	20.00%		50%	50.00%	

DRAFT Estimated Program Budget

Expense Item	Total Amount	Rides	Fares	CalTrans	City GF Match	In-Kind Match
Shuttle Service Contract	\$133,000	3,500	(\$35,000)	(\$49,000)	(\$49,000)	
Taxi Vouchers	\$75,600	4,200	(\$29,400)	(\$23,100)	(\$23,100)	
Volunteer Mileage	\$16,103	3,100		(\$16,103)		(\$16,103)
Vol Recognition/Training	\$500			(\$500)		(\$500)
Ride Scheduling Software	\$4,000			(\$4,000)		(\$4,000)
Regional Coordination	\$1,000			(\$1,000)		(\$1,000)
Personnel (loaded)	\$82,000			(\$61,000)	(\$21,000)	(\$40,000)
IT Allocation	\$2,000				(\$2,000)	
Total Project Cost	\$314,203		(\$64,400)	(\$154,703)	(\$95,100)	-61603
Balance		10,800		\$0	\$0	\$5,946
Balance Check	(\$314,203)			50%	50.00%	

DRAFT Estimated Program Budget

Expense Item	Total Amount	Rides	Fares	CalTrans	Citys GF Match	In-Kind Match
Shuttle Service Contract	\$142,500	3,750	(\$37,500)	(\$52,500)	(\$52,500)	
Taxi Vouchers	\$79,200	4,400	(\$30,800)	(\$24,200)	(\$24,200)	
Volunteer Mileage	\$19,598	3,350		(\$19,598)		(\$19,598)
Vol Recognition/Training	\$500			(\$500)		(\$500)
Ride Scheduling Software	\$4,000			(\$4,000)		(\$4,000)
Regional Coordination	\$1,000			(\$1,000)		(\$1,000)
Personnel (loaded)	\$84,000			(\$65,000)	(\$19,000)	(\$46,000)
IT Allocation	\$2,000				(\$2,000)	
Total Project Cost	\$332,798		(\$68,300)	(\$166,798)	(\$97,700)	-71097.5
Balance		11,500		\$1	\$0	\$1,899
Balance Check	(\$332,798)			50%	50.00%	