

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: January 28, 2013

For the Council Meeting of February 13, 2013

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date: January 18, 2013

Subject: Adoption of the Public Transit and Human Services Transportation Coordination Action Plan

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: MAP-21; TAB Action

Staff Prepared/Presented: Arlene McCarthy, Director (651-602-1754)
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Division/Department: Metropolitan Transportation Services

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council adopt the Public Transit and Human Services Transportation Coordination Action Plan as the coordination public transit-human services plan for the region.

Background

The Council, as the designated recipient for federal 5316 Jobs Access Reverse Commute (JARC) and 5317 New Freedom funds, must have a coordinated plan in place in order to administer a regional solicitation for these funds. This requirement was established in the 2005 SAFETEA-LU legislation and reauthorized in MAP-21.

The original Plan was adopted by the Council in April 2007. The Update of the Plan was developed with input from transit and medical transportation providers, MnDOT, State and County Human Service agencies, Metro Mobility and ADA providers, and the Metropolitan Area Agency on Aging. An Oversight Committee, with 21 members representing the providers and agencies, was set up to guide the plan development. An online survey was sent to all identified transportation providers in the metro area and 56 responded with information on the services they provided. This information was compiled to show where transportation services are available and identify where there were gaps in public transportation services.

At a stakeholder workshop, attendees reviewed and prioritized needs and mobility barriers. The group identified strategies to meet the needs and mobility barriers. The strategies were grouped in the Plan into three categories: Coordinate and Consolidate Transportation Services and Resources; Mobility Strategies; and Communication, Training, and Organizational Support.

Rationale

The Plan is meant to coordinate public and human service transportation and provide the basis for the distribution of federal JARC, New Freedom, and 5310 transit funds. The adoption of the Plan will allow Council staff to proceed with the further development of the solicitation to distribute 2012 JARC funds and 2011 and 2012 New Freedom funds in 2013. Per MAP-21, starting in 2013 MnDOT will distribute New Freedom funds with the allocation of metro area funds guided by this Coordination Action Plan.

Funding

This action does not require funding.

Known Support / Opposition

The Plan was reviewed by the TAB's Technical Advisory Committee and approved by the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) on January 16, 2012. Per recommendation by the TAB, an additional project was added to the list of strategies: *Technology Enhancements - Scheduling Systems to allow for better integration between dial-a-ride and fixed route service*. There is no known opposition.