

T Transportation Committee
For the Metropolitan Council meeting of July 8, 2009

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date June 23, 2009
Prepared:
Subject: Authorization to Apply for JARC Funding for Van-GO!, (Resolution 2009-07)

Proposed Action:

That the Council approve Resolution 2009-07 authorizing the Regional Administrator to apply for 2010 Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC) funding from the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT).

Summary of Committee Discussion / Questions:

John Harper, MTS Supervisor Contracted Services, presented this item to the committee. Chair Meeks asked for clarification of the origins and destinations of vans eligible for this funding, and Harper stated that primarily this funding will be used for vans originating in the adjacent counties, which are destined for jobs within the metropolitan area. Chair Meeks asked for the source of the local match. Harper clarified that the local match will be supplied by Metropolitan Council. Member Hass Steffen stated her concern that Met Council is funding riders who live in the adjacent counties, but is struggling to provide dial-a-ride trips to certain residents of the metro area for medical purposes. Arlene McCarthy responded that Metropolitan Council staff has met with MN/DOT staff to explore funding opportunities for those trips.

Motion by Scherer, seconded by Steffen and passed.

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: June 22, 2009

Council meeting July 8, 2009

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date:	June 17, 2009
Subject:	Authorization to Apply for JARC Funding for Van-GO!, (Resolution)
District(s), Member(s):	All
Policy/Legal Reference:	Federal Transit Administration Section 5316
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Arlene McCarthy, Director of MTS (651-602-1217) Gerri Sutton, Assistant Director Contracted Services (651-602-1672) John Harper, Supervisor of Contracted Services (651-602-1744)
Division/Department:	Metropolitan Transportation Services (MTS)

Proposed Action

That the Council approve Resolution 2009-07 authorizing the Regional Administrator to apply for 2010 Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC) funding from the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT).

Background

Van Go! costs were fully supported by Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funding during the program's first three years; however, this source is no longer available.

In recent years, a growing portion of program participants either reside in or are destined for jobs located in counties surrounding the 7-county metro area (adjacent counties). In 2007, the Council assessed adjacent county participants for the portion of their trip which occurred outside the metro area. Also, in that year, the Council applied for and received funding under MnDOT's JARC program to offset the cost of the 2008 Van-GO! program for those adjacent county participants. The Council successfully received the JARC funding in 2009 and intends to continue to apply for JARC funds through MnDOT's annual solicitation.

Rationale

JARC funds granted by MnDOT provide Federal funding, with a 50% local match, to non-downtown vans providing trips to adjacent counties. Approximately 25% of Van Go! trips, and resulting lease miles, are taken by participants that either work or reside in the adjacent counties.

MnDOT's process requires applicants to submit a governing body resolution.

Funding

The Council is again seeking funds through MnDOT's JARC solicitation process to offset Van Go! Program costs for adjacent county participants in 2010. Funding for the service lease cost is approximately divided between participants (45%), MnDOT JARC (27.5%), and the Council (27.5%). Fuel and basic maintenance costs are borne by the participants.

Known Support / Opposition

The JARC application is supported by adjacent county program participants and has no known opposition.

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RESOLUTION 2009-07

**Resolution Authorizing the Metropolitan Council to
Apply for 2010 Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC) Funding
from the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT)**

Resolved, that the Metropolitan Council enter into an Agreement with the State of Minnesota to receive a Section 5316 (Job Access and Reverse Commute - JARC) grant to improve access to transportation services to employment and employment-related activities for welfare recipients and eligible low-income individuals.)

Further resolved, that the Metropolitan Council agrees to provide a local share of 20% of net capital costs for JARC Capital, Planning and Marketing projects, and 50% of net operating costs for JARC operating projects.

Further resolved, that the Metropolitan Council authorizes the Regional Administrator to execute the aforementioned Agreement and any amendments thereto.

Adopted this 8th day of July, 2009.

Peter Bell, Chair

Pat Curtiss, Secretary

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution is a true and correct copy of the resolution presented to and adopted by the Metropolitan Council at a duly authorized meeting held on the 8th day of July, 2009 as shown by the minutes of the meeting in my possession.

Pat Curtiss, Council Secretary