



COUNTY OF ERIE

MARK C. POLONCARZ

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

July 21, 2014

Erie County Legislature
92 Franklin Street, 4th Floor
Buffalo, New York 14202

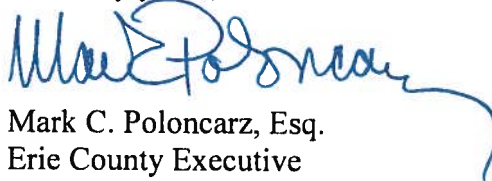
**Re: Establish New Freedom Grant Funding
IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION REQUESTED**

Dear Honorable Members:

The attached resolution requests authorization for the Department of Senior Services to receive New Freedom grant funds from the Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority (NFTA) to provide wheelchair and other rides for frail elderly as part of the Senior Services Going Places Transportation Program.

Should your Honorable Body require any further information, I encourage you to contact Commissioner Randy Hoak in the Department of Senior Services. Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely yours,



Mark C. Poloncarz, Esq.
Erie County Executive

MCP/mc
Enclosure

cc: Randy Hoak, Commissioner, Department of Senior Services

MEMORANDUM

To: Honorable Members of the Erie County Legislature
From: Department of Senior Services
Re: Establish New Freedom Grant Funding
Date: July 21, 2014

SUMMARY

Approve the attached resolution to accept \$98,993 in New Freedom Grant funds from the Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority (NFTA) for the period September 30, 2014 through September 29, 2015 and contract with Center for Transportation Excellence (CTE) and Western New York Independent Living, Inc. (WNYIL) to provide wheelchair and other rides for frail elderly as part of the Senior Services Going Places Transportation Program, for the period covered by the grant, in an aggregate amount not to exceed the amounts budgeted for in the grants' professional Services Contracts and Fees account #516020.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

No additional County funds are required. The Department of Senior Services has identified appropriations in the Areawide Agency on Aging (Title III-B), and New York State AAA Transportation Program (AAATRAN) grants for the required local match.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

The Department of Senior Services has been notified by the Greater Buffalo-Niagara Regional Transportation Council (GBNRTC) that the Department of Senior Services has been selected as the State-designated recipient of Federal Transit Administration (FTA) New Freedom Grant program funds to provide wheelchair and other transportation service to frail elderly.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The existing New Freedom grant ends September 29, 2014 and Department of Senior Services has received notice of the New Freedom Grant Program award of \$98,993 to continue transportation services to the frail elderly and disabled persons.

CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION

The Department of Senior Services will not be able to receive funds for transportation for the benefit of seniors in Erie County.

STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL

The Department of Senior Services will establish the budget for the New Freedom Grant and the applicable contracts with CTE and WNYIL.

**A RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY:
DEPARTMENT OF SENIOR SERVICES**

RE: Establish New Freedom Grant Funding

WHEREAS, the Department of Senior Services submitted a grant application for New Freedom Mobility Project Funds under the Federal Transit Administration to increase transportation options for older adults and the disabled; and

WHEREAS, the Greater Buffalo-Niagara Regional Transportation Council (GBNRTC) has informed the Department of Senior Services of the award of \$98,993 in grant funds for the period September 30, 2014 through September 29, 2015; and

WHEREAS, the grant funds are to be utilized for the purpose of increasing transportation options for elderly and disabled persons; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Senior Services currently contracts with the Center for Transportation Excellence, LLC (CTE) and the Western New York Independent Living, Inc. (WNYIL) to provide transportation services to elderly and disabled under the New Freedom Mobility Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Senior Services has identified transportation appropriations in the Areawide Agency on Aging (Title III-B), and New York State AAA Transportation Program (AAATRAN) grants for the required local match.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, the County Executive be and is hereby authorized to enter into a contract with the Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority (NFTA) to operate a New Freedom Mobility Grant to increase transportation options for elderly and disabled persons for the period September 30, 2014 to September 29, 2015; and be it further

RESOLVED, the County Executive be and is hereby authorized to enter into contracts with CTE and WNYIL; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the budget for the New Freedom Mobility Grant 163FREEDOM1415, be established as follows:

| APPROPRIATIONS | | INITIAL BUDGET |
|----------------|-------------|-------------------|
| Account | Description | |

| | | |
|--------|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| 516020 | Professional Services& Fees | \$82,977 |
| 916390 | ID Senior Services | |
| | Grant Services | <u>\$16,016</u> |
| | TOTAL APPROP | <u>\$98,993</u> |

| | | |
|----------|---------------|-------------------|
| REVENUES | | INITIAL BUDGET |
| Account | Description | |
| 41400 | Federal Aid | <u>\$98,993</u> |
| | TOTAL REVENUE | <u>\$98,993</u> |

and be it further

RESOLVED, that, the Director of Budget and Management is hereby authorized to adjust items of appropriations and revenues which may be impacted by changes to grantor awards; and be it further

RESOLVED and, if necessary, the County Executive is hereby authorized to execute amendments to the contract with CTE and WNYIL to effectuate adjusted funding levels; and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to the County Executive's Office, the Division of Budget and Management, the Comptroller's Office, and the Department Senior Services.