



STAFF REPORT

DATE: August 28, 2023
TO: Sacramento Regional Transit Board of Directors
FROM: Laura Ham, VP, Planning and Engineering
SUBJ: AUTHORIZING THE GENERAL MANAGER/CEO TO SUBMIT AND EXECUTE THE FEDERAL FUNDING UNDER FTA SECTION 5310 (49 U.S.C. SECTION 5310) WITH CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt the Attached Resolution.

RESULT OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approval of this action will allow the General Manager/CEO to apply for grants and execute grant agreements of federal funding under Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5310 (49.U.S.C Section 5310) with California Department of Transportation (Caltrans).

FISCAL IMPACT

Authorizes the General Manager/CEO to apply for and execute FTA Section 5310 funding through Caltrans for approved capital projects and/or operation of paratransit service in Sacramento Urbanized Area. This approval will allow SacRT to apply for up to \$4,606,551 of federal fiscal years (FFYs) 2022- 2023 FTA Section 5310 funding to support SacRT GO Paratransit Vehicle Replacement and Operating Assistance.

DISCUSSION

The FTA Section 5310 – Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program is authorized by 49 United States Code (U.S.C.) 5310. The goal of the FTA 5310 Program is to improve the mobility of seniors and individuals with disabilities by removing barriers to transportation services and expanding the transportation mobility options available.

This program provides grant funds for capital, mobility management, and operating expenses for:

- Public transportation projects planned, designed, and carried out to meet the special needs of seniors and individuals with disabilities when public transportation is insufficient, inappropriate, or unavailable;

- Public transportation projects that exceed the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA);
- Public transportation projects that improve access to fixed-route service and decrease reliance on complementary paratransit; and
- Alternatives to public transportation projects that assist seniors and individuals with disabilities and with transportation.

Caltrans, as a designated recipient for State of California, has the authority and responsibility for administering the FTA Section 5310 program. Caltrans implements a competitive selection process for FTA Section 5310 projects. All projects selected for 5310 funding must be included in a locally-developed, coordinated human services transportation plan. The Caltrans FTA Section 5310 Program 2023 Call for Projects was released on June 14, 2023. The application deadline is August 30, 2023. In the Sacramento Urbanized Area (UZA) there is \$4,606,551 available in FTA Section 5310 funding for FFYs 2022-2023. A minimum of \$2,533,603 (55%) will go to traditional capital projects, up to \$1,842,620 (40%) will go to expanded projects for operations, etc., and the remaining 5% of funds (\$230,328) will go to Caltrans for administration of the FTA Section 5310 program in California.

SacRT, as a designated Consolidated Transportation Services Agency (CTSA) for Sacramento County, is eligible to apply for FTA Section 5310 funding. Projects selected for application must be listed in Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) Public Transit and Human Services Transportation Coordinated Plan (Coordinated Plan) approved on March 17, 2022.

After discussions with various departments within SacRT, the need to replace 12 paratransit shuttles was identified. As the primary provider of paratransit rides in the Sacramento UZA, with over 80% of all paratransit rides coming from SacRT, SacRT is also recommending \$1,600,000 in operating assistance (80% of the available funding).

SacRT staff recommends that the Board authorize the General Manager/CEO to apply for and execute FTA Section 5310 grant funding to purchase 12 paratransit replacement vehicles and a \$1.6M operation subsidy for paratransit service in the Sacramento Urbanized Area.

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-08-079

Adopted by the Board of Directors of the Sacramento Regional Transit District on this date:

August 28, 2023

AUTHORIZING THE GENERAL MANAGER/CEO TO SUBMIT AND EXECUTE THE FEDERAL FUNDING UNDER FTA SECTION 5310 (49 U.S.C. SECTION 5310) WITH CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

WHEREAS, the U. S. Department of Transportation is authorized to make grants to states through the Federal Transit Administration to support capital projects for non-urbanized public transportation systems under Section 5310 of the Federal Transit Act (FTA C 9070.1G); and

WHEREAS, the California Department of Transportation (Department) has been designated by the Governor of the State of California to administer Section 5310 grants for transportation projects for seniors and individuals with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Sacramento Regional Transit District (SacRT) desires to apply for said financial assistance to permit operation of paratransit service in the Sacramento Urbanized Area; and

WHEREAS, SacRT has, to the maximum extent feasible, coordinated with other transportation providers and users in the region (including social service agencies).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED AND ORDERED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SACRAMENTO REGIONAL TRANSIT DISTRICT AS FOLLOWS:

THAT, the General Manager/CEO is authorized to file and execute applications on behalf of SacRT with the Department to aid in the financing of capital projects pursuant to Section 5310 of the Federal Transit Act (FTA C 9070.1G), as amended.

THAT, the General Manager/CEO is authorized to execute and file all certification of assurances, contracts or agreements or any other document required by the Department.

THAT, the General Manager/CEO is authorized to provide additional information as the Department may require in connection with the application for the Section 5310 projects.

THAT, the General Manager/CEO is authorized to submit and approve request for reimbursement of funds from the Department for the Section 5310 project/s.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY the Sacramento Regional Transit District of Sacramento County, State of California, at a regular Board Meeting held on the 28th of August, 2023 by the following vote:

AYES/YES:

NOES:

ABSTENTIONS:

PATRICK KENNEDY, Chair

A T T E S T:

HENRY LI, Secretary

By: _____
Tabetha Smith, Assistant Secretary