



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA STATEMENT



November 13, 2018

File ID: 18-0487

TITLE

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHULA VISTA AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION FOR SPECIALIZED TRANSPORTATION GRANT PROGRAM FUNDS THROUGH THE SAN DIEGO ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS FOR SENIOR TRAVEL TRAINING, COMMITTING THE NECESSARY LOCAL MATCH FOR THE PROJECT(S) AND STATING THE ASSURANCE OF THE CITY OF CHULA VISTA TO EXECUTE THE GRANT AGREEMENT AND COMPLETE THE PROJECT

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Council adopt the resolution.

SUMMARY

In the interest of obtaining grant funding to educate older adults on alternative transportation options in the City, staff is requesting authorization to file an application for San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) Specialized Transportation Grant Program (STGP) – Cycle 10 funds.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

The activity is not a “Project” as defined under Section 15378 of the California Environmental Quality Act State Guidelines; therefore, pursuant to State Guidelines Section 15060(c)(3) no environmental review is required.

BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Not applicable.

DISCUSSION

On July 27, 2018, SANDAG announced the Specialized Transportation Grant Program (STGP) – Cycle 10 Call for Projects. The purpose of the STGP is to fund projects and programs that expand mobility options for seniors and individuals with disabilities.

Funds from the STGP Senior Mini-Grant will help implement goals in the transportation section of the Chula Vista Age-Friendly Action Plan adopted via Resolution 2018-137 on July 10, 2018 (Attachment 1). Specifically, two goals would be implemented, as follows:

- Goal 2.1 Use educational tools to promote increased alternative transportation use and obtain community feedback to guide future planning efforts.
- Goal 2.2 Develop new ways to move people between events and key amenities.

STGP grant funds would establish partnerships with the City of Chula Vista, San Diego Metropolitan Transit System (SDMTS) and Circulate San Diego (Circulate SD) to combine and leverage existing efforts listed below into a specialized alternative transportation education curriculum, 'Senior Travel Training', for older adults meeting the senior fare eligibility for SDMTS, as follows:

- City Senior Transit Training and field trips approved by the AARP Community Challenge grant on August 7, 2018 and implemented this fall. These funds enabled 41 older adults to experience training on bus and trolley use via a fields trip to HarborFest (August 18, 2018), Norman Park Senior Center (October 9, 2018) and one other location in Chula Vista to be conducted by the end of this month. All participants received a 30-day senior fare transit pass and are being surveyed on their use and perceptions of transit before, after and 30 days post field trips. In addition, the process was videotaped and will be turned into a tutorial on transit use in November 2018.
- SDMTS 'Travel Training 101' provides a tailored education in a classroom setting to the public on using MTS services on the bus, trolley and Coaster systems throughout San Diego County.
- Circulate SD 'Transit for Fun' program takes members of the public on field trips to 2 or 3 stops using transit services.

Thus, the Senior Travel Training grant would enable these programs to expand into a comprehensive training for seniors that includes all alternative transportation options, inclusive of training on using first and last mile strategies to access local & regional transit such as rideshare options. The same concepts used in the AARP Challenge grant will implemented for field trips but also be expanded to include trips to downtown San Diego using new services such as Route 225, the South Bay Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) line, from eastern Chula Vista (Attachment 2). Education will also be expanded with additional footage and commercials being created for SDMTS promotion on television and other media, all targeting older adults. Staff feels this education is critical for older adults in the community as the ability and/or comfort to drive themselves is reduced as they age and finding affordable transportation options is critical to access medical amenities and social opportunities to maintain health and overall wellbeing.

Staff is proposing two years of funding though the STGP Senior Mini-Grant mobility management grant from July 1, 2019 through June 1, 2021 in the amount of \$135,000. Year 1 (FY19/20) budget amount would be \$67,500 and Year 2 (FY20/21) would be budgeted for \$67,500. The grant would fund one Senior Travel Training each month for approximately 40 seniors in the City of Chula Vista at locations with high populations of senior residents such as affordable housing complexes, mobilehome parks and other high demographic concentration areas. Therefore, over the 2-year grant, the grant would provide for approximately 1,000 seniors to be directly trained on transit and other alternative transportation options with thousands more impacted through word of mouth and advertising. The STGP program requires a twenty percent (20%) match totaling \$27,000 (\$13,500 in FY20 & \$13,500 in FY21) which the team would meet using SDMTS in-kind monies and the Chula Vista Billboard Reserve Fund. If the city is awarded the grant, a \$135,000 project "Chula Vista Senior Travel Training Project" would be created in the FY19/20 Capital Improvement Program and the City would request SDMTS dedicate Billboard Reserve Funds for this purpose.

DECISION-MAKER CONFLICT

Staff has reviewed the decision contemplated by this action and has determined that it is not site-specific and consequently, the 500-foot rule found in California Code of Regulations Title 2, section 18702.2(a)(11), is not applicable to this decision for purposes of determining a disqualifying real property-related financial conflict of interest under the Political Reform Act (Cal. Gov't Code § 87100, et seq.).

Staff is not independently aware, and has not been informed by any City Council member, of any other fact that may constitute a basis for a decision maker conflict of interest in this matter.

LINK TO STRATEGIC GOALS

The City's Strategic Plan has five major goals: Operational Excellence, Economic Vitality, Healthy Community, Strong and Secure Neighborhoods and a Connected Community. The proposed projects support the Healthy Community and Strong and Secure Neighborhoods goals. These projects promote alternative transportation for our older adults to stay connected to our community.

CURRENT-YEAR FISCAL IMPACT

There is no impact to the Chula Vista Billboard Reserve Fund (CVBRF) in the current fiscal year as the required matching funds associated with the grant are not required until FY2019/20 and FY2020/21.

If any of the grants are awarded, staff will return to City Council with a recommendation to accept and appropriate the funds.

ONGOING FISCAL IMPACT

Over the two-year period of the grant, the identified matching funds of 20% are a combination of SDMTS staff and materials (in-kind) match and CVBRF, which can be used for projects benefitting mass transit in Chula Vista, in the amount not to exceed \$27,000.

If awarded, the \$135,000 "Chula Vista Senior Travel Training Project" would be included in the FY2019/20 & FY2020/21 Capital Improvement Programs to show:

FY2019/20: \$67,500 TOTAL = \$13,500 in SDMTS (in-kind) and CVBRF & \$54,000 in grant funds;
and

FY2020/21: \$67,500 TOTAL = \$13,500 in SDMTS (in-kind) and CVBRF & \$54,000 in grant funds.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Resolution 2018-137 dated July 10, 2018
2. South Bay Bus Rapid Transit Route 225 map

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