

SUBJECT: A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY APPROVING THE SCOPE OF WORK AND BUDGET TO PROVIDE A GRANT FOR \$341,334 TO VALLEY TRANSIT FOR THE REQUIRED 9.03% LOCAL MATCH FOR A FEDERAL TRANSIT GRANT TO REPLACE VALLEY TRANSIT COMMUTER BUSES.


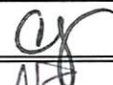


AGENDA OF: March 19, 2019

ASSEMBLY ACTION:

*Adopted without objection
3-19-19*

MANAGER RECOMMENDATION: Present to the Assembly for consideration.

APPROVED BY JOHN MOOSEY, BOROUGH MANAGER: 

Route To:	Department/Individual	Initials	Remarks
	Originator - PGraham		
	Planning and Land Use Director	<i>EP</i>	
	Finance Director		
	Borough Attorney	<i>NS</i>	
	Borough Clerk		3/11/19 

ATTACHMENT(S): Fiscal Note: YES X NO
Letter to Alaska Community Transit Office (1 pp)
TAB Resolution 2019-01 (2 pp)
Resolution Serial No. 19-030 (3pp)

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

The Borough Planning Department and Administration are requesting Assembly appropriation of up to \$341,334 from the Community Transportation Program Grant Match budget. This would provide the required 9.03% local match to leverage up to \$3,438,666 in FTA 5311 (Rural Areas) and FTA 5339 (Bus & Bus Facilities Infrastructure) to replace six of Valley Transit's commuter buses, with branding and farebox installation. FTA funding passes through the Alaska Community Transit Office, which decides the grant recipients and funding amounts.

The Borough Assembly would provide the match as a grant to Valley Transit, and Valley Transit would sign a grant reporting agreement with the Borough. The Borough grant and reporting agreement are contingent upon Valley Transit receiving FTA pass-through funding from the Alaska Community Transit Office.

All six buses currently used by Valley Transit to operate their commuter route between the Mat-Su Borough and Anchorage were purchased from Anchorage's People Mover when already past their useful life. The commuter buses average over 850,000 miles and are in serious need of replacement. The current commuter buses provide over 50,000 annual rides.

Cost Breakdown

Item	Individual Cost (\$)	Qty.	Total Cost (\$)
Bus	570,000	6	3,420,000
Bus Branding	30,000	6	180,000
Farebox	15,000	12	180,000
Total Cost			3,780,000
Cost to Borough (9.03% of total)			341,334

While staff requests an upper limit of \$341,334, it is unlikely that the Alaska Community Transit Office will grant the full \$3,438,666 request. In that case, the same match ratio will apply and the local contribution will be less than \$341,334; the number of commuter buses funded will be reduced to match the available funding.

Adopted Plan References & Community Support

Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan (Adopted November 2018)

- Describes the current and growing need for transit service improvements based on demographic changes, while funding has

decreased (p.6, 15-30, 43)

- The Borough and cities do not regularly provide local match funds to leverage federal funds necessary to maintain vehicles and help cover operating expenses (p.6, 43)
- Strategy: identify additional funding sources, including grants from local government (p.8, 50)
- Strategy: rebrand Valley Transit rolling stock (p.9, 52)

2035 MSB Long Range Transportation Plan (Adopted December 2017)

- "While the automobile has been the primary mode of transportation, residents have expressed a focused interest in improving transit..." (p.9)
- "Improve access to jobs for both residents and employers" (p.21); "Improving multimodal access to jobs..." (p.21)
- "Expand the transit system including more regular service to Anchorage and more fixed-route service" (p.29)

Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) Support

- Fleet refresh program asking for match funds for new public transit vehicles for Valley Transit. The TAB nominated this project to the 2020-2025 Capital Improvement Program.

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION: Appropriate \$341,334 from the Community Transportation Program Grant Match budget to provide the required 9.03% local match for federal transit grants to replace Valley Transit commuter buses. If the grant award from the Alaska Community Transit Office is less than \$3,438,666, any unused match funding will remain in the Community Transportation Program Grant Match Budget.

MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH - FISCAL NOTE

Agenda Date March 19, 2019ORIGINATOR: Pamela Graham, Grant Coordinator

SUBJECT: A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY APPROVING THE SCOPE OF WORK AND BUDGET TO PROVIDE A GRANT FOR \$341,334 TO VALLEY TRANSIT FOR THE REQUIRED 9.03% LOCAL MATCH FOR A FEDERAL TRANSIT GRANT TO REPLACE VALLEY TRANSIT COMMUTER BUSES.

