



**DATE:** JULY 11, 2019

**MEMO TO:** TRANSIT OPERATORS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TRANSCOM)

**FROM:** JUDITH JOHNDUFF, PROGRAM MANAGER

**SUBJECT:** 2019 FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION (FTA) SECTION 5310 LARGE URBANIZED AREAS (SENIORS AND DISABLED) FUNDS AND SECTION 5307 JOBS ACCESS/REVERSE COMMUTE (JARC) FUNDS CALL-FOR-PROJECTS – PROJECT SELECTION

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

- Approve programming \$437,000 in Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5310 Large Urbanized Area funds (Seniors and Disabled) for the One-Call/One-Click program, and
- Approve programming \$269,228 in Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5310 Large Urbanized Area funds (Seniors and Disabled) and \$510,549 in FTA Section 5307 Jobs Access/Reverse Commute (JARC) funds for a total of \$779,777 for projects listed in Attachment A.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Ventura County Transportation Commission is the designated recipient of the FTA's annual apportionment of Section 5310 and 5307/JARC funds for the large urbanized areas in Ventura County including the Oxnard/Ventura and Thousand Oaks/Moorpark Urbanized Areas.

- FTA Section 5310: The goal of the 5310 program is to enhance mobility for seniors and persons with disabilities by providing funds that support the special needs of seniors beyond traditional public transportation services and for those with disabilities beyond that required by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
- FTA Section 5307 JARC: The goal of the JARC program is to improve access to employment and employment related activities for eligible low-income individuals and to transport residents of urbanized areas and non-urbanized areas to suburban employment opportunities. FTA 5307/JARC funds may also be used as regular Section

5307 funds for other types of transit capital, operating and mobility management projects implemented by public agencies.

Both the FTA Section 5310 funds and FTA 5307/JARC funds are the primary funding source to support projects and strategies identified in VCTC’s Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Plan.

**DISCUSSION:**

**One-Call/One-Click:** On April 5, 2019, VCTC approved reserving \$437,000 of FY18/19 and FY19/20 FTA Section 5310 Funds for the operation of a One-Call/One-Click program pending submittal of an application with a detailed scope of services from Interface Children and Family Services (the operator of 211). The application has been received and was reviewed for consistency with the requirements of the FTA 5310 program and the JARC program. It was also reviewed to ensure that the proposed scope of work meets VCTC’s objectives for the One-Call/One-Click Program. The proposed Program meets both FTA’s requirements and VCTC’s objectives and it is recommended for funding.

**2019 Competitive Call-for-Projects:** On April 5, 2019, VCTC approved the guidelines and schedule for the 2019 Competitive Call-for-Projects to allocate the remainder of the FY18/19 and FY19/20 FTA Section 5310 funds and the JARC funds.

**Funding Availability:** Table 1 provides an updated breakdown of the available funding for the 2019 Competitive Call-for-Projects. This amount includes prior year carryover of 5310 funds. Section 5310 allows 10% of the apportionment to be used for administration and this amount has been subtracted from the Section 5310 amounts shown below. In accordance with FTA rules, not less than fifty-five percent (55%) of the 5310 funds are required to be available for Traditional Section 5310 projects, which primarily includes capital projects. A significant amount of the prior year carryover is reserved for this 55% share.

<b>Table 1: 2019 Competitive Call-for-Projects Available Funding (FY 18/19 and FY 19/20)</b>			
<b>Urbanized Area</b>	<b>JARC</b>	<b>FTA 5310 Traditional</b>	<b>FTA 5310 Non-Traditional</b>
Oxnard/Ventura	\$422,000	\$148,000	\$70,000
T.O./Moorpark	\$104,000	\$97,000	\$64,000
TOTAL	\$526,000	\$245,000	\$134,000

**Applications Received:** The 2019 FTA 5310 and JARC Call-for-Projects was issued on April 11, 2019. Fifteen (15) applications were received requesting \$2,814,190 in funding.

