



**CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo
REGULAR MEETING**

#13-0759

TO: Honorable Mayor & Members of the
Fort Lauderdale City Commission

FROM: Lee Feldman, ICMA-CM, City Manager

DATE: July 2, 2013

TITLE: Resolution approving GRANT APPLICATION AND ACCEPTANCE –
Florida Department of Transportation Transit Corridor Program for two
years, including match requirements.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the City Commission adopt a Resolution authorizing application for the "Beach Link Expansion" and "Downtown WAVE Imitation Link" grants and authorizing the proper City officials to receive grant dollars from the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Transit Corridor program for two years of operational costs and a trolley replacement, including cash match requirements.

Background

The City is requesting approval to apply for:

- (1) operating and administrative costs of \$365,360 and capital funds in the amount of \$250,000 for the SunTrolley Downtown WAVE Imitation Link with an equal cash match.
- (2) operating funds of \$307,520 plus \$11,800 capital funds for the Beach Link Expansion.

The operating costs are \$672,880 total for a two year period, with an equal cash match. The match for both grants will be provided by the Downtown Fort Lauderdale Transportation Management Association (TMA) under a sub-recipient agreement.

City staff and the TMA contacted FDOT in June and determined that some grant funds are still available in the Transit Corridor program that expires June 30, 2013, the end of the State fiscal year. Timely application is required to be eligible and the City will apply for those funds on behalf of the TMA, an ineligible applicant. FDOT District IV has requested approval of the preliminary budget by the State-level Central Office prior to a formal application.

The grant for the operation and expansion of the Downtown Link will enable the TMA to slightly modify the route to mimic the planned Wave Streetcar service and expand

from four-day to daily service. The grant will provide one additional trolley for this route to decrease headways, equipped with auto-annunciators and other technologies to assist riders, to reduce wait times between shuttles, and to serve more riders. FDOT requested these enhancements to the SunTrolley service to help build the ridership along the route, ahead of the WAVE implementation.

The Beach Link grant will fund the expansion to daily service for coordinated linkage to the Downtown Route and the planned WAVE and will provide cameras for five trolleys as well as a server to host the "Trolley Tracker" smartphone app.

It is anticipated that the FDOT grant approval and agreement(s) will be received in July 2013. Grant funding will provide support for up to two years from the date of execution. Staff is prepared to meet these deadlines.

The City will advance the cost of purchasing the trolley and equipment and be reimbursed by grant funds. We will also reimburse the Transportation Management Association for grant-eligible operational and administrative costs for the routes, and will then be reimbursed from the grant funds.

Resource Impact

No current fiscal impact to the City. If successful, an agreement will be required from the TMA for provision of the required match funds throughout the term of the grant, prior to acceptance of the grant. A budget amendment will be requested to appropriate revenues and expenditures which will have net zero fiscal impact to the City upon reimbursement from the grant.

EX 1: Resolution

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