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COUNTY OF ERIE

MARK C. POLONCARZ
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

May 8, 2012

HHS

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

**Re: Revise AAATRAN1213 Grant
 &FREEDOM1013 Grant Budgets**

Dear Honorable Members:

The attached resolution requests authorization to revise the AAATRAN1213 grant & FREEDOM1013 grant budgets and allow the department to contract with Western New York Independent Living Inc. to provide wheelchair and other rides to frail elderly in Erie County.

Should your Honorable Body require further information, I encourage you to contact Anthony Gregorczyk, Supervisor of Grants Administration in the Department of Senior Services. Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mark C. Poloncarz".

Mark C. Poloncarz, Esq.
Erie County Executive

MCP/bb
Enclosure

cc: Anthony Gregorczyk, Supervisor of Grants Administration

9E-22

MEMORANDUM

To: Honorable Members of the Erie County Legislature
From: Department of Senior Services
Re: Revise AAATRAN1213 Grant & FREEDOM1013 Grant Budgets
Date: April 18, 2012

SUMMARY

Approve the attached resolution to revise the budgets for the department's two transportation grants, AAATRAN1213 & FREEDOM1013, and authorize the department to contract with a second transportation provider, Western New York Independent Living Inc.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The AAATRAN grant is 100% state funded. The FREEDOM grant is 100% federal funded. No additional County funding is required.

REASONS FOR RECOMENDATION

Both grants cover transportation operating costs, including contractor provided wheelchair and other rides for frail elderly. Increasing demand for rides necessitates realigning available grant funds to cover increased ride costs. In addition contracting with Western New York Independent Living Inc., to provide rides will increase our scheduling flexibility and reduce ride costs.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Contracted wheelchair, and other rides, increased significantly over the past six months and costs are now projected to exceed the amounts originally budgeted for in the AAATRAN1213 & FREEDOM1013 grants. Budgetary appropriations to pay for increased ride costs can be obtained by transferring dispatcher salary and fringe benefit costs, originally budgeted for in both grants, to our III-B grant and paid for through vacancy savings in III-B. Currently the department has only one contracted provider, the Center for Transportation Excellence, for wheelchair rides.

CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION

The Department would be unable to cover expected transportation costs

STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL

The Department will revise the AAATRAN1213 & FREEDOM1013 grant budgets and contract with Western New York Independent Living Inc. to provide transportation services.

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

Re: Revise AAATRAN1213 Grant &
FREEDOM1013 Grant Budgets

WHEREAS, the Erie County Legislature has already appropriated funds for the AAATRAN grant for the period April 1, 2012 to March 31, 2013, and the FREEDOM grant for the period September 30, 2010 to September 29, 2013; and

WHEREAS, AAATRAN1213 is a 100% state funded program, and FREEDOM1013 is a 100% federal funded program; and

WHEREAS, increase demand for contracted wheelchair and other rides for frail elderly ineligible for other transportation, is expected to increase costs above what was initially budgeted for in both grants; and

WHEREAS, the department desires to continue contracting with the Center for Transportation Excellence and also contracting with Western New York Independent Living Inc. for wheelchair and other rides, thereby increasing flexibility and reducing costs; and

WHEREAS, \$27,687 in payroll and fringe benefit costs for the Senior Services' Senior Dispatcher, initially budgeted for in the AAATRAN1213 grant's account #916390 can be reclassified and remain in the department's III-B2012 grant and paid for from vacancy savings in III-B, thereby freeing up AAATRAN monies to pay for rides; and

WHEREAS, \$7,296 in payroll and fringe benefit costs for the Senior Services' Senior Dispatcher, initially budgeted for in the FREEDOM1013 grant's account #916390 can be reclassified and remain in the department's III-B2012 grant and paid for from vacancy savings in III-B, thereby freeing up FREEDOM1013 monies to pay for rides; and

WHEREAS, the AAATRAN1213 grant and FREEDOM1013 grant budgets need to be revised.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that subject to the availability of funding in the AAATRAN1213 & FREEDOM1013 grants, the County Executive is hereby authorized to enter into contracts and amendments to these contracts with the Center for Transportation Excellence and Western New York Independent Living Inc. to provide wheelchair and other rides for frail elderly as part of the Senior Services Going Places Transportation Program, for the periods covered by the grants, in an aggregate amount not to exceed the amounts budgeted for in the grants' Professional Services Contracts and Fees account (#516020); and be it further

RESOLVED, that \$27,687 in Senior Dispatcher salary and fringe benefit costs initially budgeted for in the AAATRAN1213 grant be paid out of the IIIB-2012 grant; and be it further

RESOLVED, that \$7,296 in Senior Dispatcher salary and fringe benefit costs initially budgeted for in the FREEDOM1013 grant be paid out of the IIIB-2012 grant; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the budget for the 163AAATRAN1213 grant, be revised as follows:

		CURRENT BUDGET	CHANGES	AMENDED BUDGET
APPROPRIATIONS				
Account	Description			
516020	Pro Ser Cnt and Fees	\$24,450	+\$27,687	\$52,137
916390	ID Senior Services Grants	\$27,687	-27,687	\$0
TOTAL CHANGE			<u>\$0</u>	

and be it further

RESOLVED, that the budget for the 163FREEDOM1013 grant, be revised as follows:

		CURRENT BUDGET	CHANGES	AMENDED BUDGET
APPROPRIATIONS				
Account	Description			
516020	Pro Ser Cnt and Fees	\$107,380	+\$7,296	\$114,676
916390	ID Senior Services Grants	\$8,240	7,296	\$944
TOTAL CHANGE			<u>\$0</u>	

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, the County Attorney's Office and the Department of Senior Services.