**Eligibility Screening:** Staff screened the applications for eligibility. Criteria included: project eligibility, planning consistency and financial feasibility. One portion of the project submitted by Ventura Transit System (VTS) was determined to be ineligible for funding. Ventura Transit System (VTS) requested \$286,000 in JARC funds in addition to \$260,000 requested in FTA

Section 5310 funds, however as a private for-profit company VTS is not eligible to receive JARC funds. Therefore, the application was reviewed and scored only for the portion of the project relating to the request for FTA Section 5310 funds. All of the remaining applications are eligible for funding.

**Prioritizing Projects:** A subcommittee, appointed by TRANSCOM, including two members of TRANSCOM and a VCTC staff member reviewed the project applications utilizing the adopted criteria:

1. Goals and Objectives (20 points)
2. Project Implementation Plan (30 points)
3. Program Performance Indicators (20 points)
4. Communication and Outreach (20 points)
5. Emergency Planning and Preparedness (5 points)
6. Matching Funds (5 points) Note: Private nonprofit organizations were automatically awarded five (5) points for match.
7. Bonus Points for Non-Transit Operator Applicants (5 points)

Each project received a final score based upon the average of the subcommittee's individual scores. The projects were then ranked by funding type (FTA 5307/JARC, FTA 5310 Traditional and FTA 5310 Non-Traditional) and each Urbanized Area's population share (Thousand Oaks/Moorpark and Oxnard/Ventura) with the goal of funding as many of the highest-ranking projects as possible.

In an effort to fund the highest-scoring projects, staff is recommending \$237,000 of funding for the Ventura County Area Agency on Aging (VCAAA) project under the Section 5307/JARC category of funding. VCAAA requested \$350,000 for the ELDERHELP Program. Under the 5310 funding guidelines, the VCAAA project only qualifies for FTA 5310 Non-Traditional funds. The total funding available in this category of funding for the whole County is \$134,000. Although the project does not provide access to jobs, the project is eligible for funding under the regular FTA 5307 program guidelines. This project was the second highest scoring project with a score of 100 points, therefore staff is recommending using \$237,000 of the Section 5307/JARC category of funding for this project.

The City of Thousand Oaks requested \$40,000 for the operation of two years of the Senior East County Transit Alliance (ECTA) Intercity Service for Thousand Oaks residents. After funding all of the other higher-ranking projects, only \$20,000 was remaining to fund this project, therefore staff is recommending funding the first year of this service.

Help of Ojai was able to purchase a van funded under a previous Section 5310 Call-for-Projects for a lower cost than originally anticipated, therefore staff is recommending funding the project at \$38,228 and using the remaining balance of \$11,774 to complete the \$50,000 funding request for the new vehicle purchase project.

**Recommended Project List:** Staff recommends TRANSCOM approve the programming of \$269,228 in Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5310 Large Urbanized Area funds (Seniors and Disabled) and \$510,549 in FTA Section 5307 Jobs Access/Reverse Commute (JARC) funds for a total of \$779,777 for the projects listed in Table 2 in Attachment A.

As background, the list of all of the applications received in the 2019 Call-for-Projects is provided in Table 3 (Attachment B).

**Next Steps:** The TRANSCOM recommendation will be presented to the Ventura County Transportation Commission at the July 12<sup>th</sup>, meeting. Staff will include the approved projects in a draft Program of Projects which will be brought back to TRANSCOM and the Commission in September.

Funds approved through this call for projects will not become available for reimbursement until after FTA approval of the grants, which will likely occur this coming fall. Once the grants are approved, FTA regulations allow project sponsors to receive reimbursement of eligible costs dated back to the VCTC Commission approval of the program. However, although VCTC staff has made every effort to accurately evaluate project feasibility based on FTA's requirements, there can be no guarantee of FTA approval of these projects until FTA awards the grants.

