

## COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE

### INTEROFFICE COMMUNICATION

Date: February 21, 2020

To: Supervisor Theodore Lipscomb, Sr., Chair, County Board of Supervisors

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

Subject: Authorization to Apply for Federal Bus and Bus Facilities Grant Funds

#### **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**

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) announced on January 30, 2020 the opportunity to apply for \$454 million in competitive grants under the FY 2020 Section 5339(b) Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities Program. As required by Federal public transportation law, funds will be awarded competitively to assist in the financing of capital projects to replace, rehabilitate, purchase or lease buses and related equipment, and to rehabilitate, purchase, construct or lease bus-related facilities. Grant awards require a minimum 20% local match and applications are due March 30, 2020.

In FY 2019, the bus and bus facilities grant program received applications for 318 projects requesting a total of \$1.9 billion. Ninety-four projects were awarded bus and bus facility grants, with the average award being \$4.5 million. In FY 2020, FTA expects to award grants for 300 projects.

The Department of Transportation intends to apply for \$3 million to support the replacement of the MCTS fleet maintenance roof, leveraging local funds previously appropriated in Project WT079 – Replace MCTS Fleet Maintenance Roof. Project WT079 provides \$3.75 million for the construction phase of the fleet maintenance roof replacement. The \$3 million bus and bus facilities grant request represents 80 percent of the roof construction costs. The 20% local matching share is currently available in capital project WT079. Project planning and design work was previously funded in the 2019 capital budget.

### RECOMMENDATION

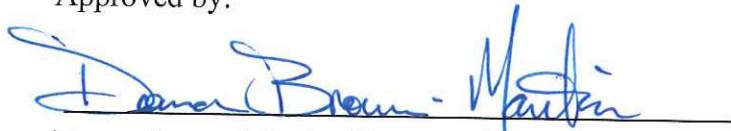
The Director, Department of Transportation requests authorization to submit a Federal Section 5339(b) Bus and Bus Facilities Grant application for \$3,000,000 to aid in the financing of the MCTS fleet maintenance facility roof replacement project and to execute any subsequent grant contract.

### FISCAL NOTE

Should a Federal Section 5339(b) Bus and Bus Facilities Grant be awarded, there would be no fiscal impact as local matching funds for the MCTS fleet maintenance roof replacement project are currently available in Project WT079 – Replace MCTS Fleet Maintenance Roof.

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Approved by:

  
Donna Brown-Martin, Director of Transportation

Cc: Chris Abele, County Executive  
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