

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE

Inter-office Communication

DATE: 3/17/2023
TO: Marcelia Nicholson, Chair, County Board of Supervisors
FROM: Donna Brown-Martin, Director, Department of Transportation
SUBJECT: Retroactive Authorization to Apply for and Accept Funding Under the Areas of Persistent Poverty Program
FILE TYPE: Action Report

REQUEST

Retroactive authorization to apply for and accept funding under the Areas of Persistent Poverty Grant Program

POLICY

Per section 56.06 of the Milwaukee County General Ordinances, authorization is required from the appropriate county board standing committee prior to applying for discretionary federal or state grants that require a local match.

BACKGROUND

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) announced on Jan 9, 2023, the opportunity to apply for \$20 million in competitive grants under the FY 2023 Areas of Persistent Poverty Program. As required by law, funds will be awarded competitively for planning, engineering, or development of technical or financing plans for projects that assist areas of persistent poverty. Grant awards can include up to a 10% local match and applications were due March 10, 2023.

Milwaukee County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) endeavors to lead a multi-organizational effort to study the feasibility of a shared Bus-Bike Only Lane on 35th Street Between W. Vliet Street and W. National Avenue connecting the City of Milwaukee and Milwaukee County's North and South Sides which, if implemented, will lead to safer, more accessible multimodal travel opportunities for all residents and users of this vital Milwaukee corridor.

ALIGNMENT TO STRATEGIC PLAN

2A: Determine what, where, and how we deliver services to advance health equity.
2C: Apply a racial equity lens to all decisions.

RECOMMENDATION

The Director of the Milwaukee County Department of Transportation recommends retroactive authorization to submit an application for, and to accept if awarded, a request for funds under the federal FY 2023 Areas of Persistent Poverty Program.

FISCAL EFFECT

The maximum total cost of this project is estimated at up to \$935,000. If the funds are awarded, MCDOT will request a capital project in a future capital budget with federal share of up to \$850,000 and local funding from tax levy or sales tax of up to \$85,000.

TERMS (If applicable)

N/A

VIRTUAL MEETING INVITES

Donna Brown-Martin, Director, Department of Transportation

Julie Esch, Deputy Director, Department of Transportation

PREPARED BY:

Anthony Geiger, Grants Development Manager, MCDOT Director's Office

APPROVED BY:

Donna Brown-Martin

Donna Brown-Martin
Director, Department of Transportation

ATTACHMENTS:

Resolution/Ordinance, Fiscal Note

cc: Kelly Bablitch, Chief of Staff, County Board of Supervisors
Janelle M. Jensen, Legislative Services Division Manager, Office of the County Clerk