

Date: February 24, 2021

To: Board of Directors



From: Doug Kelsey

Subject: RESOLUTION NO. 21-02-05 OF THE TRI-COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT OF OREGON (TRIMET) APPROVING 2022-2023 BIENNIUM SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION FUND (STF), STATEWIDE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT FUND (STIF) AND DISBURSEMENT OF FEDERAL SECTION 5310 FUNDS FOR SENIORS AND PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES, AND AUTHORIZING AGREEMENTS WITH TRANSPORTATION PROVIDERS

1. Purpose of Item

This Resolution requests that the TriMet Board of Directors (Board) approve the Special Transportation Fund Advisory Committee (STFAC) recommendations for the 2022-2023 biennium funding levels for the Special Transportation Fund (STF), the Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund (STIF), and the disbursement of federal Section 5310 funds to support coordinated transportation services for seniors and persons with disabilities within the three-county region. This Resolution also authorizes the General Manager or his designee to enter into funding disbursement agreements with local transportation providers.

2. Type of Agenda Item

- Initial Contract
- Contract Modification
- Approve STFAC recommendations for STF and STIF funding levels and disbursement of federal Section 5310 funds, and authorize funding disbursement agreements with local transportation providers.

3. Reason for Board Action

As the state-designated STF and STIF Agency, and the federally-designated Agency to disburse Section 5310 grant funds, TriMet must distribute these grant funds to local transportation providers.

4. Type of Action

- Resolution
- Ordinance 1st Reading
- Ordinance 2nd Reading

5. Background

STF and STIF grant funds, allocated via the State of Oregon, and federal Section 5310 grant funds are intended to provide a source of revenue to support of transportation services for seniors and persons with disabilities. TriMet is the state-designated STF and STIF funds pass-through Agency for Multnomah, Clackamas and Washington counties. TriMet is also

the federally-designated pass-through Agency to disburse federal Section 5310 grant funds, which support capital, capitalized preventative maintenance, and contracted service for seniors and persons with disabilities. As such, TriMet receives applications from transportation providers within the tri-county area, and reviews, evaluates and develops a disbursement plan for each of these grant funds.

The STFAC advises TriMet in these tasks by evaluating applications from local transportation providers, and recommending appropriate distribution of these STF, STIF, and Section 5310 grant funds. The STFAC is a large advisory body composed of all interested members of TriMet's Committee on Accessible Transportation (CAT), aging and disabilities service agencies from Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington counties, out-of-district transit providers, seniors and persons with disabilities from the three counties, seniors and persons with disabilities representing both in-district and out-of-district consumers, Ride Connection, and TriMet. In addition to advice from STFAC, TriMet received advice from its HB 2017 Transit Advisory Committee to allocate \$1 million, annually, of the Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund (STIF) for transportation services benefiting seniors and persons with disabilities within the TriMet District.

TriMet receives and authorizes the distribution of funding from these sources to vitally needed transportation services in the region, including but not limited to:

- TriMet paratransit LIFT services, Wilsonville SMART, and small city transit agencies;
- Ride Connection-operated services, including door-to-door rides, community and senior center shuttles, and travel training;
- Special service for seniors and persons with disabilities in Sandy, Canby, and Molalla
- Intercity and regional transit connections, including the Mt. Hood Express service;
- A range of services provided by the Clackamas County Consortium for those with special needs;
- Various transportation programs by a variety of small community organizations

Funding must be used for the expansion of services or the maintenance of existing transportation services. All projects must be derived from TriMet's 2020 Coordinated Transportation Plan for Elderly and People with Disabilities. Funding is available for Fiscal Year 2022 through Fiscal Year 2023.

For this biennium, the total amount of STF funding available is \$8,598,238, the total amount of STIF funding available is \$2,000,000, and the total amount of federal Section 5310 funding available is \$7,450,548.

Transportation providers in the region previously were notified of the availability of the STF and STIF grant funds, and federal Section 5310 funds. The STFAC reviewed applications for these funds and evaluated them on the criteria defined in the *2020 Coordinated Transportation Plan for Elderly and People with Disabilities* (CTP) using the following criteria:

- How the application addresses the CTP priorities
- Application goals, measurable cost-effectiveness, and economic impact
- How the application maintains existing services and programs for seniors and/or persons with disabilities, and
- How the application provides for adequate capital replacement, vehicle maintenance and other fundamental services

After reviewing the applications and questioning the applicants regarding their projects, the STFAC then approved the STF funding, STIF funding and the federal Section 5310 fund distributions, as shown in the attached Exhibit A.

