

MEMORANDUM

TO: Tony Boren, Executive Director, Council of Fresno County Governments
FROM: Ronald Hughes, Executive Director, Kings County Area Public Transit Agency
DATE: June 1, 2010

RE: "Letters of Support" for KCAPTA - Sponsored Vanpool Grant Applications

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Memo is to (a) request "letters of support" from the Fresno COG for two (2) KCAPTA-sponsored Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Grant Applications totaling \$2.0 million; and (b) update the Fresno COG on opportunities to increase funding through the FTA Small Transit Intensive Cities (STIC) program. The two (2) Grants are as follows:

1. State of Good Repair Bus and Bus Facilities Initiative Funds - \$1.0 Million
2. Clean Fuels / Bus and Bus Facilities Discretionary Grant - \$1.0 Million

The two (2) Grants and STIC funds have the potential to significantly improve vanpool operations in Fresno and Kings Counties and other participating counties. The Grants must be submitted by June 18, 2010. "Letters of support" for the two (2) Applications are also being requested from other agencies participating in KCAPTA's vanpool project. Successful Grant Applications will lead to more vanpool activities, and ultimately, increased STIC funding that will benefit those San Joaquin Valley counties participating in the vanpool program.

PROPOSED GRANT APPLICATIONS

1. FTA State of Good Repair Bus and Bus Facilities Initiative Funds

KCAPTA staff is submitting a funding request under the State of Good Repair Bus and Bus Facilities Initiative program to purchase forty (40) replacement vans at a cost of \$1.0 million dollars. These new vans will replace forty (40) of the older 2003 GMC vans used in the Farmworker Vanpool Project. The vans have all exceeded the four (4) year, 100,000 mile threshold established by the FTA, to qualify for replacement.

Other than a "letter of support", there is no obligation placed upon the Fresno COG. If awarded, KCAPTA staff will prepare, submit and manage the Grant.

2. Clean Fuels / Bus and Bus Facilities Discretionary Grant

KCAPTA is also submitting an Application for Clean Fuels / Bus and Bus Facilities Discretionary program funding to purchase 30 CNG (Compressed Natural Gas) powered fifteen (15) passenger vans. These will be placed in areas that have nearby fueling stations, such as Fresno, Visalia and Hanford. The new vehicles will not only reduce the

vanpool groups cost by \$500, but will also reduce their fuel cost by half due to the fact that CNG is about half the cost of gasoline.

KCAPTA is asking for a "letter of support" for this project as well. If awarded, KCAPTA staff will prepare, submit and manage the Grant.

SMALL TRANSIT INTENSIVE CITIES FUNDING

One percent (1%) of the funds appropriated by the FTA for Section 5307 funds are set aside for Small Transit Intensive Cities program. This program apportions funds to small UZAs (urbanized areas) under 200,000 in population that operate at a level of service equal to or above the industry average level of service for all larger UZAs with a population of a least 200,000, but not more than 999,999.

Two (2) years ago KCAPTA began collecting passenger ridership from the regular vanpools for the Hanford / Lemoore area and submitting it as part of its National Transit Database (NTD) information. This has now resulted in KCAPTA receiving \$610,546 more in 5307 STIC funds than it received last year. This increased funding is a direct result of the reporting undertaken two (2) years ago. This year, KCAPTA began reporting data for all vanpools, regular as well as farmworker, for all areas. This will result in future funds coming to the small UZAs as well as to large UZAs, such as Fresno and Bakersfield, through increased FTA 5307 funding.

The following graph lists cities in the area eligible to receive up to six (6) funding points and the base line they need to exceed in order to receive funds in each category.

