

Sponsored by: Administration

**CITY OF SEWARD, ALASKA
RESOLUTION 2010-054**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEWARD,
ALASKA, APPROVE THE SEWARD AREA PUBLIC TRANSIT HUMAN
SERVICES COMMUNITY COORDINATION PLAN FOR SUBMISSION TO
THE ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC
FACILITIES**

WHEREAS, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) requires all recipients of federal grant money (Section 5310, JARC, New Freedom, others) to complete a Public Transportation Coordination Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (ADOT&PF) has policies and procedures in place to meet FTA requirements, to effectively review grant applications, and to make reasonable grant awards; and

WHEREAS, the City of Seward has previously qualified for and been awarded FTA money, and needs this Coordination to qualify for use of the awarded funds; and

WHEREAS, the City of Seward, the Qutekcak Tribe, and other community partners have engaged in a six-month planning process to arrive at a Public Transit Human Services Community Coordination Plan; and

WHEREAS, approval of the Seward Area Public Transit Human Services Community Coordination Plan is an eligibility requirement to apply for future grant money; and

WHEREAS, the City of Seward will further explore the outcome(s) of the Summer Shuttle (contracted to First Student for 2010) before pursuing any future grant monies; and

WHEREAS, the City of Seward recognizes the benefits of public transportation for our local businesses and citizens and will continue to pursue this service to the extent funding is available; and

WHEREAS, the Seward Area Public Transit Human Service Community Coordination Plan will now continue to the State level for adoption.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEWARD, ALASKA that:

Section 1. The City Council approves the Seward Area Public Transit Human Service Community Coordination Plan for submission.

Section 2. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

**CITY OF SEWARD, ALASKA
RESOLUTION 2010-054**

PASSED AND APPROVED by the City Council of the city of Seward, Alaska, this 14th day of June, 2010.

THE CITY OF SEWARD, ALASKA

Jean Bardarson

Jean Bardarson, Vice-Mayor

AYES: Valdatta, Keil, Amberg, Smith, Shafer, Bardarson
NOES: None
ABSENT: Dunham
ABSTAIN: None

ATTEST:

Jean Lewis

Jean Lewis
City Clerk

(City Seal)



Council Agenda Statement

Meeting Date: June 14, 2010
Through: Phillip Oates, City Manager
From: Community Development Director Christy Terry



Agenda Item: APPROVE THE SEWARD AREA PUBLIC TRANSIT HUMAN SERVICES COMMUNITY COORDINATION PLAN FOR SUBMISSION TO THE ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES

BACKGROUND & JUSTIFICATION:

Central Area Rural Transit System, Inc., a non-profit agency is in the process of updating the *Public Transit Human Service Community Coordination Plan* with and for Peninsula cities. An independent plan, specific to the Seward Area has been developed to allow this portion of the Peninsula to become eligible for Federal Transit Administration (FTA) grant monies given to fund rural (Section 5310, JARC, New Freedom) and elderly/disabled transportation services. The plan addresses needs for individuals in our community who currently do not have personal transportation, whether poor, unemployed, or having physical limitation preventing them from driving. As such, this plan proposes ways to improve the health, safety, and welfare of our residents. The plan also addresses the needs of community human service agencies and providers in delivering a higher quality and quantity of service to their program clients/customers, collectively, than independent efforts alone allow. The proposed service could also address the needs of visitors/tourists who may choose not to arrive by or rent a car to enjoy our City.

The Plan proposes to initiate a public transportation service available to everyone in the community. The service would operate 5-7 days a week, year-round, dependent on subsequent financial commitments by community partners. Taxis and other private transportation providers would continue to service the night & early morning hours and high tourism season. The proposed service would operate primarily as a call-and-ride, with a few regularly scheduled stops possible. The non-profit organization, Central Area Rural Transit System, Inc. (CARTS) will serve as the lead agency. CARTS will manage the operation and, if beneficial to the public, will have discretion to contract the service with a private operator (i.e. taxi, tour, or school bus company), in a public-private-partnership agreement. The service will be paid through and grow from cooperative re-allocation of existing program transportation money used to leverage and bring in federal dollars. This plan does not make financial commitments at this time, nor does it prevent other local funding sources from being considered. No new taxes are proposed for this service. Local programs (i.e. Senior Center, Independent Living Center, Seaview Community Center, & Qutekcak Tribe) will benefit because the leveraged federal dollars will mean that each program can spend less on transportation, while obtaining better overall transportation for their clients. "Better" means more hours of service, and more flexibility for individuals. Together, the service also becomes available to the general public, going beyond the program-specific populations.

By approving the Seward Area Public Transit Human Service Community Coordination Plan, the City is accomplishing the pre-requisite to apply for FTA funding. The application process for FTA funding and commitment to CARTS are separate actions which merit and can enjoy consideration in their own right.

INTENT: Approve and adopt the Seward Area Public Transit Human Service Community Coordination Plan for the City of Seward.

CONSISTENCY CHECKLIST: Where applicable, this agenda statement is consistent with the Seward City Code, Charter, Comprehensive Plans, Land Use Plans, Strategic Plan and City Council Rules of Procedures or Other Plans or Policies: Yes.

FISCAL NOTE: The City of Seward is not making a financial commitment with the approval of the plan for submission to the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities. Future financial support could be requested based on the proposed budget outlined in the plan including pursuing grant funding. This could also include transportation funds that might be saved through efficiencies created in Senior Center transportation services, and if they are amenable, potential funds could be redirected as proposed in the plan.

Approved by Finance Department: *Kristen Archangi*

ATTORNEY REVIEW: Yes _____ No X _____

RECOMMENDATION: Approve Resolution 2010-054, APPROVING THE SEWARD AREA PUBLIC TRANSIT HUMAN SERVICES COMMUNITY COORDINATION PLAN FOR SUBMISSION TO THE ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES