



September 13, 2018

To: Transit Committee

From: Darrell E. Johnson, Chief Executive Officer

Subject: Cooperative Agreements for Federal Transit Administration
Section 5316 Grant Program

Overview

As the regional transportation planning agency for Orange County, the Orange County Transportation Authority is responsible for the allocation of funding under the Federal Transit Administration Section 5316 Job Access Reverse Commute and Section 5317 New Freedom programs. Since 2009, the Orange County Transportation Authority Board of Directors has approved the expenditure of more than \$15 million through these programs to support mobility management and transportation resources for persons of low income, persons with disabilities, and seniors throughout Orange County. In order to continue funding these programs, new cooperative agreements are required.

Recommendations

- A. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Agreement No. C-8-1925 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and Abrazar, Inc., in the amount of \$225,720, to fund the Section 5316 grant program through September 30, 2020.
- B. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Agreement No. C-8-1926 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and Boys and Girls Clubs of Huntington Valley, in the amount of \$118,080, to fund the Section 5316 grant program through September 30, 2020.
- C. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Agreement No. C-8-1927 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and Dayle McIntosh Center for the Disabled, in the amount of \$225,600, to fund the Section 5316 grant program through September 30, 2020.

- D. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Agreement No. C-8-1928 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and North Orange County Community College District, in the amount of \$284,760, to fund the Section 5316 grant program through September 30, 2020.
- E. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Agreement No. C-8-1929 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and Women Helping Women/Men2Work, in the amount of \$83,760, to fund the Section 5316 grant program through September 30, 2020.

Background

The Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) is responsible for the allocation of funding under the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5316 Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC) and Section 5317 New Freedom (NF) programs. These funds were made available for programming through the 2005 Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) (P.L. 105-59). The JARC and NF program funds support projects designed to meet the special transportation needs of seniors, persons with disabilities, and persons of low income.

As required by SAFETEA-LU, OCTA completed a planning process which entailed the development and adoption of a coordinated transportation plan, selection criteria, and a competitive call for projects to access the JARC and NF funds. The OCTA Board of Directors (Board) adopted the 2008 Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan (Plan) for Orange County on October 10, 2008, which identified the unmet transportation needs for seniors, individuals with disabilities, and persons of low income. From the report, priorities were identified and a call for projects was authorized by the OCTA Board on December 10, 2008, seeking grant applications from local agencies, non-profit organizations, and transportation providers to meet the unmet transportation needs identified in the Plan for JARC and NF funding.

On June 22, 2009, the OCTA Board approved just over \$4.4 million in JARC and NF funds for 12 programs providing a variety of services to seniors, individuals with disabilities, and persons of low income for transportation, mobility management services, workshops, and travel training. This award was for a two-year funding allocation, for a total allocation of \$7.3 million, with the 12 agencies participating and providing a local 20 percent match each year for capital expenses and 50 percent match for operating expenses.

In 2011, the Board approved an additional \$4.3 million to 11 of the agencies participating in the program to continue providing existing programs and authorized an additional \$4.7 million to four of the agencies to expand their scope of services to include new program elements or the purchase of capital equipment not previously funded.

In 2012, new authorizing legislation, Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act, (P.L. 112-141), or MAP-21, changed the structure of the JARC and NF programs, effectively rolling them into the FTA 5310 grant program. Since 2012, transit planning agencies with remaining JARC and NF allocations have been able to continue to allocate funds to local agencies, non-profit organizations, and transportation providers. These agencies were also able to concurrently apply for 5310 grant funds. OCTA held the first call for 5310 funds, known as the Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Disabled program, earlier this year and awarded funds to six agencies, some of them existing OCTA JARC or NF grant recipients. OCTA expects to have the balance of the JARC and NF funds fully expended in fiscal year 2019-20.

In 2013, approximately \$4.6 million in JARC funding and \$1.5 million in NF funding remained available for programming. At that time, staff recommended that the Board approve new contracts with the remaining 11 programs in the amount of \$2.7 million and to continue to allocate the remaining JARC and NF funds for existing programs until the funds were fully expended. These new agreements were for one year with four one-year option terms. Since 2013, the Board has approved amendments to extend these agreements through the four option terms, increasing funding for the programs that continued to participate if additional funds were requested by the different programs.

Discussion

Currently, six agencies continue to participate in the JARC and NF programs funded by OCTA. The fourth and final option terms for the current agreements expire on September 30, 2018. Approximately \$940,000 in unallocated funding remains under SAFETEA-LU for programming. The new agreements proposed will fund these projects for two more years, and at that time, OCTA staff believe that JARC and NF remaining funds available from SAFETEA-LU will be expended. As indicated above, funds under the 5310 program are available to support similar programs in the future.

In fiscal year 2017-18, over 5,000 individuals participated in mobility management and travel training services, and approximately 9,500 trips were provided to persons of low income, seniors, and persons with disabilities.

A total of \$937,920 in JARC funding has been requested by five of the current participating agencies to continue their providing programs and services (Attachment A). The sixth agency did not request additional funds and their governing board has decided to cease provision of all transportation services. Based on the performance of the remaining programs and the benefits to transportation in Orange County, staff is recommending Board approval to execute new cooperative agreements with these agencies to continue providing funding through September 30, 2020.

Fiscal Impact

The project was approved in OCTA's Fiscal Year 2018-19 Budget, Operations Division, Contract Transportation Services Department, Accounts 2139-7831-A3211-RKJ, 2139-7831-A3211-RKK, 2139-7831-A3217-RKJ, 2139-7831-A3219-RKJ, 2139-7831-A3219-RKK, 2139-7831-A3220-RKJ, 2139-7831-A3229-RKK, 2139-7831-A3230-RKJ, and 2139-7831-A3230-RKK and is funded through the FTA Section 5316 Grant program.

Summary

Staff recommends the Board of Directors authorize the Chief Executive Officer to execute cooperative agreements with Abrazar, Inc., Boys and Girls Club of Huntington Valley, Dayle McIntosh Center for the Disabled, North Orange County Community College District, and Women Helping Women/Men2Work, authorizing the award of \$937,920 in Federal Transit Administration Section 5316 funds for projects and programs that serve the transportation needs of persons of low income, including persons with disabilities and seniors.

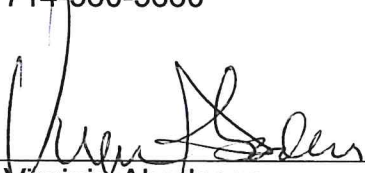
Attachment

- A. Federal Transit Administration Section 5316, Federal Fiscal Years
2018-19 and 2019-20 Funding Request Summary

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