



Lincoln Metropolitan Planning Organization

County-City Building
555 South 10th Street - Suite 213
Lincoln, Nebraska 68508
(402) 441-7491

Recommended Grant Award for FY 2010-11 Job Access & Reverse Commute Program

January, 21, 2011

Report to Lincoln MPO Officials Committee: February 4, 2011

Project Selection Task Force JARC Grant Award Recommendation

The *Project Selection Task Force* for the Lincoln MPO Technical Advisory Committee made funding award recommendations for the Job Access & Reverse Commute (Section 5316) grant program in August, 2010. This recommendation awarded JARC funding two programs and “deferred action” on a grant application for the **Center for People in Need: Driver Voucher Program**. The reason for the deferral was the CFPIN program was not meeting its goals under the existing grant. The application was to be reviewed in six months and if program activity improved to reflect the program’s goals, additional JARC grant funding would be recommended. The *Task Force* and the MPO Technical Advisory Committee wanted to continue supporting this program once it was fully develop and began meeting its stated goals.

A review of the current performance of the Center for People in Need: Driver Voucher Program shows the FY2008-09 CFPIN grant is depleted and the FY2009-10 grant of \$65,000 has \$39,000 remaining. With the current rate of use, it is expected that the remaining program funds will be used up by May 2011. Since the Driver Voucher Program is on track in meeting its stated goals, the CFPIN has requested the *Project Selection Task Force* recommend further support in JARC grant funding and program the \$50,000 in FY2010-11 JARC funds set aside for this program.

Based upon this review, the MPO Technical Advisory Committee is recommending the Center for People in Need: Driver Voucher Program be awarded the available \$50,000 in JARC funds.

Project Selection Task Force

The MPO Technical Advisory Committee created the advisory *Project Selection Task Force* to review and prioritize project proposals for the JARC and New Freedom programs. All project proposals are reviewed to conform to the guidelines established by FTA and evaluated and prioritized based upon the selection criteria identified in the *Coordinated Transportation Plan*. Projects deemed most important in addressing the community’s needs are recommended for funding according to the attached allocations.

The *Project Selection Task Force* members include the following* :

1. Lincoln-Lancaster Planning Department, Transportation Planner, Mike Brienzo
2. Lincoln StarTran, Transit Planner, Brian Praeuner
3. Lincoln Urban Development Department, Community Planner, Wynn Hjermstad
4. Human Services Federation, Executive Director, Rick Carter
5. Lincoln-Lancaster Health Department, Health Promotion & Outreach, Mike Heyl
6. Nebraska Department of Roads, Rail and Public Transportation Division, Wayne Masek

(*) Task Force members with a project proposal under review will recuse from voting on projects

Task Force recommendations are forwarded to the MPO Technical Committee for their review and action.

Center for People in Need – Driver Voucher Program

FY 2010-11 Job Access & Reverse Commute Program

Program Proposal

The **Driver Voucher Program** was developed by the Center for People in Need (CFPIN) to reimburse volunteer drivers on a per trip basis for providing eligible low-income workers with transportation to and from employment and employment-related activities. This program is targeted toward eligible low-income workers who are responsible for locating a driver and making the transportation arrangements that best suits their needs. Program funding is used to reimburse a volunteer driver on a per-trip basis for car-related expenses. The reimbursement is a set fee of \$5.00 per round trip, \$2.50 per one-way trip, and \$10.00 per round trip outside the city limits. The intent of the program is to provide transportation for low-income persons to access employment and job training opportunities.

The focus of this program is to increase mobility for employment and employment-related activities. This is accomplished in this program by distributing travel vouchers to approved clients in assisting them in gaining full employment through training and other related to employment activities. Documentation on each trip is provided to the program administrator prior to reimbursement.

Discussion

This is the third year the Center for People in Need program has applied for funding through the JARC program. This was a new program that got off to a slow start in developing the distribution and administration aspects of the program. These have been solved and the coordination with other agencies initiated as part of program development have improved.

The *Project Selection Task Force* initially reviewed the FY201-11 application recommended deferral because it was still in the developing stages and was looking for more progress in this program meeting in meeting its goals before recommending additional funding. Since then, the kinks in the voucher distribution and documentation have improved and the program is meeting the stated program goals.

JARC Grant Activity (as of 1/10/11)

<u>Grant Year</u>	<u>Request</u>	<u>Award</u>	<u>Reimbursement</u>	<u>Balance</u>
2008	\$90,000	\$45,000	\$45,000	\$0
2009	65,000	65,000	26,000	39,000
2010	50,000	0	0	0
Sum	\$205,000	\$110,000	\$71,000	\$39,000

The *Project Selection Task Force* is recommending the Center for People in Need: Driver Voucher Program application be approved with a recommendation of support in FY2010-11 JARC grant funding in the amount of \$50,000.

