



KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH GRANTS MANAGEMENT

MEMORANDUM

MIKE NAVARRE
BOROUGH MAYOR

TO: Dale Bagley, Assembly President
Members of the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly

THRU: Mike Navarre, Mayor *MN*

FROM: Brenda Ahlberg, *Bah* Community & Fiscal Projects Manager

DATE: December 23, 2014

SUBJECT: Resolution 2015- 002, A Resolution Supporting the Transportation Priorities Undertaken by the Central Area Rural Transit System, Inc. to be Submitted to the State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities.

The Central Area Rural Transit System, Inc. (CARTS) nonprofit corporation is committed to providing public transportation to people with special transportation needs, individuals with limited income and people with disabilities that rely heavily, sometimes exclusively, on public and specialized transportation services to live independent and fulfilling lives. These services are essential for travel to work and medical appointments, to run essential errands, or simply to take advantage of social or cultural opportunities.

The attached resolution supports CARTS' effort to prioritize transportation needs and to identify grant funding sources provided by the Federal Transit Administration, the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities and the Alaska Mental Health Trust. In order to ensure the most effective use of federal funds administered through the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), the program requires that a local transportation committee be established for the purpose of vetting projects, to ensure that the projects meet the best use for the community as it relates to limited transportation-related grant funding. The FTA and other granting agencies specifically require that the local government approve the priority list in order to qualify for funding.

A number of years ago, a transportation group was established to coordinate local transportation needs. Over time the group has adopted a transportation plan, and the group meets periodically to establish priorities for various grant opportunities. The group includes representatives from various organizations in the community which provide transportation services to people with special transportation needs and who represent transit dependent individuals. Local taxi cab companies have also been invited to participate in numerous meetings. The intent of the group is to coordinate efforts so that all of the areas' transportation needs can be met.

The local transportation group most recently met on November 25, 2014 for the purpose of establishing the priorities in pursuit of grant funding through the State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities as follows:

1. Independent Living Center (ILC) request for \$60,484 to purchase transportation services for the ILC Voucher Program in the southern Kenai Peninsula which will purchase 7,200 trips with a 30 percent match from rider fares; and \$84,000 to purchase transportation services in the central Kenai Peninsula area which will purchase 8,400 trips with 23 percent match funded with rider contributions and a \$16,400 AK Cab discount;
2. CARTS request for \$105,000 to leverage \$138,394 of FTA 5311 funds for transportation services in the central Kenai Peninsula, Homer and Seward areas; and \$20,800 to match \$124,800 of CARTS 5309 Bus and Bus Replacement funds to replace two vehicles; and
3. Ninilchik Traditional Council request for \$1,111,781.74 to start proposed Option #1 of the Central/Southern Kenai Peninsula Public Transit Human Services Community Coordination Plan that will establish a fixed route on the Peninsula.

This action has no financial impact on the Kenai Peninsula Borough. Successful grant funding however, will benefit local non-profit organizations which provide transportation services to local residents with specialized transportation needs.