

Department of Transportation

13702

DATE: August 24, 2010

TO: Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: John J. Hsu, P.E.
Acting Commissioner of Transportation

SUBJECT: Resolution Authorizing the County of Westchester to Enter into a Grant Agreement with the Federal Transit Administration for the Receipt of \$871,000.00 in Federal Transit Capital Assistance for Transit and Circulation Related Improvements in the Area of the White Plains TransCenter (Grant No. NY-26-0022)

The attached resolution authorizes the Westchester County Department of Transportation to enter into an agreement with the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for transit capital assistance in a grant totaling \$871,000.00 as follows:

Federal Funds	100%	\$871,000.00
Local Funds	0%	<u>0.00</u>
Total		\$871,000.00

This grant includes a request for \$871,000.00 (100% Federal) in FTA funds. These funds were originally included in the Transportation and Community and Systems Preservation (TCSP) program. In fiscal year 2000, the year the TCSP funds were appropriated, no local match was required. The funds have recently been transferred to the FTA.

The White Plains TransCenter is an intermodal transit facility including a bus terminal, Metro-North commuter railroad station, multi-story parking garage, surface parking lot, kiss-and-ride drop-off area, waiting area for private, corporate and public shuttle vans, and a taxicab queuing area. The bus terminal serves as a critical link in the transit system serving downtown White Plains and acts as a major transfer point for both Bee-Line and non Bee-Line bus and shuttle routes in Westchester County and throughout the region. The Bronx River bike/pedestrian pathway runs parallel to the Metro-North rail tracks for a distance of approximately seven (7) miles extending from the Kensico Dam Plaza in Valhalla on the north end to Scarsdale on the southern end. The pathway, located within the County's Bronx River Parkway Reservation and a portion of which runs through the project site, lacks a concise connection with the TransCenter. Pedestrian, bicycle and vehicular movements in the area surrounding the TransCenter are disjointed, raise safety concerns and are in need of comprehensive improvements.

During an average weekday, 4,671 boardings and 4,246 alightings occurred at the bus station (figures as of fall 2008 - includes Bee Line bus passengers only). The White Plains Metro-North station handles 9,233 on and 1,097 off in the inbound morning peak and 1,263 on and 9,903 off during the evening outbound peak (figures as of spring 2007). As the numbers indicate, this is a busy transit hub.

The project includes the following scope of work:

Pedestrian Improvements at Bus Terminal and Train Station

This work includes new signage and pavement marking improvements in the area surrounding the bus terminal and train station. These improvements will enhance the pedestrian and bicycle connections between the train station, the bus terminal and points west of the train tracks.

Hamilton Avenue Route 119 Enhancements

Work in this area will include new signage, site furnishings, and pavement markings at the intersection of Route 119 (Tarrytown Road) and Hamilton Avenue and across Route 119. These improvements will enhance the pedestrian connection across Hamilton Avenue and Route 119 for pedestrians and cyclists going to and from the TransCenter.

Bronx Street Pedestrian and Street Enhancements

Bronx Street, which is located immediately to the west of the Metro-North tracks, is an important pedestrian/bicycle link in the circulation system connecting the Main Street/Hamilton Avenue intersections and the TransCenter area. Formerly used as the White Plains Bus Depot, the site is currently underutilized and in deteriorated condition. New signage, lighting, site furnishings, pavement, pavement markings and plantings will improve pedestrian and cyclist safety and facilitate transit connections in the area.

The entire amount of the grant will be available for expenditure. Expenses must be incurred and paid by the County prior to any reimbursement.

This Department will submit expense records/vouchers for payment through the County's Advantage Financial System. The Department's Fiscal Division will then track the expenses and prepare vouchers for reimbursement. These payments will be reimbursed with grant monies from this Agreement.

The goal of this project is to maintain and enhance transit related facilities by providing better access and circulation within the vicinity of the White Plains TransCenter intermodal transportation facility. These enhancements will help promote the use of mass transit.

In view of the importance of this assistance program to mass transit in the vicinity of the TransCenter, I recommend approval of the attached resolution.

RESOLUTION

Upon a communication from the Acting Commissioner of Transportation, be it hereby

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester is hereby authorized to enter into a grant agreement with the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for a grant totaling \$871,000.00 (100% federal funding), to be used for transit related improvements within the vicinity of the White Plains TransCenter; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Executive or his authorized designee is authorized to file any other document required by the U. S. Department of Transportation effectuating the purpose of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and to set forth and execute affirmative minority business policies in connection with the project; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Executive or his duly authorized designee be and hereby is authorized to execute any and all documents necessary and appropriate to effectuate the purposes hereof.

Grant No. NY-26-0022

Account to be Charged/Credited	Fund	Dept.	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Revenue Source	Trust Account	Dollars
	365	44	T001900S	9633		\$871,000.00

Budget Funding Year(s) 2010-2011 Start Date May 1, 2010 End Date December 31, 2011
 (must match resolution)

Funding Source: Tax Dollars _____ Contractor Federal I.D. No./
 State Aid _____ Social Security No.: _____

\$871,000.00 Federal Aid \$871,000.00 (100%) Vendor No.: _____
 (must match resolution) Other _____ Encumbrance No.: _____

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 9-10-2010 - JOMARY VIEIRA, SECRETARY