

County of Milwaukee
Interoffice Communication

DATE: March 17, 2023

TO: Supervisor Marcelia Nicholson, Chair, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

FROM: Donna Brown-Martin, Director, Department of Transportation

SUBJECT: From the Director of the Department of Transportation requesting authority to apply for, accept, accept, execute contracts, and administer Federal Transit Administration's Section 5310 Program within the Milwaukee Urbanized Area.

FILE TYPE: Action Report

REQUEST

Authorization is required to apply for, accept, execute contracts, and administer Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program (Section 5310 Program) grant funds for awardees within the Milwaukee Urbanized Area.

POLICY

Per section 56.06 of the Milwaukee County General Ordinances, authorization is required from the appropriate county board standing committee prior to applying for discretionary federal or state grants that require a local match.

BACKGROUND

On December 4, 2015, the current federal transportation authorization legislation Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act) was signed into law and continues the Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program (Section 5310 Program) authorized under the previous federal transportation authorization legislation – Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21).

The Section 5310 Program provides federal funds to help eligible entities purchase vehicles and other capital items to transport seniors and people with disabilities, as well as to expand transportation mobility options for persons with disabilities. These funds can be used for operating or capital assistance and are available to private non-profits or government agencies. According to FTA requirements, at least 55 percent of the Section 5310 funding apportionment must be used for capital expenses for public transportation projects that are planned, designed, and carried out to meet the special needs of seniors and individuals with disabilities (i.e., traditional Section 5310 capital projects).

The remaining 45 percent of the funds may be used for operating or capital expenses associated with:

- Public transportation projects that exceed the requirements of the ADA
- Public transportation projects that improve access to fixed route transit service and decrease reliance by individuals with disabilities on complementary paratransit
- Alternatives to public transportation that assist seniors and individuals with disabilities

In December of 2013, the County Board was informed (File No. 13-857) that the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC) had recommended Milwaukee County as the sole designated recipient for the Section 5310 funds in the Milwaukee urbanized area that includes Ozaukee, Washington, and Waukesha Counties. Milwaukee County was thereafter officially appointed as a designated recipient of Section 5310 funds by the Governor on December 9, 2013. As the designated recipient, Milwaukee County is responsible for administering grant agreements, monitoring compliance of subrecipients applying for federal funds, and satisfying documentation and reporting requirements to the FTA. Milwaukee County receives 10 percent of the Federal apportionment each year for administrative costs, which includes \$125,296 and \$178,331, in 2023 and 2024, respectively.

Organizations Recommended for Award

SEWRPC is responsible for ensuring a fair distribution of Section 5310 funds to recipients and subrecipients throughout the Milwaukee urbanized area by managing a competitive process for selecting and prioritizing projects for funding. FTA mandates that organizations requesting capital and operating assistance provide a minimum of 20 percent and 50 percent match respectively. Through a competitive grant solicitation process completed September 2, 2022, SEWRPC has reviewed and evaluated the applications of, and recommended the following organizations for award for calendar years 2023 and 2024:

| Section 5310 Projects - 2023 | | | | | |
|--|--|-------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Organization | Project Service Area | Project Description | Federal Share | Local Share | Project Total |
| Milwaukee County (MCTS) | Milwaukee | Mobility Management Program | \$256,122 | \$64,031 | \$320,153 |
| Milwaukee County (Department on Aging) | Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Washington, Waukesha | Mobility Management Program | \$73,995 | \$36,965 | \$110,960 |
| Milwaukee County (Department on Aging) | Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Washington, Waukesha | Minivan Side Entry (2) | \$109,120 | \$27,280 | \$136,400 |
| Interfaith Caregivers of Ozaukee County | Ozaukee | Mobility Management Program | \$128,853 | \$32,213 | \$161,066 |
| Interfaith Caregivers of Ozaukee County | Ozaukee | Volunteer Driver Program | \$63,424 | \$63,424 | \$126,848 |
| Interfaith Caregivers of Washington County | Washington | Minivan (1) | \$56,320 | \$14,080 | \$70,400 |
| Interfaith Caregivers of Washington County | Washington | Transit/Bariatric vehicle (1) | \$45,040 | \$11,260 | \$56,300 |
| Interfaith Caregivers of Washington County | Washington | Mobility Management Program | \$91,600 | \$22,900 | \$114,500 |
| Interfaith Caregivers of Washington County | Washington | Volunteer Driver Program | \$79,920 | \$79,920 | \$159,840 |
| ERAs Senior Network | Waukesha | Mobility Management Program | \$82,005 | \$20,502 | \$102,507 |
| ERAs Senior Network | Waukesha | Operating | \$66,418 | \$66,418 | \$132,836 |
| ERAs Senior Network | Waukesha | Volunteer Driver Program | \$74,850 | \$74,851 | \$149,701 |

| American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Section 5310 Projects - 2023 | | | | | |
|--|----------------------|--|---------------|-------------|---------------|
| Organization | Project Service Area | Project Description | Federal Share | Local Share | Project Total |
| Milwaukee County (MCTS) | Milwaukee | Bus stop improvements to improve accessibility, survey of riders regarding paratransit services, and wayfinding assistance for passengers who are blind or have low vision | \$217,152 | N/A | \$217,152 |

| Section 5310 Projects - 2024 | | | | | |
|--|--|-----------------------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|
| Organization | Project Service Area | Project Description | Federal Share | Local Share | Project Total |
| Milwaukee County (MCTS) | Milwaukee | Mobility Management Program | \$241,108 | \$60,277 | \$301,385 |
| Milwaukee County (Department on Aging) | Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Washington, Waukesha | Mobility Management Program | \$75,475 | \$37,458 | \$112,933 |
| Milwaukee County (Department on Aging) | Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Washington, Waukesha | Minivan Side Entry (6) | \$340,800 | \$85,200 | \$426,000 |
| Interfaith Caregivers of Ozaukee County | Ozaukee | Minivan Rear Entry (2) | \$117,280 | \$29,320 | \$146,600 |
| Interfaith Caregivers of Ozaukee County | Ozaukee | Mobility Management Program | \$167,747 | \$41,937 | \$209,684 |
| Interfaith Caregivers of Ozaukee County | Ozaukee | Volunteer Driver Program | \$77,307 | \$77,307 | \$154,614 |
| Interfaith Caregivers of Washington County | Washington | Minivan (2) | \$117,280 | \$29,320 | \$146,600 |
| Interfaith Caregivers of Washington County | Washington | Mobility Management Program | \$95,648 | \$23,912 | \$119,560 |
| Interfaith Caregivers of Washington County | Washington | Volunteer Driver Program | \$94,160 | \$94,173 | \$188,333 |
| ERAs Senior Network | Waukesha | Mobility Management Program | \$85,296 | \$21,324 | \$106,620 |
| ERAs Senior Network | Waukesha | Operating | \$116,527 | \$116,527 | \$233,054 |
| ERAs Senior Network | Waukesha | Volunteer Driver Program | \$76,347 | \$76,347 | \$152,694 |

ALIGNMENT TO STRATEGIC PLAN

- 2C: Apply a racial equity lens to all decisions.
- 3A: Invest “upstream” to address root causes of health disparities.
- 3B: Enhance the County’s fiscal health and sustainability.
- 3C: Dismantle barriers to diverse and inclusive communities.

RECOMMENDATION

The Director of the Milwaukee County Department of Transportation requests authorization to apply for, accept, and execute contracts with the organizations (including the Milwaukee County award) detailed in this memorandum, who are awardees of Federal Fiscal Year 2021 and 2022 Section 5310 Program grant funds from the Federal Transit Administration. Once approved, the Milwaukee County Department of Transportation will subsequently oversee the administration of

the program in order to ensure that funded organizations comply with federal rules and regulations for Federal Transit Administration grant programs.

FISCAL EFFECT

Execution of this grant with the FTA is contingent upon approval of the attached resolution as well as a 2023 operating budget fund transfer which has also been submitted for consideration. The fund transfer has no financial impact and simply creates expenditure authority for this program in the 2023 Operating Budget for the MCDOT Director's Office where the program oversight and administration will take place.

TERMS (If applicable)

N/A

PREPARED BY: Christopher Hiebert, Chief Transportation Engineer, SEWRPC
Jennifer Sarnecki, Principal Transportation Planner, SEWRPC

Approved by:

Donna Brown-Martin

Donna Brown-Martin
Director, Department of Transportation

cc: Kelly Bablitch, Chief of Staff, County Board of Supervisors
Janelle Jensen, Legislative Services Division