FISCAL ACTION (TO BE COMPLETED BY FINANCE)	FISCAL IMPACT? <u>(YES)</u> NO
AMOUNT REQUESTED \$ <u>341,334</u>	FUNDING SOURCE <u>Grant match Funds</u>
FROM ACCOUNT # <u>480,000.000 4xx.xxx</u>	PROJECT # <u>99999</u>
TO ACCOUNT # <u>480,000.000 3xx.xxx</u>	PROJECT # <u>20396</u>
VERIFIED BY: <u>[Signature]</u>	CERTIFIED BY:
DATE: <u>3-7-19</u>	DATE:

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES:

(Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY2018	FY2019	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023
Personnel Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land/Structures						
Grants, Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING						
CAPITAL		<u>341.3</u>				
REVENUE						

FUNDING:

(Thousands of Dollars)

General Fund						
Federal Funds						
Other		<u>341.3</u>				
TOTAL		<u>341.3</u>				

POSITIONS:

Full-Time						
Part-Time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

PREPARED BY:
 DEPARTMENT:
 APPROVED BY: [Signature]

Phone:
 Date:
 Date: 3/7/19

Matanuska-Susitna Borough



Debbi Howard debbi.howard@alaska.gov

December 14, 2018

State Transit Coordinator
Alaska Community Transit Office
PO Box 112500
Juneau, AK 99811-2500

Re: Borough Matching Funds for Valley Transit Buses

Dear Ms. Howard,

The Matanuska-Susitna Borough Manager supports seeking Assembly approval to provide up to \$378,000 as the 10% required local match to leverage \$3,402,000 in federal pass-through grant funding for Valley Transit to purchase six new commuter coach buses with fare boxes at a total cost of \$3,780,000.

The buses currently used for Valley Transit's commuter route were purchased from Anchorage's People Mover and were already past their useful life, with each bus averaging over 850,000 miles and some with over one million miles. These buses need to be replaced to provide an adequate level of service.

Several locally adopted plans support transit investment within the Borough. The Mat-Su Borough Assembly adopted a Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan on November 27, 2018. It describes the current and growing need for transit service improvements based on the growing population and increasing proportion of the population with a propensity for transit use. One key strategy listed for improving transit service in the Borough is to identify additional funding sources, including grants from local, state, and the federal government.

The Borough's Long Range Transportation Plan conveys residents' expressed interest in improving transit and improving multi-modal access to jobs for both residents and employers. The plan specifically mentions expanding the transit system, including increasing regular service to Anchorage. Valley Transit's commuter route supports these interests.

Further, the Borough's Transportation Advisory Board supports a fleet refresh program asking for match funds for Valley Transit to procure new public transit vehicles. The Board nominated this project for inclusion in the Borough's 2020-2025 Capital Improvement Program, pending Assembly adoption.

With approximately one-third of the Borough's work force commuting to Anchorage, improvements to Valley Transit's commuter service provide a valuable opportunity to facilitate job access, increase capacity on the Glenn Highway, and generally foster a more equitable transportation system within the Mat-Su Borough.

Sincerely,

 **DEPUTY MANAGER**
for John M. Moosey
Borough Manager

cc: Eric Taylor, Manager, Transit Program, eric.taylor@alaska.gov



John M. Moosey * Borough Manager * 350 E. Dahlia Avenue * Palmer, AK 99645
907.861.8689 * john.moosey@matsugov.us

im 19-045
RS 19-030

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD
RESOLUTION SERIAL NO. TA19-01**

A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD RECOMMENDING ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATION OF UP TO \$341,334 FROM THE COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM GRANT MATCH BUDGET TO PROVIDE THE REQUIRED 9.03% LOCAL MATCH FOR FEDERAL TRANSIT GRANTS TO REPLACE VALLEY TRANSIT COMMUTER BUSES.

WHEREAS, Valley Transit is seeking to replace six commuter buses operating between the Mat-Su Borough and Anchorage for a total cost of \$3,780,000; and

WHEREAS, Valley Transit is eligible for FTA 5311 (Rural Areas) and FTA 5339 (Bus & Bus Infrastructure) funds; and

WHEREAS, a local match of 9.03% is required to receive FTA 5311 and FTA 5339 funding, with up to \$341,334 from the Mat-Su Borough and up to \$3,438,666 granted by the Alaska Community Transit Office; and

WHEREAS, Valley Transit provides over 50,000 annual commuter rides to Mat-Su Borough Residents; and

WHEREAS, Valley Transit's commuter buses were purchased from Anchorage's People Mover already past their useful life, and the commuter buses average 850,000 miles and need to be replaced; and

WHEREAS, the 2035 MSB Long Range Transportation Plan and the 2018 Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan recognize the increasing need to prioritize investment in transit services in the Borough; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Transportation Advisory Board hereby recommends Assembly appropriation of \$341,224 from the Community Transportation Program Grant Match budget to provide the required 9.03% local match for federal transit grants to replace Valley Transit commuter buses. If the grant award from the Alaska Community Transit Office is less than \$3,438,666, any unused match funding will remain in the Community Transportation Program Grant Match budget.

ADOPTED by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Transportation Advisory Board this 26th day of February, 2019.


Cindy Bettine, Chair

ATTEST:


Benjamin Coleman, Transportation Planner
Staff Support