

15233

TO: Board of Acquisition and Contract

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

DATE: November 10, 2010

RE: AUTHORITY FOR THE COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF \$560,000.00 OF THE COSTS INCURRED FOR THE WESTCHESTER COUNTY SMART COMMUTE PROGRAM DURING THE TERM COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2010 AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2010 (NYS Agreement No. D017561)

Authority is requested for the County of Westchester to enter into an agreement with the New York State Department of Transportation for reimbursement of \$560,000.00 of the \$700,000.00 cost of the Westchester County SMART Commute Program, under the Federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program (CMAQ) for the period January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010.

The agreement will reimburse \$560,000.00 of the total cost of the program, with the \$140,000.00 local share funded in the 2010 Department of Transportation Operating Budget Advance to Grants Account 101-44-1000-4912. The cost of the program between January 1, 2010 and the present has been incurred by the County and it is expected that the costs will continue to be incurred through the end of the year.

Westchester County developed a SMART Commute Program in response to changes at the Federal level to the Employee Commute Options requirements of The Clean Air Act amendments of 1990. It provides for the employment of four staff members who are regularly assigned to SMART Commute projects.

The SMART Commute Program provides for: the maintenance and production of Bee-Line bus schedules, the continuation of a network of local sales outlets for MetroCards, an extensive program of outreach events at employment centers, County support for various carpool, vanpool and tax-free employer transit benefit programs, electronic distribution of monthly transit information bulletins and emergency transit service updates, and advertising for Bee-Line and other congestion mitigation and air quality transportation initiatives.

The goal of the County's SMART Commute Program is to encourage the use of alternatives to drive-alone commuting. The program serves the interest of public health by encouraging the use of transit rather than single-occupant vehicles, and is part of the regional travel demand program which receives emission reduction credits from the US Environmental Protection Agency. The objective of this contract is to fund that program with non-County money, which is fiscally responsible.

This program will be monitored by the Department of Transportation with routine reporting as required by the New York State Department of Transportation. This reporting indicates SOV (Single Occupancy Vehicle) conversions to the various commute options: transit, ridesharing (carpool/vanpool), flexible work hours (flex-time/compressed workweek), and telecommuting.

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 12/22/2010 - JOHANN VETTA, SECRETARY

R E S O L U T I O N

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

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester is authorized to enter into an agreement with the New York State Department of Transportation for an amount not to exceed \$700,000.00 for administration of the SMART Commute Program for the period January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010; and be it further

RESOLVED, that under this agreement the State of New York will provide up to \$560,000.00 in Federal funds to the County of Westchester and the County of Westchester will provide matching funds up to \$140,000.00; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Executive or his duly authorized designee is hereby authorized and empowered to execute any documents and take any action reasonably necessary and appropriate to effectuate the purposes of this Resolution.

NYS Agreement No. D017561

Account to be Charged/Credited	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit					
	Fund	Dept.	Object/ Sub-Object	Trust Account	Dollars	
	263	44	041K	9853	T041	\$560,000.00
	101	44	1000	4912		\$140,000.00

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

Funding Source: Tax Dollars \$140,000.00
 State Aid _____
\$700,000.00 Federal Aid \$560,000.00
 (must match resolution) Other _____