



*March 15, 2010*

## **AGENDA ITEM 2 E**

### **FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION JARC/NEW FREEDOM PROJECT LIST APPROVAL**

**REQUESTED BY:** StarMetro

**TYPE OF ITEM:** Consent

#### **STATEMENT OF ISSUE**

StarMetro is requesting approval for the projects selected to receive Federal Transit Administration (FTA) 5307 funding under the Section 5316 Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC) and the 5317 New Freedom (NF) programs. The projects were chosen by a selection committee through a competitive selection process as outlined by the FTA.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS BY CRTPA SUBCOMMITTEES**

Although the list of projects was not available at the time of the committee meetings, the CRTPA's three (3) subcommittees (Citizens Advisory Committee, Multimodal Advisory Committee and Technical Advisory Committee) recommended approval of this item at their respective March 2, 2010 meetings.

#### **RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Option 1: Approve the projects chosen by the selection committee to receive FTA funding\*.

\*NOTE: The list of projects were not available at the time of agenda distribution and therefore will be distributed under separate cover.

#### **HISTORY AND ANALYSIS**

The Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFTEA-LU) authorizes funding for two programs to assist transit dependent individuals. The Job Access and Reverse Commute (Section 5316) program provides support the development and maintenance of job access projects designed to transport welfare recipients and eligible low-income individuals to and from jobs and activities related to their employment. The program also supports reverse commute projects designed to transport residents of urbanized areas and other than urbanized areas to suburban employment opportunities. Toward this goal, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) provides financial assistance for transportation services planned, designed, and carried out to meet the transportation needs of eligible low-income individuals, and of reverse commuters regardless of income.

The New Freedom (Section 5317) program seeks to reduce barriers to transportation services and expand the transportation mobility options available to people with disabilities beyond the requirements of ADA of 1990. These funds may be used for capital costs or operating expenses. Up to ten percent of the total grant money is allowed for administrative costs incurred by the designated recipient of the grant.

The funds for both JARC and NF programs are included in the CRTPA Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) and the State Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP).

StarMetro has been appointed by the Governor of the State of Florida as the designated recipient of the FTA funding for the JARC and NFP. The FTA apportions funds to designated recipients at the state level for non-urbanized areas and small-urbanized areas, and at the local level for larger urbanized areas. As required by the FTA, designated recipients conduct a competitive project selection process; certify fair and equitable distribution of funds resulting from the competitive selection process, certify that each project selected was derived from a locally developed coordinated public transit-human services transportation plan, certify that local plans are developed through an inclusive process; manage grant distribution and oversight for sub-recipients receiving funds and submit reports as required by FTA.

StarMetro conducted the required project selection process on March 11, 2010. Due to the selection process occurring after distribution of the CRTPA March 15, 2010 agendas, the list of selected projects will be provided under separate cover prior to the meeting.

Subsequent to project grant selection and submission, the FTA will review the selected projects and make a determination as to whether the projects meet criteria to be funded from the grant. When all criteria are met the FTA will notify StarMetro and the grant will be executed. After execution StarMetro will award funding for the selected project(s).

### **NEXT STEP**

Subsequent to the CRTPA's approval of the projects chosen by the selection committee to receive FTA funding, StarMetro will prepare an agenda item for the City of Tallahassee Commission to approve the request to apply for, execute and administer the funding from the 2008/2009 JARC 5316 grants and the 2007/2008/2009 NF 5317 grants.

### **OPTIONS**

Option 1: Approve the projects chosen by the selection committee to receive FTA funding.  
(Recommended)

Option 2: Provide other direction.

### **ATTACHMENT**

Attachment 1: Program of Projects (POP)\*

\* To be provided after agenda distribution