

## Office of the City Manager

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# Memorandum

**TO:** Lee D. Garrity, City Manager

**FROM:** Gregory M. Turner, Assistant City Manager

**DATE:** August 17, 2017

**SUBJECT:** Update on Job Access Reverse Commute (JARC) Enhanced

Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities

Staff was asked at the August 14, 2017 Finance Committee to provide additional information on the Job Access Reverse Commute (JARC) and the Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities programs. This memo provides the information requested.

## Section 5307, Job Access Reverse Commute (JARC) grant program

The Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC) program was established to address the unique transportation challenges faced by welfare recipients and low-income persons seeking to obtain and maintain employment. Many new entry-level jobs are located in suburban areas, and low-income individuals have difficulty accessing these jobs from their inner city, urban, or rural neighborhoods. In addition, many entry level-jobs require working late at night or on weekends when conventional transit services are either reduced or non-existent. Finally, many employment related-trips are complex and involve multiple destinations including reaching childcare facilities or other services.

The Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act designates a portion of Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5307 funds to be used for JARC program needs identified in the urban areas. The City of Winston-Salem is currently the direct recipient of FTA Section 5307 funds. As a result, the Winston Salem Urban Area's Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) designated \$55,000 to be deducted from the annual 5307 apportionment and used for JARC programs. These funds are administered as a pass-through grant program and further supplements public transportation services provided within the urban area. While WSTA provides services to this population in Winston-Salem between the hours of 5:00am to 12:00midnight daily, the sub-recipients recommended to receive these funds expand the service availability to 24-hour service and to areas beyond the city limits but within the MPO area.

## Questions about the risk.

There is minimal risk to the city since contracts are not awarded to sub-recipients until the funds have been approved by FTA. Funding received to date include the following:

- Section 5307 2015-2016: Grant approved
- Section 5307 2016-2017: Grant approved



• Section 5307 2017-2018: Status – Staff is currently coordinating with FTA, PART and Davidson County on the distribution of funding to be included in the application.

### Section 5310 – Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities

The Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities formula program provides apportioned funding to direct recipients. The purpose for the Section 5310 program is to improve mobility for seniors and individuals with disabilities by removing barriers to transportation service and expanding transportation mobility options. This program supports transportation services planned, designed, and carried out to meet the special transportation needs of seniors and individuals with disabilities in all areas. Eligible projects include both traditional capital investment and nontraditional investment beyond the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) complementary paratransit services. The City of Winston-Salem is the direct recipient of the Section 5310 funds, which are administered as a pass-through grant program.

While WSTA provides services to the elderly and disabled in Winston-Salem between the hours of 5:00am to 12:00 midnight daily, the sub-recipients recommended to receive these funds expand the service availability to 24-hour service and to areas beyond the city limits but within the MPO area.

#### Question about the risk.

We do not award contracts to sub-recipients until the funds have been approved. Funding received to date include the following:

- Section 5310 2014-2015: Grant Approved
- Section 5310 2015-2016: Status- Pending approval of this RFP process and approval by the TAC, this application will be submitted
- Section 5310 2016-2017: Status- Pending approval of this RFP process and approval by the TAC, this application will be submitted

#### What amount of time does the individual have to get a ride?

The following agencies provide these services:

<u>The Enrichment Center-</u> This sub-recipient provides transportation services for adults and senior citizens with intellectual and development disabilities who participate in the center's services. During hours of operation, the Enrichment Center transports participants to various activities throughout the community, providing access that may not otherwise be available to this population.

*Hours of Operation*: 8:00am to 5:00pm

Arranging for Transportation: Any person that is participating in their day and community programs will be provided transportation.

*Service Area*: Forsyth County and small portion of Stokes County.

<u>Town of Kernersville</u>- This sub-recipient provides transportation services for senior citizens and disabled persons within its community. This service is door to door, offered twice a week for shopping, dining, recreational and social activities that otherwise would not be available to this population.

*Hours of Operation*: 2 days a week; 5 hours a day (9:00am to 2:00pm)

**Arranging for Transportation**: It's a regular fixed transit service to 7 senior living centers (approximately 500 units) in the core of the Town of Kernersville

Service Area: Kernersville

<u>Here 2 There-</u> This sub-recipient provides transportation services for senior citizens and disabled persons within Winston-Salem and Forsyth County. This services is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Hours of Operation: 24hours/7 days

**Arranging for Transportation**: Interested parties would contact the Here-2-There main office to schedule a ride.

Service Area: The Winston-Salem Urban Area, to include all of Forsyth County and a small portion of Davie County, Davidson County and Stokes County

<u>The Shepherd Center-</u> This sub-recipient provides transportation services for senior citizens and disabled persons within Winston-Salem and Forsyth County. This door to door service is offered for medical appointments and grocery shopping assistance through the use of a volunteer transportation service or contracted service (if no volunteer is available).

Hours of Operation: 9:00am to 5:00pm

**Arranging for Transportation**: Interested parties would first contact the organization to complete approval process and become a participant. Once approved, reservations would need to be made between 1 and 2 weeks in advance.

*Service Area*: Forsyth County (with the exception of Kernersville)