

City of Bethel Action Memorandum

Action memorandum No.	22-36		
Date action introduced:	12-13-2022	Introduced by:	Peter A. Williams, City Manager
Date action taken:	12-13-2022	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approved	<input type="checkbox"/> Denied
Confirmed by:	K M		

Action Title: Direct Administration to prepare and submit an FY 2024 Public Transit (5311) Rural Transit Grant application to fund the Bethel Transit System with a pledge of ~~\$156,164~~ 166,949 in local cash match from the City's planned FY 2024 Budget to cover operating and capital purchases.

Attachment(s): None

Amount of fiscal impact:		Account information:
\$156,164 <u>166,949</u>	Funds to be placed in City FY 2024 Budget.	560-50-XXXX

Summary Statement

The City of Bethel has an opportunity to fund Year 15 of the Bethel Transit System. Applications for the FY 2024 Public Transit (5311) Grants are being accepted until December 30, 2022. The grant performance period is July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024.

The City plans to fund the transit system by collecting \$40,000 in farebox revenue, requesting approximately ~~\$236,000~~ 255,567 in operating grant funds and ~~\$663,172~~ 696,654 in capital grant funds. The City pledges to provide the following cash match amounts: \$90,000 in operating, \$16,164 in capital for the purchase of a transit vehicle, and \$50,000 in capital for the cost to replace the transit building heating system. The total City match is ~~\$156,164.~~ 166,949.

During normal non-Covid operating conditions, the transit system provided 2,200-2,800 rides per month. Organizations like the Orutsararmuit Native Council, Tundra Women's Coalition, and Association of Village Council Presidents purchase monthly passes for their clients. The transit system helps employees get to work, seniors get to the Post Office, stores, and utility bill locations, and those individuals and families without vehicles to move around town.

The transit budget would fund one full-time transit manager, one full-time driver, and one part-time driver to serve the Green Route, with five-day service to 32 stops every hour. The city wishes to hire a second part-time driver to drive 200 hours over two months to test a route extension to Kasayuli and Larson subdivisions.

The City Manager must provide a letter for the grant application that pledges the cash match amount in advance of development of the City's FY 2024 Budget. They City will prepare its FY 2024 Budget with the grant amounts and cash match amounts described herein so that it coincides with the transit system grant application. Once the grant awards are announced by the State in May 2023, City Administration will present to Council another Action Memorandum to approve and accept the grant award and direct the City Manager to sign it.