

Item Title: Accept and Appropriate One-Time CARES Act Grant Funds from the North Carolina Department of Transportation to Human Services GoWake Access

Specific Action Requested:

That the Board of Commissioners accepts and appropriates an additional \$283,306 of revenues and expenditures into the Human Services Transportation Fund from the NC Department of Transportation to continue operating services in rural communities.

Item Summary:

Purpose: In accordance with the North Carolina Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act, the Board of Commissioners must approve all amendments that increase the budget for a fund.

Background: The CARES Act provides emergency assistance and health care response for individuals, families and businesses affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and provides emergency appropriations to support Executive Branch agency operations during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The State of North Carolina received funding under the CARES Act and is making grants to rural and small urban public transportation systems, to assist with operating expenses, support capital, and other expenses to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19.

These funds will allow GoWake Access to enforce the Center for Disease Control recommendations for COVID-19 safety protocols as outlined by the Community Transportation Association of America. GoWake Access will make purchases as outlined under eligible activities for reimbursement such as personal protective equipment supplies (for passengers and drivers), driver compartment barriers, vehicle/transit facility cleaning and disinfecting, and fuel costs.

Board Goal: This action supports routine County operations.

Fiscal Impact: The grant will provide an additional \$283,306 of revenues in the Human Services Transportation Fund to support increased expenses as a result of COVID-19. There is no matching funds requirement

Additional Information:

GoWake Access intends to allocate the CARES Act grant funds as follows, to ensure continued operating services in rural communities and prevent, prepare, and respond due to the COVID-19 public health emergency:

Budget Category	Amount
Temporary Services	\$50,000
Protective Equipment / Cleaning Supplies	\$130,000
Contractual Services	\$70,000
Other Operating Costs	\$33,306
Total	\$283,306

CARES Act funding will be provided at a 100% federal share with no local match required. There is no limit on the percentage of funding that can be used for operating purposes. Expenses are eligible retroactively to January 20, 2020 through June 30, 2021. Transit systems are encouraged to spend funds expeditiously to respond to local needs.

Attachments:

1. FY2021 CARES Act NCDOT Agreement
2. Budget Memo: Human Services Transportation Fund