

Item Title: Supplemental Funds for GoWake Access Community Transportation

Specific Action Requested:

That the Board of Commissioners accepts and appropriates \$114,130 in supplemental funds to the Transportation General Fund for Capital vehicle replacement, as awarded by the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) under the FY 2023 Community Transportation Program (Section 5311) Grant.

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. This action is necessary to accept, and appropriate supplemental funds awarded by the NCDOT to address increased vehicle costs.

Background: GoWake Access Transportation is the primary Medicaid transportation and demand response program that provides mandated and non-mandated services to vulnerable populations across Wake County. GoWake Access provides a subsidized, door-to-door transportation service throughout Wake County at a maximum customer cost of \$4 per trip. It allows residents with limited or no transportation options to access medical appointments as well as basic accommodations such as medical services, employment, and groceries. In fiscal year 2024, this shared-ride service provided over 190,753 trips.

The Community Transportation Program (CTP) Grant from the State of North Carolina is one of the funding sources for GoWake Access. It pays for the vehicle. Due to an increase in vehicle costs Wake County received additional CTP Grant funds that were not contained in the FY 2023 adopted Budget. The Board needs to approve the additional allocation of \$114,130 so that GoWake can use these funds to purchase vehicles. The period of performance for this grant is July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2025.

Strategic Plan: This action supports Community Health and Wellbeing Goal 4: three out of four residents asked will indicate low barriers to accessing benefits and assistance programs and resources and Inclusive Prosperity Goal 1: By 2029, 5% more residents asked will indicate low barriers to employment, such as access to broadband, childcare, and transportation.

Fiscal Impact: This agreement provides for the remaining of supplemental funds received from NCDOT of \$55,810 to be appropriated into the FY2025 Human Services Transportation Fund. The County will satisfy the

match requirement of \$58,320 using the Transportation Reserves Fund. Total available funds of \$114,130.

Additional Information:

On September 20, 2021, the Board of Commissioners approved the FY 2023 Community Transportation Rural Formula Grant Program application for vehicle purchase. Total amount awarded to GoWake Access for vehicle purchase for the FY 2023 funding period is \$583,200 which includes \$427,710 awarded on January 30, 2023, and an additional \$155,490 awarded on July 26, 2023, due to increased vehicle costs. The period of performance for this grant is July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2025. Go Wake intends to utilize these funds in December 2024 to purchase vehicles. The amount budgeted for the CTP Grant in the FY 2023 adopted budget is \$469,070. An additional \$114,130 needs to be added to the budgeted to align the available budget to the award amount of \$583,200.

	Total	State	Local
FY2023 CTP Grant Received	\$583,200	\$524,880	\$58,320
FY2023 CTP Grant Budgeted	\$469,070		
Additional budget needed	\$114,130		

The capital portion of this grant provides funding for life-cycle vehicle replacements and fluctuates depending on the number of vehicles eligible for replacement (based on the useful life) during that grant year. There are 52 State-funded vans in the County fleet. The capital grant application requests the replacement of two (2) eligible, lift-equipped vans that have exceeded useful life. For capital needs, the State covers 90% of costs, and Wake County covers 10%.

Attachments:

1. FY2023 Supplemental Capital Agreement
2. FY2025 Human Services Transportation Fund Budget Memo