



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

**FROM:** Lee Feldman, ICMA-CM, City Manager

**DATE:** December 04, 2012

**TITLE:** Resolution approving GRANT APPLICATIONS - South Florida Regional  
Transportation Authority Job Access and Reverse Commute and New  
Freedom Grant Programs, \$1,398,900, with a \$428,700 City match  
required

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**Recommendation**

It is recommended that the City Commission approve a resolution authorizing the proper City officials to apply for, receive, and expend grant dollars from the Federal Transit Administration's Job Access and Reverse Commute Program (JARC) and New Freedom (NF) through the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA) to replace six (6) trolleys and for two (2) years of operational costs for the trolley service.

**Background**

The City is requesting a JARC grant in the amount of \$1,293,600 and a New Freedom grant in the amount of \$105,300. The JARC program requires a 20% match of \$323,400 and New Freedom's match of 50% totals \$105,300 for the two (2) year period. City match will be from the State's Toll Credits Program.

JARC funds will be used for the capital purchase of trolleys or similar vehicles to replace six (6) of the oldest Downtown Fort Lauderdale Transportation Management Association trolleys and the integration of an automated fare box system and ridership counting technology consistent with other regional transit systems such as Tri-Rail and Palm Tran. The grant request will include two (2) years of operational costs including management, operations, and maintenance of the trolleys. The trolley service provides job access to area businesses and services.

The New Freedom (NF) grant funds will be for mobility management for the entire trolley system, to create and manage routes with designated stops to serve low-income, disabled, and veteran riders by providing transportation to jobs and social services in the area and connect to other transit modes.

The South Florida Regional Transportation Authority announced the availability of grant funds on October 16, 2012 under the Federal Transportation Authority's MAP21 program. The grant application deadline is December 21, 2012. The project proposals will be ranked in February 2013 by SFRTA and the Federal Transit Authority will make final determinations later in 2013, dates not yet available. SFRTA will administer this grant and the Downtown Fort Lauderdale Transportation Management Association (DTFLTMA) will manage and operate the route. The City will be a sub-recipient of the grant.

Grant funds are available for services that were not operational on August 10, 2005. The JARC program is intended to provide funding for job access and reverse commute services which provide transit for low income individuals or improve access to employment, job training, and support activities for welfare recipients and eligible low-income individuals. New Freedom is intended to encourage services and facility improvements to address the transportation needs of persons with disabilities beyond the ADA requirements.

It is anticipated the grant agreement will be received in December 2013. Grant funding will provide support for up to 2 years from the date of execution. Staff is prepared to meet these deadlines. The City's will advance the cost of purchasing the trolleys and to reimburse the Transportation Management Association for operation and administrative costs and be reimbursed from grant funds.

**Resource Impact**

No current fiscal impact to the City. If successful in application, a match of \$428,700 will be presented to the City Commission for appropriation in a budget amendment agenda item.

**Attachment:**

Exhibit 1 Resolution

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