

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



To: Jim Scholl, City Manager
From: Norman Whitaker, Director / KWDoT
Date: October 5, 2015
Subject: Joint Participation Agreement – Block Grant FY2016

Action Statement:

A resolution to approve execution of the Joint Participation Agreement (JPA) with the State of Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) via Annual Block Grant Program Funding assistance in an amount not to exceed 50% of the total project cost at \$430,474.00, or reimbursement of up to \$215,237.00, in operating assistance.

Project History:

The city of Key West Department of Transportation is tasked with the responsibility of identifying and securing grant funding assistance each year to subsidize the cost of providing a public transit system. Key West is fortunate to maintain Block Grant status as it applies to operating expenses for repair and maintenance.

The State Block Grant Funds are awarded annually by the FDOT and are continued funds until the applicant no longer applies, or ceases to provide similar service. KWT applies for and receives Block Grant Funding on annual basis – the amount is determined by FDOT in Five (5) Year periods and work program. The amount allocated for FY2015 – 2016 is \$215,237.00 which is 50% of the total project cost estimate of \$430,474.00

Advantages / Disadvantages:

Advantages include but are not limited to:

- Funding assistance of up to 50% with a maximum reimbursement amount of \$215,237.00, which reduces the City's share of expenses. Please note that while reference is made to a 50/50% match ratio of funding – that does not represent the actual cost of operations; it does reduce the local share, and provides assistance at the maximum level of grant subsidy participation under the Block program.
- The City is eligible for other program funds with regard to capital and operating assistance as a public transit provider who meets all compliance issues relative to public transit services.
- The City is required to provide a level of service as it relates to maintenance of maximum safety and accountability which is required of all grant funding programs with regard to safety sensitive positions, system safety of operations and hazard / security program plans mandates.
- The City continues to improve and enhance public transit services while maintaining the least impact to local governments and residents by securing Federal and State funding assistance.

There are no disadvantages at this time. In fact, State and Federal funding assistance is absolutely necessary to continue operation of public transit services in Key West.

Fiscal Impact:

The fiscal impact would provide for shared costs with the State and local government in that the City could receive reimbursement of expenses of up to 50% maximum on related bus service operational costs, or participation of \$215,237.00 in fiscal year 2015-2016.

It is important to note that with grant funding the percentage of match ratio referred to in discussion and agreements do not represent all costs to provide the services. The match reference and dollar value of reimbursement pertains only to each grant program; it is not the total of operating expenses for all services.

Key West Transit staff recommends approval of this resolution to accept, authorize and execute the FDOT joint participation agreement (JPA) for State Block Grant funding assistance during FY 2015 – 2016 period in an amount not to exceed \$215,237.00, so as to realize our reimbursements as soon as possible for this fiscal year.