



Transportation Committee

Meeting Date: October 3, 2019

Agenda Item No. 5

Programming Awards for Federal Transit Administration Section 5310 Grants

Action

Prepared by: Barbara VaughanBechtold

Approved by: Matt Carpenter

Attachments: Yes

1. Issue:

Funding award recommendations are completed for the latest cycle of the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5310 program to purchase equipment or provide services for the transport of seniors and people with disabilities.

2. Recommendation:

That the Transportation Committee recommend that the board: (1) approve the Section 5310 project scores (Attachment A); (2) certify that all six applicants meet Section 5310 requirements and conditions and have been reviewed in the region's public participation process (Attachment B); and (3) certify, by resolution (Attachment C), that the recommended projects in the Sacramento Urbanized Area and those recommended projects outside the Sacramento Urbanized Area are consistent with SACOG's adopted Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy and will be included in the Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program.

3. Background/Analysis:

The FTA Section 5310 Grant Program provides transportation funds on a competitive basis for the purchase of equipment or services to transport or improve access to transportation for seniors and people with disabilities. There are two funding categories: (1) "Traditional" capital funding, and (2) "Expanded" funding.

The Section 5310 "Traditional" capital grant provides 80 percent of the cost of vehicles, "other equipment" such as computers and radios, and mobility management activities (e.g., travel training and one-stop call centers). Eligible applicants are private, non-profit organizations or public bodies that coordinate transportation service.

Eligible applicants for "Expanded" funding are public transit providers, private, non-profit organizations, or public bodies that coordinate transportation service. The Section 5310 "Expanded" grant program provides 80 percent of the cost of vehicles or other capital equipment. Operating services, including mobility management activities, are also eligible but reimbursed up to 50 percent of the costs.

4. Discussion/Analysis:

In the Sacramento Urbanized Area (UZA), approximately \$2.9 million in combined federal fiscal years (FFYs) 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 FTA 5310 funds are available. This year's Sacramento UZA applicants include:

Asian Community Center of Sacramento Valley, Inc. (ACC Rides), City of Roseville (Transit), Pride Industries Transit, Sacramento County Department of Child, Family, and Adult Services (Senior Volunteer Services), United Cerebral Palsy Association of Greater Sacramento, Inc., and Shores of Hope.

SACOG has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with Caltrans that gives SACOG, as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and four-county Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA), the responsibility for evaluating and scoring the region's eligible Sacramento Urbanized Area and four-county small urban/rural applications for "Traditional" 5310 funding. Only the Statewide 5310 Scoring Committee will score "Expanded" applications.

Statewide for small urban/rural projects, the FTA Section 5310 Program has approximately \$14 million in available funds for FFYs 2018 and 2019 combined. Caltrans has sole responsibility for reviewing and scoring small urban/rural projects statewide.

In September 2019, SACOG staff used Caltrans' scoring criteria and electronic grants management tool to review and score the "Traditional" project applications inside the Sacramento UZA. Attachment A lists the scores for each project. Staff has reviewed and determined that all applicants meet requirements for MPO/RTPA certification and assurances (Attachment B).

5. Fiscal Impact/Grant Information:

If approved, the Sacramento UZA funding awards will be forwarded to Caltrans for inclusion in the 5310 grant that Caltrans will submit to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). Small urban/rural FTA 5310 projects will be selected by Caltrans for funding in ranked order until all funds available statewide are expended. With the availability of Transportation Development Credits, the FTA currently allows FTA 5310 projects to be 100 percent federally funded.

6. This staff report aligns with the following SACOG Work Plan Goals:

6 - Help the Region Advance a Vision for "Next Generation Transit"