

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: September 24, 2007

ADVISORY INFORMATION	
Date:	September 5, 2007
Subject:	Approval of the Jobs Access Reverse Commute (JARC) and New Freedom Solicitation Project Selection
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 Cole Hiniker, Financial Planning Technician, 651-602-1748
Division/Department:	Metropolitan Transportation Services (MTS)

Proposed Action/Motion

That the Metropolitan Council:

- Approve the list of projects recommended for funding under the federal Jobs Access Reverse Commute (JARC) and New Freedom programs.
- Authorize the Regional Administrator to apply for and accept grants from Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for up to \$1,466,293 for the JARC program and up to \$1,028,308 for the New Freedom program to fund the recommended projects.

Issue(s)

- The funding period for the recommended projects is from October 1, 2007 to September 30, 2009. Projects may begin accruing costs on October 1, 2007. The federal program requirements specify that projects must be selected through a competitive solicitation prior to accruing costs.
- The New Freedom program solicitation received fewer requests than money available. As a result, an additional 25% of federal funds were offered to recommended projects. This additional funding will cover expansion of applicants' initial requests and/or administrative costs in overseeing the grants. The additional funding must not change the scope of the project, nor extend the timeframe.

Overview and Funding

The 2006-2007 JARC and New Freedom solicitation received 17 applications, 11 for JARC and 6 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 were recommended for funding. The JARC applications were reviewed and scored by a committee of eight stakeholders. The top nine projects were recommended for awards. The following lists summarize the project recommendations:

New Freedom

Agency	Project	Award Amount
Metropolitan Council	Advanced Trapeze Scheduling System	\$100,000
United Way	2-1-1 Service Expansion	Up to \$187,000
City of St. Paul	Accessible Pedestrian Signals	Up to \$100,000
City of Minneapolis	Accessible Pedestrian Signals	Up to \$125,000
Human Services Inc.	HSI Transporter Expansion	Up to \$43,345
Scott and Carver Counties	Scott and Carver County Merger	Up to \$281,602
Metropolitan Council	To Be Determined	Up to \$191,361
New Freedom Total		\$1,028,308

JARC

Agency	Project	Award Amount
Anoka County	AnokAccess Transportation	\$80,000
Metro Transit	Route 721	\$51,031
Maple Grove	Route 720	\$156,261
Metro Transit	Route 540	\$135,854
Emerge Inc.	Transportation Services	\$196,381
Metro Transit	Route 14	\$271,111
Metro Transit	Route 219	\$207,517
Metro Transit	Route 612	\$70,518
SouthWest Transit	Reverse Commute Routes	\$297,620
JARC Total		\$1,466,291