Urbanized Area (UZA) Description	Passenger Miles per Vehicle Revenue Mile	Passenger Miles per Vehicle Revenue Hour	Vehicle Revenue Mile per Capita	Vehicle Revenue Hour per Capita	Passenger Miles per Capita	Passenger Trips per Capita	Number of Performance Factors Met or Exceeded	Funding: @ ~ \$152,636 per Factor
Hanford	5.183	174.829	71.789	2.128	372.082	19.713	5	763,182
Madera	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Porterville	5.248	80.025	7.106	0.466	37.293	8.552	0	0
Visalia	4.734	61.416	11.093	0.855	52.516	12.66	1	152,636
Base Line	6.611	109.731	12.302	0.808	96.041	16.484		

As noted, KCAPTA received five (5) of six (6) points resulting in an additional \$763,182 in FTA 5307 funds, based in part on vanpool trips reported two (2) years ago. Data collection is based on efforts of vanpool drivers who count the number of passengers they carry and the miles they travel each day. Prior to this counting effort KCAPTA matched Visalia with one (1) point. STIC funding will only increase as more vanpools are established in Kings County and other UZAs in which the vanpool program operates.

(The KCAPTA Board recently approved the expenditure of half of the \$610,546 for the purchase of new vans to benefit those Kings County residents now vanpooling. The remaining STIC funds will go towards benefiting the transit system.)

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the COFCG Board support the submittal of two (2) KCAPTA-sponsored vanpool grants with “letters of support” to help promote effective farmworker and general public vanpools and improve air quality and congestion.



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June 24, 2010

Mr. Ronald Hughes
Executive Director
Kings County Area Public Transit Agency
1340 North Drive
Hanford, CA 93230

**SUBJECT: LETTER SUPPORTING KCAPTA'S "FTA CLEAN FUELS / BUS AND
BUS FACILITIES DISCRETIONARY GRANT" APPLICATION**

Dear Mr. Hughes:

On behalf of the Council of Fresno County Governments, I am very pleased to express strong support for the Kings County Area Public Transit Agency (KCAPTA) application for "FTA Clean Fuels/Bus and Bus Facilities Discretionary Grant" funding to purchase thirty (30) compressed natural gas (CNG) fifteen (15) passenger vans.

KCAPTA operates a highly successful vanpool program in five (5) Valley counties (Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, and Tulare), and in Monterey and Ventura Counties. It is a nationally-recognized model for the outstanding and innovative services it provides to both farmworkers and general public commuters. The Council of Fresno County Governments applauds the success of KCAPTA's program and its use of alternatively-fuel vans and fully supports its important role in providing effective, cost-efficient transportation.

Funding for the proposed project will ensure continuation of vanpools that impact the daily transportation of many commuters and will greatly enhance their safety while reducing traffic congestion and improving air quality in the San Joaquin Valley.

I appreciate the opportunity to highly recommend funding for KCAPTA's proposed project that will benefit those most in need of affordable transportation throughout our region.

Sincerely,

TONY BOREN
Executive Director

Member Agencies: The cities of Clovis, Coalinga, Firebaugh, Fowler, Fresno, Huron, Kerman, Kingsburg, Mendota, Orange Cove, Parlier, Reedley, San Joaquin, Sanger, Selma & Fresno County



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June 24, 2010

Mr. Ronald Hughes
Executive Director
Kings County Area Public Transit Agency
1340 North Drive
Hanford, CA 93230

**SUBJECT: LETTER SUPPORTING KCAPTA'S "FTA STATE OF GOOD REPAIR
BUS AND BUS FACILITIES INITIATIVE FUNDS" - GRANT
APPLICATION**

Dear Mr. Hughes:

On behalf of the Council of Fresno County Governments, I am very pleased to express strong support for the Kings County Area Public Transit Agency (KCAPTA) "FTA State of Good Repair Bus and Bus Facilities Initiative" grant application for vitally needed funding to purchase forty (40) replacement vans.

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Funding for the proposed project will ensure continuation of vanpools that impact the daily transportation of many commuters and will greatly enhance their safety while reducing traffic congestion and improving air quality in the San Joaquin Valley.

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