



City of Racine, Wisconsin

AGENDA BRIEFING MEMORADUM

AGENDA DATE: 5/9/2022

SUBJECT: Communication sponsored by Alder Taft, on behalf of the Transit Manager requesting permission to apply for funding through the Wisconsin Department of Transportation's FFY22 Surface Transportation Program for replacement RYDE Racine paratransit vehicles.

PREPARED BY: Transit Manager Trevor Jung

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: RYDE Racine has an aging paratransit vehicle fleet in need of replacement to meet service demands and operational needs.

This grant would contribute to the replacement of 4 2016 Starcraft Allstar paratransit vehicles with over 450,000 miles traveled that, according to the Federal Transit Administration, will meet their useful life benchmark (ULB) based on years in service and projected miles traveled by the year of replacement, 2023. Miles traveled is expected to increase based on anticipated growth in ridership.

Useful Life Benchmark is defined by the FTA as, "the expected life cycle or the acceptable period of use in service for a capital asset, as determined by a transit provider, or the default benchmark provided by FTA." The FTA's ULB for paratransit (cutaway) vehicles is 7 years and/or 200,000 miles. In addition to FTA standards for replacement vehicles, the deteriorating condition of the vehicles call for replacement. The updated paratransit vehicles will result in improved customer experience and reduced maintenance costs.

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation's FFY22 STP-Urban, STP- Rural and Local Bridge Program grant would contribute to RYDE Racine replacing 4 of the system's 9 cutaway vehicles in the fleet.

GRANT BACKGROUND: Originally, WisDOT was providing a combined application for STP-Urban, STP-Rural, and Local Bridge for principal arterials, minor arterials and urban and rural collectors.

Due to the need to obligate the funds provided through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) in the Racine Urbanized Area this fiscal year, WisDOT has expanded the use of the funds to transit capital. Based on the definition of capital projects in 49 U.S. Code § 5302, vehicles are an eligible expense.

BUDGETARY IMPACT: Total cost of vehicle replacement project \$310,472 with grant amount being \$248,378, 20% local match of \$62,094 being available in the capital plan under 45010 59600.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: That the Transit Manager be granted permission to apply for funding through the Wisconsin Department of Transportation's FFY22 Surface Transportation Program for replacement paratransit vehicles. Grant Control #00446