

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: November 25, 2019

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of December 11, 2019

Subject: Approval of Metropolitan Area 5310 Grant Awards

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: 49 United States Code, 5310 as amended by Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21)

Staff Prepared/Presented: Nick Thompson, Director MTS (651) 602-1754

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Division/Department: Transportation/Metropolitan Transportation Services (MTS)

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council approve the following:

Metropolitan Area Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities (FTA 5310) grant awards for 2020:

Organization	Project	Federal Award Amount
DARTS	1 (Class 500) Vehicle Replacement	\$120,000
Mankato Rehabilitation Center Inc. – Rosemount	2 (Class 400) Vehicle Replacement	\$139,200
Midwest Special Services, Inc.	3 (Class 400) Vehicle Replacement	\$ 208,800
Newtrax, Inc.	4 (Class 400) Vehicle Replacement	\$ 278,400
ProAct, Inc. – Eagan	1 (Class 300) Vehicle Replacement 2 (Class 400) Vehicle Replacement	\$ 204,000
Rise, Inc.	5 (Class 400) Vehicle Replacement	\$ 348,000
TOTAL		\$1,298,400

Metropolitan Area Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities (FTA 5310) grant awards for 2021:

Organization	Project	Federal Award Amount
Mankato Rehabilitation Center Inc. - Chaska	3 (Class 400) Vehicle Expansion	\$ 215,064
Mankato Rehabilitation Center Inc. – Rosemount	1 (Class 400) Vehicle Expansion	\$ 71,688
Newtrax, Inc.	6 (Class 400) Vehicle Replacement 2 (Class 400) Vehicle Expansion	\$ 573,504
ProAct, Inc. – Eagan	2 (Class 500) Vehicle Replacement	\$ 240,000
Rise, Inc.	7 (Class 400) Vehicle Replacement	\$ 501,816
TOTAL		\$ 1,602,072

Metropolitan Area Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities (FTA 5310) grant awards for 2020/2021:

Organization	Project	Federal Award Amount
Dakota County	Mobility Management	\$ 486,400
Newtrax, Inc.	Mobility Management	\$ 319,200
Scott/Carver County	Mobility Management	\$ 592,000
Washington County	Mobility Management	\$ 320,000
TOTAL		\$ 1,717,600

Background

With the implementation of MAP-21 (effective October 1, 2012), the previous Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC) and New Freedoms programs under SAFETEA-LU were merged into the 5310 grant program and the distribution of 5310 funds changed accordingly. Under MAP-21, no less than sixty percent of the state's funds are for the urbanized areas (population of 200,000 or more). 5310 grant funds assist governmental organizations and private nonprofit groups in meeting the transportation needs of the elderly and persons with disabilities.

In July 2013, the Metropolitan Council authorized staff to take the necessary steps to designate the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) as the recipient of MAP-21 5310 formula grants allocated to the Minneapolis-St. Paul urbanized area. MnDOT has a long and successful history with statewide administration of the 5310 program. The Council entered into a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with MnDOT to clarify roles and responsibilities of the relationship.

Rationale

In 2019, MnDOT made changes to the grant application process to include a two-year application period instead of one. MnDOT, Council and other government entity's staff evaluated 12 Metropolitan Area grant applications for 2020 and 2021. The panel is recommending the award of 10 grants for 2020 and 11 for 2021.

Four Mobility Management grants will be renewed. Anoka County and Hennepin County are currently working with consultants to assess the needs and gaps in transportation services for seniors and persons with disabilities and will be eligible to apply for funding mid-cycle to continue their efforts in Mobility Management in 2021.

The project list also includes 18 replacement buses in 2020 and 13 replacement and eight expansion buses in 2021.

Thrive Lens Analysis

These projects advance equity, sustainability and livability by expanding access to transit for traditionally underserved populations.

Funding

The state has the flexibility to award unused funding from previous years or allocate current year funding above the 60% minimum threshold established by the FTA for the urbanized area. The Metro Area recommended awards represents 75.85% of the total state 2020 and 2021 FTA funding for Minnesota.

The total value of the 2020-2021 Mobility Management grants recommended is \$1,717,600. Matching local funds for the 2020-2021 Mobility grants is \$429,000.

The value of vehicle grants recommended for the Metro Area in 2020 is \$1,298,400 and \$1,602,072 in 2021. Total Matching funds for the 2020 Vehicles is 324,600, and \$400,518 for 2021 Vehicles.

Known Support / Opposition

No known opposition.