

T Transportation Committee

Meeting date: January 10, 2011

Council meeting: January 26, 2011

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date:	January 3, 2011
Subject:	Approval of the 2010 Jobs Access Reverse Commute (JARC) and New Freedom Solicitation Project Recommendation
District(s), Member(s):	All
Policy/Legal Reference:	FTA Circular "C 9045.1" and FTA Circular "C 9050.1," Public Transit and Human Services Transportation Coordination Action Plan
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Arlene McCarthy, Director, MTS, 651-602-1754 Amy Vennewitz, Deputy Director, Finance & Planning, 651-602-1058 Elaine Koutsoukos, Senior Planner, 651-602-1717
Division/Department:	Metropolitan Transportation Services (MTS)

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council:

- Approve the projects recommended for federal funding for up to \$1,894,801 under the Jobs Access and Reverse Commute (JARC) program and for up to \$643,453 under the New Freedom program as listed in Attachment A.
- Authorize the Regional Administrator to apply for and accept grants from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for the JARC program and the New Freedom program to fund the recommended projects and the contingency list of JARC projects.

Background

The 2010-2011 JARC and New Freedom solicitation received eleven applications, eight for JARC and three for New Freedom. The New Freedom project applications totaled less than the money available under the solicitation and thus, after the project eligibility was verified, all projects are recommended for funding. The JARC applications were reviewed and scored by a committee of seven stakeholders. Seven projects were recommended for awards of full funding and one for partial funding, given the estimated amount of funding available. One project was recommended for a contingency list in the event that additional funds become available or other proposals are withdrawn. Attachment A summarizes the list of recommended projects for JARC and New Freedom and the contingency list of projects for JARC.

Rationale

The FTA requires projects funded under the JARC and New Freedom program to be selected using a competitive process.

Funding

Federal funding will be provided by FTA grants with local match support from the project sponsors.

Federal fiscal year 2011 funding is still undetermined and thus, the total available funding for projects is based on an estimate. As a result, the approved amounts are estimates and a contingency list will be submitted to the FTA for approval in the event that additional funds become available.

Known Support / Opposition

Emerge submitted a formal petition, per the solicitation rules, to their ranking as a contingency project and not a project recommended for funding. Their application was reviewed with some clarification provided by the applicant and Council staff and the ranking was not changed. The three lowest projects were closely scored, with only two points separating projects ranked six to eight. MTS offered to take partial funding for its lowest ranked project (Route 219). This project will be eligible for any unspent funding from the current 2009-2011 JARC funding from 2011-2013 selected projects that turn back funding or from any additional funding allocated to the program.

Attachment A

New Freedom

Agency	Project	Award Amount
City of St. Paul	Accessible Pedestrian Signals	\$160,000
Common Bond	Door to Door Private Transit Service	\$173,453
Scott and Carver Counties	Scott and Carver County Merger	\$310,000
New Freedom Total		\$643,453

JARC

Agency	Project	Award Amount
Metropolitan Council	Route 721	\$78,350
Metro Transit	Route 14	\$493,138
Metro Transit	Route 810	\$44,283
Dakota County	MFIP Trans. Services	\$106,900
Anoka County	Anoka Access Service Coordination	\$114,000
Metropolitan Council	Route 219 (partial funding)	\$202,023
PRISM	Ways to Work	\$435,307
Emerge	Access to Jobs – Vanpool Service	\$420,800
JARC Total		\$1,894,801

JARC Contingency List

Agency	Project	Award Amount
Metropolitan Council	Route 219 (partial funding)	\$410,714
JARC Contingency Total		\$410,714