

T Transportation Committee

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of June 10, 2009

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date Prepared: May 12, 2009

Subject: Authorization to submit Metro Mobility Grant Application for ARRA funds

Proposed Action:

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to submit an ARRA grant application in the amount of \$2,444,000 for Transit Investments for Greenhouse Gas and Energy Reduction (TIGGER) through the Federal Transit Administration (FTA).

Summary of Committee Discussion / Questions:

There were no questions.

Hearing no objection, Chair Meeks stated that this item could move forward to the full Council as a Consent Item.

T Transportation Committee

Business Item

Item: 2009-164

Meeting date: May 11, 2009

Council meeting June 10, 2009

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date:	May 5, 2009
Subject:	Authorization to submit Metro Mobility Grant Application for ARRA funds.
District(s), Member(s):	All
Policy/Legal Reference:	Council Policy 3-2-2 Income Grants
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Arlene McCarthy, Director MTS (651)602-1754 Gerri Sutton, Asst. Dir. Contracted Transit Services (651)602-1672 Paul Colton, Sr. Manager – Metro Mobility (651)602-1668
Division/Department:	Metropolitan Transportation Services MTS - Metro Mobility

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to submit an ARRA grant application in the amount of \$2,444,000 for Transit Investments for Greenhouse Gas and Energy Reduction (TIGGER) through the Federal Transit Administration (FTA).

Background

Metro Mobility is scheduled to replace 51 buses in FY 2010. On April 27, 2009 the Transportation Committee approved the purchase of the first 16 small buses, upgraded to hybrid vehicles, with \$1,745,000 in ARRA funds. This procurement is part of the minimum 50% expenditures required within 180 days.

Metro Mobility has the opportunity to apply for ARRA funds through the TIGGER grant application process, which encourages transit agencies to be innovative in solutions to reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions including replacing existing vehicles with more energy-efficient vehicles or repowering existing vehicles with more energy efficient propulsion systems. Metro Mobility's TIGGER grant application would include up to 17 small electric hybrid buses and 18 electric hybrid automobiles which would complete the 2010 purchase.

Rationale

- The 51 Metro Mobility buses scheduled for replacement in FY 2010 were originally programmed as gasoline vehicles. Thirty-five vehicles, upgraded to hybrids, will be applied for through the ARRA TIGGER grant.
- If the Council is awarded this TIGGER grant, \$1.36 million in RTC funds will be available for other regional transit uses. If the Council is not successful in the TIGGER grant application, the previously budgeted 2010 RTC funds and/or remaining FTA ARRA funds can be used to complete the vehicle purchase.

Funding

TIGGER grants cover 100% of the project cost. A local match is not required.

Known Support / Opposition

No known opposition.