



Deschutes County Board of Commissioners
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AGENDA REQUEST & STAFF REPORT

For Board Business Meeting of March 25, 2015

DATE: March 18, 2015

FROM: Judith Ure Administrative Services Phone #: 541-330-4627

TITLE OF AGENDA ITEM:

Consideration of Special Transportation Fund Advisory Committee recommendations for distribution of Federal Transit Administration 5310 grant funds.

PUBLIC HEARING ON THIS DATE? No.

BACKGROUND AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

Each biennium, Deschutes County solicits grant applications from local transportation service providers for projects to be included in the County's request for funding through the Oregon Department of Transportation's (ODOT) Federal Transit Administration (FTA) 5310 funds. Programs and projects supported by 5310 funds primarily facilitate transportation services that benefit the elderly and/or disabled and can address a wide variety of uses including capital equipment purchases, vehicle maintenance, purchased services, and operations. Applicants must provide matching funds to support the project at a rate of 10.27% or more depending on the request category.

Grant applications are reviewed by the Special Transportation Fund Advisory Committee (STFAC) which then forms a recommendation for consideration by the Board of County Commissioners. A more detailed explanation of this year's process and a list of projects with recommended funding amounts is attached. Upon Board approval, staff will compile the recommendations into a composite County application to be submitted to ODOT, which may then choose to accept or adjust the recommended funding levels.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

Most grant funds will be awarded by ODOT directly to local service providers. However, Deschutes County is acting as applicant for \$87,371 to support transit services for the La Pine community during this cycle. This amount will be included in the fiscal year 2015-16 and 2016-17 fiscal year budget proposals.

RECOMMENDATION & ACTION REQUESTED:

Approve recommendations of the STFAC to allocate FTA 5310 funds as submitted and authorize staff to submit the County's 2015-17 grant application to ODOT.

ATTENDANCE: Judith Ure, Management Analyst.

DISTRIBUTION OF DOCUMENTS: N/A.

Date: March 18, 2015
To: Deschutes County Board of Commissioners
From: Judith Ure, Management Analyst
Subject: Special Transportation Fund Advisory Committee (STFAC) Recommendations for Distribution of Federal Transit Administration (FTA) 5310 Funds

Special Transportation Fund Discretionary Grant Program

Each biennium, Deschutes County solicits grant applications from local transportation service providers for projects to be included in the County's request for funding through the Oregon Department of Transportation's (ODOT) Federal Transit Administration (FTA) 5310 funding program. Programs and projects supported by 5310 funds primarily facilitate transportation services that benefit the elderly and/or disabled and can address a wide variety of uses including capital equipment purchases, vehicle maintenance, purchased services, and operations. Applicants must provide matching funds to support the project at a rate of 10.27% or more depending on the request category.

Grant applications submitted by local service providers are reviewed by the Special Transportation Fund Advisory Committee (STFAC) which then forms a recommendation for consideration by the Board of County Commissioners. Upon Board approval, staff compiles the recommendations into a composite County request for grant funds.

STF Advisory Committee Review Process

ODOT has allocated a total of \$1,166,381 to Deschutes County for FTA 5310 funding requests. In response to a public solicitation, the County received eligible applications for grants in the amount of \$1,166,381.

STFAC members considered the merits of each application as well as the community priorities outlined in the Deschutes County Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan, applicant history, scope of benefit, geographical impact, and sustainability issues to develop preliminary individual recommendations. During a public meeting held on March 18, 2015, the STFAC met as a group to develop a consensus recommendation for the Board's consideration.

STFAC Recommendations

The following table details the STFAC's recommendation for allocating FTA 5310 funds. As the amount available to Deschutes County was sufficient for all the applications received during this cycle, the committee chose to fully fund all requests as submitted.

Applicant	Description	Total Cost	Match	Recommended Grant
City of Redmond	Contractual transportation services provided by Cascades East Transit.	\$438,169	\$45,000	\$393,169
City of Sisters	Contractual transportation services provided by Cascades East Transit.	\$64,265	\$6,600	\$57,665
Deschutes County	Contractual transportation services for La Pine Community provided by Cascades East Transit.	\$97,371	\$10,000	\$87,371
Cascades East Transit	Preventive maintenance for existing fleet.	\$251,029	\$25,781	\$225,248
Cascades East Transit	Replacement vehicles.	\$141,362	\$14,518	\$126,844
Cascades East Transit	Contractual transportation services for Bend Dial-a-Ride.	\$307,683	\$31,599	\$276,084

Board Action

Staff recommends that the Board of Commissioners approve the recommendations of the STFAC as submitted and to authorize staff to submit the resulting 2015-17 FTA 5310 Grant Program application to ODOT.