

AWARD FEDERAL §5304 PLANNING FUNDS AND STATE MATCH TO TEXOMA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS FOR A PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION PLANNING PROJECT

Description

This minute order awards \$41,360 of federal §5304 State Planning and Research Program funds and \$10,340 in state match to the Texoma Council of Governments (TCOG). TCOG will conduct a demonstration project of a fixed-route public transportation service between Austin College, Sherman Town Center, and Midway Mall in Sherman.

Background

TCOG contracts with Texoma Area Paratransit Services to provide demand-response public transportation service in the Sherman urbanized area.

Criteria

The department evaluates requests for assistance and recommends that the commission award planning funds when appropriate.

Evaluation criteria include review of prior planning studies, changes in the operating environment, and local support.

Problem/Condition

TCOG's project would be a demonstration project providing service on a fixed route basis in the Sherman urbanized area, with an established schedule, route and stops.

A number of students at Austin College are employed at the Sherman Town Center or Midway Mall. If successful, this new public transportation service would help those students access their jobs and it would also provide access to shopping opportunities for students, staff and faculty.

Other Comments

Austin College is contributing \$6,500 cash and \$4,000 in-kind support for this project.

Alternative Solutions/Actions

None.

TEXAS TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

GRAYSON County

MINUTE ORDER

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PARIS District

The Texas Transportation Commission (commission) takes special note of its designation by the governor as the administering agency for the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) grant program, "State Planning and Research Programs" (49 U.S.C. §5304), in a letter dated October 4, 2005. Under §5304, FTA provides funds to be used for planning and coordination projects.

The commission desires to award \$41,360 in §5304 funds and \$10,340 in state match to assist Texoma Council of Governments (TCOG) in conducting a demonstration project of a fixed-route public transportation service between Austin College, Sherman Town Center, and Midway Mall in Sherman, Texas.

Transportation Code, Chapter 455 requires the Texas Department of Transportation to assist political subdivisions of this state to obtain federal aid to establish or maintain public transportation systems.

Transportation Code, Chapter 456 requires the commission to administer funds appropriated for public transportation.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the commission that the executive director, or the director's designee, is hereby authorized to proceed with the award of \$41,360 in federal §5304 funds and \$10,340 in state match to assist TCOG in conducting the project described above, and enter into the necessary contracts.

Submitted and reviewed by:

Recommended by:

Director, Public Transportation Division

Executive Director

Minute Number Date Passed