JA/RC Funds Requested: \$50,000

Recommended Funding: \$50,000



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Final

Selection Committee Proposed Project Awards for Job Access & Reverse Commute and New Freedom Programs FY 2010-11

Project	Sponsoring Agency	Project Title	Requested Funds	Local Match	Total Costs	Operating / Planning	FFY	Type	Recommended Grant Award
Section 5316: Job Access & Reverse Commute Program									
1	Lincoln Literacy Council	Transportation Support for New Americans Preparing for Work Entry	\$ 28,912	\$ 159,158	\$ 188,070	Operating	2011	JA/RC	\$ 28,912
2	StarTran/City of Lincoln	Subsidize StarTran Bus Route	\$ 371,862	\$ 371,862	\$ 743,724	Operating	2011	JA/RC	\$ 371,862
3	Center for People in Need	Driver Voucher Program	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 100,000	Operating	2011	JA/RC	deferred ⁽¹⁾
JA/RC Funds Requested:			\$ 450,774			Recommended Funding:			\$ 400,774
JA/RC Available:			\$ 468,287			Carry-over Funds:			\$ 67,513
Section 5317: New Freedom Program									
1	League of Human Dignity, Inc.	Extended Hours Service (EHS)	\$ 44,440	\$ 44,440	\$ 88,880	Operating	2011	NF	\$ 44,440
2	Lincoln Seniors Transportation Program ⁽²⁾	Lincoln Seniors Transportation Program	\$ 89,924	\$ 178,186	\$ 268,110	Operating	2011	NF	\$ 85,060
New Freedom Funds Requested:			\$ 134,364			Recommended Funding:			\$ 129,500
New Freedom Funds Available:			\$ 129,500			Carry-over Funds:			0

* September 16, 2010

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Notes:

⁽¹⁾ The recommendation is to “defer action” the Center for People in Need - Driver Voucher Program application for F 2011 based on performance criteria to be re-evaluated in 6 months.

⁽²⁾ The *Lincoln Seniors Transportation Program* is requesting two years of grant funding for FY 2010-11 and FY 2011-12.

LINCOLN MPO TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FY 2011-14: AMENDMENT 3

2011-2014 LINCOLN CITY/LANCASTER COUNTY, NEBRASKA

Lincoln Metropolitan Planning Organization

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

TIP AMENDMENT (02/04/11)

#3

PROJ NO (Map)	PROJECT (Location & Distance) (Improvement Description) (Control Number) (Project Number) (Work Phase)	PROGRAMMED EXPENDITURES & FUNDING SOURCES (FS) (000's)										TOTAL FOR FOUR YEARS	COSTS BEYOND PROGRAM	COMP PLAN CONFORM	
		PRIORITY PROJECTS													
		2010-11	FS	2011-12	FS	2012-13	FS	2013-14	FS						
Add	Section 5316 Program Center for People in Need Driver Voucher Program	Add Job Access & Reverse Commute (Sec 5316) Project to FY 2011													
			50.0	B3											
			50.0	OF											
		Total:	100.0									100.0			ICWP

LINCOLN MPO TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FY 2011-14: AMENDMENT 3

2011-2014 LINCOLN CITY/LANCASTER COUNTY, NEBRASKA

Lincoln Metropolitan Planning Organization

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

TIP AMENDMENT (02/04/11)

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		PRIORITY PROJECTS													
		2010-11	FS	2011-12	FS	2012-13	FS	2013-14	FS						
FUNDING SUMMARY: FTA PROGRAMS															
FEDERAL FUNDS:															
	B3 (Section 5316 Funds)	50.0		0.0		0.0		0.0		0.0		50.0			
	B4 (Section 5317 Funds)	0.0		0.0		0.0		0.0		0.0		0.0			
	SUB-TOTAL CITY FUNDS	50.0		0.0		0.0		0.0		0.0		50.0			
STATE FUNDS:															
	NE (State of Nebraska)	0.0		0.0		0.0		0.0		0.0		0.0			
	SUB-TOTAL CITY FUNDS	0.0		0.0		0.0		0.0		0.0		0.0			
LOCAL FUNDS:															
	OF (Other Funds)	50.0		0.0		0.0		0.0		0.0		50.0			
	LN (City of Lincoln)	0.0		0.0		0.0		0.0		0.0		0.0			
	SUB-TOTAL CITY FUNDS	50.0		0.0		0.0		0.0		0.0		50.0			
	TOTALS	100.0		0.0		0.0		0.0		0.0		100.0		0.0	

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