

AGENDA: June 5, 2008

TO: Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission
FROM: Karena Pushnik, Senior Transportation Planner
RE: FY 2008-09 Article 8 Transportation Development Act Claim for the Volunteer Center

RECOMMENDATION

The Elderly & Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee and staff recommend that the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission:

Approve by resolution (Attachment 1) the attached claim for \$69,924 in FY 2008-09 Transportation Development Act funds from the City of Santa Cruz on behalf of the Volunteer Center to provide transportation for seniors and people with disabilities.

BACKGROUND

Based on the Commission's adopted budget -- approved at the March 2008 Regional Transportation Commission's Transportation Policy Workshop and revised at the May Regional Transportation Commission meeting -- Transportation Development Act (TDA) funds were allocated for transportation agencies as well as local jurisdictions. As in years past, the Volunteer Center is a recipient of TDA funds per the formula allocation as stated in the Commission's Rules and Regulations. The approved FY 2007-08 apportionment for the Volunteer Center is \$69,924.

DISCUSSION

The Volunteer Center operates many programs in the community, one of which is a transportation program that oversees about 66 volunteers who provide transportation (and companionship) to ambulatory individuals who may be physically incapable of using traditional public transit or ParaCruz. The TDA allocation to the Volunteer Center will fund mileage reimbursement, insurance and administration of their transportation program.

More than 10,000 volunteer hours were donated to provide about 6,124 rides to over 260 clients in fiscal year 2006-07. Many of the people receiving rides from the Volunteer

Center's drivers are the most frail and elderly in our community and live in remote or rural areas not served by transit or paratransit. The highest priority for rides is given to medical trips for low income persons. Other priority trips are rides to medical appointments, shopping and other miscellaneous destinations. A goal of providing 6,400 rides to eligible clients has been set for FY 2008-09.

John McGuire from the Volunteer Center will attend the RTC meeting to provide more information about their claim.

Again the City of Santa Cruz has agreed to act as the TDA fund claimant, as is allowed in the statutes and the RTC's Rules and Regulations. The attached City staff report was approved at the May 13, 2008 Santa Cruz City Council meeting (Attachment 2). Background materials for the Volunteer Center are attached including a comparison between the proposed fiscal year 08-09 budget and the current fiscal year 07-08 budget (Attachment 3).

The Elderly & Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee reviewed the Volunteer Center claim at its May meeting and recommends its approval.

SUMMARY

The Elderly & Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee and staff recommend that the Regional Transportation Commission approve the attached resolution authorizing the City of Santa Cruz to receive Transportation Development Act funds on behalf of the Volunteer Center.

Attachments

1. Resolution approving TDA Funds for the City of Santa Cruz on behalf of the Volunteer Center
2. Staff Report and minutes from the May 13 meeting of the City of Santa Cruz authorizing the City to act as the Claimant for the Volunteer Center
3. Background information from the Volunteer Center including a comparison of two budget years