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Public Works

City Transit
263-8152

MEMORANDUM

Equipment Maintenance
Roadway Maintenance
Collection & Drainage
Building & Grounds
Engineering

To: Mayor and City Council Members
CC: Gregg Mandsager, City Administrator
FROM: Kristy Korpi, Transit Supervisor
DATE: September 9, 2016
RE: JARC and New Freedom Funding Applications

INTRODUCTION: City of Muscatine Transit (MuscaBus) has operated JARC (Job Access Reverse Commute) service since 1999. New Freedom Service has operated since February 2007. We applied for and received federal grant monies from Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for 50% of operating assistance from the inception of these programs until 1st quarter of 2013-2014. With the introduction of MAP-21, this funding ceased. At which time, City Council approved continuation of JARC and New Freedom service. We utilized a portion of FTA operating dollars, collected fares, and local funding to operate. In 2016, federal legislation for transportation was revised and the funding is available once again.

BACKGROUND:

JARC (Job Access Reverse Commute) Night time service was established to provide transportation services to access employment opportunities, education and support services such as childcare. We operate this service Monday through Saturday from 5:30 p.m. until midnight. In fiscal year 2015-16 we provided 6311 JARC rides.

New Freedom service accomodates transportation requests within the Muscatine City limits for any purpose to offer "New Freedom" to disabled individuals. We operate this service Tuesday and Thursday nights from 5:30 – 9:30 p.m. In fiscal year, 2015-2016 we provided 1457 rides.

RECOMMENDATION/RATIONALE:

It is the recommendation of the Transit staff for the Council to allow authorization for submission of grant applications for JARC and New Freedom funding. The requested amount for JARC funding is \$56,500.00 with the City providing the \$56,500.00 match. The requested amount for New Freedom funding is \$14,000.00 with the City providing the \$14,000.00 match. If granted, this funding will be used for operational costs.

"I remember Muscatine for its sunsets. I have never seen any
on either side of the ocean that equaled them" — Mark Twain