

AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Future Item for the City Council Meeting of 10/8/13 Action Item for the City Council Meeting of 10/15/13

DATE: 9/27/2013

TO: Ronald L. Olson, City Manager

FROM: Wes Pierson, Assistant City Manager – Business Support Services

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Resolution in support of the City of Corpus Christi becoming a potential FTA Grantee, authorizing the City Manager to file necessary documentation and execute an agreement with the Corpus Christi RTA and MPO for grant coordination.

CAPTION:

Resolution in support of the City of Corpus Christi (City) becoming a Federal Transit Administration (FTA) grantee and authorizing the City Manager or designee to file documentation necessary for the City to achieve FTA grantee status; and authorizing the City Manager or designee to execute an agreement with the Corpus Christi Regional Transit Authority and the Corpus Christi Metropolitan Planning Organization to provide for transportation grant coordination.

PURPOSE:

Adopt a resolution by the City Council in support of the City of Corpus Christi becoming a grantee for discretionary funds from the Federal Transit Administration; and to authorize the City Manager to execute a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Corpus Christi Regional Transit Authority (CCRTA) related to CCRTA's support of the City's potential grantee status to pursue discretionary federal funds for pedestrian and transit improvements in the Downtown and SEA District areas.

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

On January 15, 2013 City Staff presented to the City Council a plan to use a tool from the Federal Transportation Administration (FTA) that creates a "local funds" repository to capture the value of dollars spent on pre-identified local projects; this value could be used as the local matching funds that federal grants might require as a condition of receiving grant funds.

Since staff's presentation, community stake holders have been working with The Goodman Corporation to create a Bayfront Pedestrian/Transit Master Plan that identifies projects throughout the Bayfront Area (from North Beach to the Proposed Destination Bayfront Site, from the Marina to as far west as Staples Street) that can be used as a "menu" of projects for which grant funds might be considered. In order to increase our ability to receive and manage potential FTA grant funding, staff is exploring the option of becoming an FTA Grantee. Becoming an FTA Grantee would allow the City to pursue discretionary grant funds that are disbursed by the FTA and administer any grant received from the FTA.

This resolution simply expresses Council support for the City of Corpus Christi to potentially become a grantee and directly apply for and receive available discretionary funding through the

FTA for projects (i.e. downtown mobility) in the Bayfront area of Corpus Christi. This resolution is required as part of the application process to become a grantee.

The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) expresses the CCRTA and CCMPO support for the City's pursuit of discretionary federal funds for pedestrian and transit improvements in the Downtown and SEA District areas.

ALTERNATIVES:

Do not seek "grantee" status and work through the Regional Transportation Authority to apply for and receive discretionary grant funding.

Do not authorize the City Manager to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with the CCRTA to pursue grantee status for discretionary federal funds for pedestrian and transit improvements in the Downtown and Sea District areas.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:

Not applicable

CONFORMITY TO CITY POLICY:

Not applicable

EMERGENCY / NON-EMERGENCY:

Non-Emergency

□ Operating

DEPARTMENTAL CLEARANCES:

Legal, Engineering, Planning, and Finance.

□ Revenue

FINA	NCIAL	IMP.	ACT
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Expended Amount

Fiscal Year: 2013-14	Project to Date Expenditures (CIP only)	Current Year	Future Years	TOTALS
Line Item Budget				
Encumbered /				

□ Capital

□ Not applicable

BALANCE Fund(s):

This item

Comments: No initial funding required. If grantee status were achieved, potential costs would be nominal and limited to securing and administering federal funds. This could be accomplished with existing City resources and working in coordination with the MPO.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of a City Council resolution in support of becoming a Grantee for discretionary funds from the Federal Transit Administration, authorizing and authorizing the City Manager to execute a MOU with the CCRTA and CCMPO.

LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Resolution – FTA Grantee Draft MOU – FTA Grantee