Attachment A

Table 2. PROJECTS RECOMMENDED FOR FUNDING 2019 FTA 5310 AND FTA 5307/JARC CALL-FOR-PROJECT					
UZA	AGENCY	PROJECT NAME	JARC	5310	SCORE
THOUSAND OAKS / MOORPARK URBANIZED AREA	PATHPOINT	Wheelchair Accessible Van Purchase for transportatin people with developmental disabilities, mental health diagnoses, and/or low-income youth.		\$ 48,000	100.3
	CITY OF THOUSAND OAKS	East County Transit Alliance Senior and ADA dial-a-Ride Intercity Service Vehicle Lease		\$ 50,000	88.3
	CITY OF THOUSAND OAKS	Route to Success--Voucher Program to support access to employment (JARC)	\$ 100,000		87.7
	CITY OF THOUSAND OAKS	Senior ECTA Dial-a-Ride Intercity Service for Thousand Oaks Residents*		\$ 20,000	85.3
OXNARD / VENTURA URBANIZED AREA	HELP OF OJAI	Purchase of one vehicle with wheelchair lift to transport seniors and persons with disabilities in the Ojai Valley. **		\$ 38,228	93.7
	GOLDCOAST TRANSIT	Wheelchair Ramp/Kneeling System Replacement ***	\$ 53,549		93.3
COUNTYWIDE	AREA AGENCY ON AGING	VCAAA Elder Help Program-provides rides to medical appointments and tickets for Dial-a-ride trips.***	\$ 237,000	\$ 113,000	100.0
	COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY	RAIN Work Reliability Transport	\$ 120,000		99.7
			\$ 510,549	\$ 269,228	

\* Provides funding for the first year of service.

\*\*Help of Ojai was able to purchase a van funded under a previous Section 5310 Call-for-Projects for a lower cost than originally anticipated, therefore staff is recommending funding the project at \$38,228 and using the remaining balance of \$11,774 to complete the \$50,000 funding request for the new vehicle purchase project.

\*\*\* Projects recommended for funding from the FTA 5307/JARC apportionment through the regular Section 5307 eligibility rules rather than from JARC.

Attachment B

Table 3: 2019 Call-for-Projects Applications Received								
UZA	AGENCY	PROJECT NAME	JARC	5310	Match	Total Project Cost	SCORE	Eligible for 5310 Non-Traditional Funds
THOUSAND OAKS	City of Thousand Oaks	Route to Success	\$100,000		\$ 20,000	\$ 120,000	87.7	No
	City of Thousand Oaks	Senior ECTA Dial-a-Ride Intercity Service for Thousand Oaks Residents		\$ 40,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 50,000	85.3	No
	City of Thousand Oaks	Saturday East County Transit Alliance Senior and ADA Dial-a-Ride Intercity Service (5310)		\$ 40,000	\$ 8,000	\$ 48,000	85	No
	City of Thousand Oaks	Group Travel Training for Seniors and Disabled		\$ 8,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 10,000	84	YES
	City of Thousand Oaks	East County Transit Alliance Senior and ADA dial-a-Ride Intercity Service Vehicle Lease		\$ 50,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 60,000	88.3	YES
	PathPoint	Meeting Transportation Needs		\$ 48,000	\$ 12,000	\$ 60,000	100.3	YES
OXNARD/VENTURA	Gold Coast Transit	Microtransit Demonstration	\$320,000		\$ 80,000	\$ 400,000	84.3	
	Gold Coast Transit	Wheelchair Ramp/Kneeling System Replacement		\$ 53,549	\$ 13,387	\$ 66,936	93.3	YES
	Gold Coast Transit	Accessible Van & Securement Strap Program		\$ 54,400	\$ 13,600	\$ 68,000	74.3	YES
	Help of Ojai	Purchase of one vehicle		\$ 50,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 60,000	93.7	YES
COUNTYWIDE	Ventura County Area Agency on Aging	VCAAA'S Elderhelp Transportation Program		\$ 350,000	\$ 70,000	\$ 420,000	100	No
	Caregivers: Volunteers Assisting the Elderly	Door-Through-Door Transportation Service		\$ 150,000	\$ 215,698	\$ 365,698	82.7	No
	Ventura Transit System	On call demand response 24/7*	\$286,000	\$ 260,000	\$ -	\$ 546,000	40	No
	Mobility Management Partners	"Catch a Ride" Mobility Management Project		\$ 395,556	\$ -	\$ 395,556	70	YES
	Ventura County Human Services Agency	RAIN Work Reliability Transport	\$120,000		\$ 24,000	\$ 144,000	99.7	No
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$826,000</b>	<b>\$1,499,505</b>	<b>\$ 488,685</b>	<b>\$ 2,814,190</b>		
* Not eligible for 5307/JARC Funding								