

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORT

2020 Legislative Session

Reference No.: CR- 086 -2020 A Resolution Concerning Fiscal Year 2021 Annual
Transportation Plan for Maryland Public
Transportation Programs and Americans with
Disabilities Act Program

Draft No.: 1

Committee: COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Date: 9/24/2020

Action: FAV

REPORT:

Committee Vote: Favorable 11-0 (In favor: Council Members Turner, Hawkins, Anderson-Walker, Davis, Dernoga, Franklin, Glaros, Harrison, Ivey, Streeter and Taveras)

The Committee convened on September 24, 2020 to review CR-86-2020, which authorizes the Director of the Prince George's County Department of Public Works and Transportation (DPWT) to file an application with the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) and the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) for certain grants.

Historically, the County has cited only its Statewide Special Transportation Assistance Program (SSTAP) application in its annual resolution (this year's resolution was adopted as CR-34-2020). The MDOT-MTA has now requested that the resolution be broadened to include other grants applied for within the Annual Transportation Plan and the Federal Transit Administration. These grants include:

Section 5311 Capital and Operating Assistance - Federal (and State matching when State finances allow) funding for Rural Public Transportation (in areas with population less than 50,000). These funds can be used for operating, capital, or administrative costs. The State allocates Section 5311 funds to eligible jurisdictions through the annual application process. These funds have been used to offset a portion of the operating cost for Call-A-Bus, Non-ADA services.

- Awarded in FY2020: Federal Funds \$125,381 and State Funds \$31,125 Total of \$156,506.00
- Proposed in FY2021: Federal Funds \$125,381 and State Funds \$31,125 Total of \$156,506.00

Large Urban Capital and Operating Assistance – State funds for operating and capital assistance in large urban areas. Large Urban funding is discretionary and not formula based. These funds have been used to offset operating cost for “TheBus” Route 35S.

- Awarded in FY2020: State Funds \$112,050
- Proposed in FY2021: State Funds \$112,050

American with Disabilities Act (ADA) Program – State funds, annually apportioned to transit systems that operate fixed routes to provide complementary paratransit service to person with disabilities as required under the Federal ADA. Operating Fund providing demand response curb-to-curb transportation for persons with disabilities who are unable to use traditional, fixed-route public transit. These funds have been used to offset a portion of the operating cost for Call-A-Bus ADA services.

- Awarded in FY2020: State Funds \$450,000
- Proposed in FY2021: State Funds \$450,000

Low or No Emission Vehicle Program (Low-No) Bus Program (Section 5339 Low-No) - Prince Georges County was awarded \$2.2 million from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to purchase electric buses and chargers. DPWT is in the process of replacing 4 diesel buses that have exceeded their useful life with four (4) electric buses and charging stations. DPWT anticipates having the buses and charging stations in use by Spring of 2021.

After the discussion, the Committee voted favorably on CR-86-2020 by a vote of 11-0.