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File No. 21-232

Report from the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, requesting authorization to accept Federal Transit Administration 5310 grant funding for the purpose of funding a full-time Transportation Coordinator position in the DHHS Division on Aging, by recommending adoption of the following:

A RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Chapter 56 of the Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances requires authorization from the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors (County Board) to accept State or Federal discretionary grant awards requiring a match; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Grant Program (Section 5310 Grant Program) is intended to enhance the mobility for older adults and persons with disabilities, by providing funds to serve the special needs of transit-dependent populations beyond traditional public transportation services and Americans with Disabilities Act complementary paratransit services; and

WHEREAS, throughout its history, the Aging Division (Aging), Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), has repeatedly heard from its older adult customers and network about the critical role that transportation services play in keeping seniors active, healthy, and independent; and

WHEREAS, Aging staff have also repeatedly heard from its older adult customers and network that they do not know which transportation services they are eligible for, and are not sure how to access those transportation service options; and

WHEREAS, in response to the concerns of older adults, in September 2020, Aging submitted a FTA Section 5310 Grant Program application to the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC) which is the local entity that coordinates the distribution of these grant funds; and

WHEREAS, Aging's grant application asked for funding to support a full-time Transportation Coordinator position in 2021 and 2022; and

WHEREAS, the key duties of the Transportation Coordinator position would be to assist Milwaukee County residents with disabilities, veterans, and older adults, with navigating available transportation options, serve as the transportation resource expert within Aging, and convene and staff an Interagency Transportation Coordination Council that would be established by the County Executive and County Board; and

WHEREAS, on December 11, 2020, Aging was notified by SEWRPC that its Section 5310 Grant Program application was successfully awarded with \$108,860 in 2021, and \$105,938 in 2022, to support the Transportation Coordinator position; and

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WHEREAS, the grant award to Aging requires a local match of \$21,772 in 2021, and \$21,188 in 2022, and DHHS will utilize Base County Allocation funding to fulfill the match requirements; and

WHEREAS, the Committee on Finance, at its meeting of March 18, 2021, recommended adoption of File No. 21-232 (vote 6-0); now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, the Director, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), is authorized to accept \$214,798 in Federal Transit Administration Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Grant Program grant funds in 2021 and 2022, for the purpose of creating one, full-time equivalent, Transportation Coordinator position, within the Aging Division, DHHS.

03/18/2021

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