6. Financial/Budget Impact

TriMet's general funds are not part of the STF, STIF or the federal Section 5310 disbursements. Instead, TriMet acts as the "pass-through" agency for these funds – with the large majority going to other non-profit and governmental service providers in the region. However, these funds will provide \$4,034,306 for TriMet LIFT paratransit service to seniors and those with disabilities, and LIFT vehicle replacement to support this service. Much of the other funding supports services provided by other local agencies to meet needs that would otherwise be met by TriMet LIFT service. As a result, this funding substantially increases services targeted for seniors and persons with disabilities in the three-county region, reduces the cost to TriMet for those services, and provides some funds for TriMet's direct services to seniors and persons with disabilities.

7. Impact if Not Approved

As the designated STF and STIF Agency, TriMet is required to disburse STF and STIF funds, and federal Section 5310 funds in accordance with grant program requirements. Failure to approve these disbursements would jeopardize numerous local transportation programs and services to seniors and persons with disabilities provided by TriMet, other jurisdictions and regional non-profit organizations within the TriMet district and beyond (e.g., Wilsonville, Canby, Sandy, and portions of Clackamas County). The Board could defer the Resolution and provide revised direction to the STFAC and/or staff regarding the list of projects or the amounts recommended, but doing so would delay funding for services relied upon by vulnerable populations.

RESOLUTION NO. 21-02-05

RESOLUTION NO. 19-010-XX OF THE TRI-COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT OF OREGON (TRIMET) APPROVING 2022-2021 BIENNIUM SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION FUND (STF), STATEWIDE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT FUND (STIF) AND DISBURSEMENT OF FEDERAL SECTION 5310 FUNDS FOR SENIORS AND PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES, AND AUTHORIZING AGREEMENTS WITH TRANSPORTATION PROVIDERS

WHEREAS, the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) has allocated \$8,598,238 in Special Transportation Funds (STF) and \$2,000,000 in Statewide Transportation Improvement Funds (STIF) to the Tri-County area for FY2022 and FY 2023 to improve transportation for seniors and persons with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, TriMet has received \$7,450,548 in federal Section 5310 funds for use on behalf of seniors and persons with disabilities within the TriMet service area; and

WHEREAS, TriMet is designated under state law as the STF and STIF Agency for the Tri-County region under the STF and STIF programs, and is the federally-designated Agency for disbursement of federal Section 5310 funds; and

WHEREAS, the TriMet Board of Directors (Board) has appointed a Special Transportation Fund Advisory Committee (STFAC) to evaluate STF and STIF funding applications from transportation providers, and to advise it on the disbursement of federal Section 5310 funds; and

WHEREAS, based on its evaluations, the STFAC has recommended funding and service and project prioritizations as set forth in the Exhibit A attached to this Resolution; and

WHEREAS, TriMet will be required to enter into agreements with transportation providers to distribute STF, STIF and federal Section 5310 funds (Agreements); and

WHEREAS, by Resolution dated October 25, 2017, the TriMet Board of Directors (Board) adopted a Statement of Policies requiring it to authorize goods and services contracts obligating TriMet to pay in excess of \$1,000,000; and

WHEREAS, the total amount of these Agreements will exceed \$1,000,000;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the Board hereby approves of the proposed distribution of STF and STIF funds, and the proposed distribution of Section 5310 funds as shown in the attached Exhibit A, and directs that the applications described in Exhibit A be forwarded to the Oregon Department of Transportation for funding, as appropriate, and that the Section 5310 funds be distributed as indicated on Exhibit A.
2. That the General Manager or his designee(s) is authorized to execute any

documents necessary to implement the foregoing and any Agreements with transportation providers to disburse the allocated funds, as appropriate.

Dated: February 24, 2021

Presiding Officer

Attest:

Recording Secretary

Approved as to Legal Sufficiency:

Gregory E. Skillman

Legal Department

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Exhibit A

The STFAC recommends the following distribution of available ODOT FY22-23 Biennium STF Formula, STIF Formula, and Federal Section 5310 grant targets as the appropriate funding levels for the Tri-County region's grant-recipients: