

HUMBOLDT COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

Regional Transportation Planning Agency Humboldt County Local Transportation Authority Service Authority for Freeway Emergencies

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AGENDA ITEM 5c HCAOG Board Meeting May 16, 2024

DATE: May 8, 2024

TO: HCAOG Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) FROM: Stevie Luther, Associate Regional Planner

SUBJECT: Federal Fiscal Year 2024 Federal Transit Administration Section 5311 Fund

Allocation Requests and Information on the 5311(f) Program

STAFF REPORT

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Staff's Recommended Action

- Staff Summary
- Resolution 24-09 (5311)
- Resolution 24-10 (5311f)

Staff's Recommended Action:

Motions to be approved by consent:

"The PAC recommends the HCAOG Board adopt Resolution 24-09 approving the programming of FFY 2024 Federal Transit Administration Section 5311 Program funds to the Humboldt Transit Authority for Operating Assistance."

and

"The PAC recommends the HCAOG Board adopt Resolution 24-10 authorizing the Executive Director to sign and execute a certification and assurance form for all FFY 2024 5311(f) applications that meet the program requirements."

Staff Summary:

On April 9, 2024 Caltrans announced a call for projects for Federal Transit Administration Section 5311 funding for the 2024 Federal Fiscal Years (FFY).

The FTA Section 5311 program is a formula-based program that provides funding to promote, enhance, and serve public transportation in rural areas. These are federal funds administered by Caltrans. HCAOG's role is to submit a regional program of projects to Caltrans identifying the allocation of the regional apportionment. Humboldt's allocation for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2024 is \$1,035,866. Eligible uses include operational, capital and planning activities. The HCAOG funding priority for 5311 is to fund operating assistance for transit agencies with a demonstrated shortfall based on the past year's audited operating budget. The Humboldt Transit Authority has

requested the entirety of the regional allocation to fund continued operations for Redwood Transit System and the Eureka Transit System.

Caltrans also announced the availability funding for the FFY 2024 5311(f) Intercity Bus Program. Eligible applicants for this program include all those eligible for the 5311-formula program in addition to private non-profit organizations that meet the requirements of the program. This program funds operating assistance for new, expansion, or continuation of service. A planning study for new service is also an eligible use. This is a competitive application and there is no regional Program of Projects requiring HCAOG approval. However, HCAOG is responsible for:

- Ensuring the project is consistent with the regional transportation plan
- Signing certification and assurances forms
- Local match certification and commitment of program funds.
- Supporting private carrier's service routes when such cross-jurisdictional boundaries form the contiguous jurisdictions.

Applicants are encouraged to inform HCAOG of their intent to apply so that HCAOG staff can be prepared to deliver on the responsibilities noted above. The Yurok Tribal Transit Service notified HCAOG of their intent to apply for operational funds for the Willow Creek-Orleans transit service. Greyhound intends to apply for operational funds to continue the route from Arcata to San Francisco.