A report from the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, requesting authorization to retroactively apply for and accept a federal grant requiring a match as well as execute contracts to support transportation coordination and operations, and the acquisition of Human Services Vehicles to serve older adults ages 60 and over, by recommending adoption of the following:

## **A RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, Section 56.06, Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances, requires approval from the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors (County Board) before accepting a grant award that requires a match from Milwaukee County (the County); and

WHEREAS, Aging and Disabilities Services (ADS), Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), applied for Federal Transit Act Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program funds (Section 5310 Grant) to the Southeast Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission, with a total budget of up to \$921,520, which reflects Section 5310 Grant funding of up to \$725,636, and a County match of up to \$195,794, for the period effective January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the Section 5310 Grant funding of up to \$725,636 would support three initiatives to assist in the coordination and provision of specialized transportation services for older adults and people with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, funding would be dispersed in amounts up to \$83,184 in 2025, and \$84,712 in 2026, for the continued support of the Transportation Coordination position within the Area Agency on Aging, which facilitates, promotes, and expands access for County residents with disabilities and older adults to available and accessible transportation options, manages transportation programs, and represents DHHS on State and regional specialized transportation advisory groups; and

WHEREAS, up to \$9,590 would be dispersed each year for mileage reimbursement at the Federal charitable volunteer driver reimbursement rate of \$0.14 per mile for drivers providing rides to older adults through the Volunteer Driver Program (the Program), currently operated by ERAs Senior Network, who currently receive no reimbursement; and

WHEREAS, up to \$538,560 would be allocated for the purchase of eight additional accessible human services vehicles, creating a fleet sufficient to operate the Older Adult Transportation Service without reliance on vendor vehicle acquisition, thus lowering the costs of contracting and program operation; and

 WHEREAS, the Section 5310 Grant requires a County match to be fulfilled by a cash match of up to \$20,796 in year one, and up to \$21,178 in year two for transportation coordination; and

WHEREAS, additionally, the Section 5310 Grant requires an in-kind match of up

to \$9,590 in years one and two for the operation of the Program; and

 WHEREAS, a cash match of up to \$134,640 for vehicle acquisition, which was included in the 2025 Adopted Budget, and will be requested in the 2026 Requested Budget; and

 WHEREAS, the Section 5310 Grant cannot be executed and accepted until the County Board approves this request; and

WHEREAS, the Committee on Transportation and Transit, at its meeting of December 4, 2024, recommended adoption of File No. 24-946 (vote 5-0); and

WHEREAS, the Committee on Finance, at its meeting of December 12, 2024, recommended adoption of File No. 24-946 (vote 7-0); now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, the Director, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), or her designee, is hereby authorized to retroactively apply for and accept a grant from the Southeast Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission Federal Transit Act (FTA) Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities grant (Section 5310 Grant) for the Milwaukee Urbanized Area, for the period January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2026, in an amount up to \$725,636; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, DHHS will include the Milwaukee County match to be fulfilled by a cash match of up to \$155,436 in year one, and up to \$21,178 in year two, and an in-kind match of up to \$9,590 in years one and two, with the first year being included in the 2025 Adopted Budget, and the amount for year two to be requested in the 2026 Budget; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the County Board authorizes DHHS, Department of Administrative Services (DAS), the Office of Corporation Counsel, Risk Management, DAS, Office of Economic Inclusion, DAS, the Office of the Comptroller, Office of Strategy, Budget, and Performance, and County Executive, to prepare, review, approve, and execute all contracts and other documents, and take all actions as required for the purpose of administering the above-referenced programs funded by the FTA Section 5310 Grant allocation framework.

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12/12/24
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