NORTHEAST OHIO AREAWIDE COORDINATING AGENCY

MEMORANDUM

TO: NOACA Board of Directors

FROM: Grace Gallucci, Executive Director

DATE: June 7, 2019


ACTION REQUESTED
The Board of Directors is asked to adopt Mobilize: Accessibility for Independence. NOACA’s Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan for Northeast Ohio.

The Planning and Programming Committee supports this recommendation.

BACKGROUND/JUSTIFICATION FOR CURRENT ACTION
The current Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan for Northeast Ohio (“Coordinated Plan”) was adopted by the NOACA Board of Directors in January 2015 and extended through December 2018. The Coordinated Plan covers Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain and Medina Counties, and will be updated for the years 2019-2022.

The federal circular for the Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities (Section 5310) funding program requires that all projects funded must be “included in a locally developed, coordinated public transit-human services transportation plan,” and “developed and approved through a process that included participation by seniors, individuals with disabilities, representatives of public, private, and nonprofit transportation and human services providers and other members of the public.”

NOACA began the plan update with outreach activities that included public meetings, a client/rider survey, and a provider/stakeholder survey. Using this feedback, and input from NOACA Transit, Community Advisory, Rural Advisory, and Bike and Pedestrian Councils, goals and strategies were developed for the Coordinated Plan.

The Coordinated Plan acts as an evaluation tool to prioritize project funding for the Section 5310 program. Section 5310 scoring criteria and prioritization for funding is guided by current and future regional needs identified in the coordinated planning process. NOACA will also utilize Mobilize: Accessibility for independence as an action plan and will integrate adopted goals and strategies into the organization’s work plan.
FINANCIAL IMPACT
As the designated recipient, NOACA is eligible to access federal 5310 program funds apportioned to the Cleveland Urbanized Area (UZA) and distribute them according to the federal guidelines. Up to 10% of these program funds can be used by NOACA to cover its administrative costs for the development of plans by staff.

CONCLUSION/NEXT STEPS
With Board approval, Mobilize: Accessibility for Independence will be adopted as the Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan for Northeast Ohio for the years 2019-2022.

GQ/ks/3073b

Attachment 1 – https://www.noaca.org/Home/ShowDocument?id=23791
RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE
NORTHEAST OHIO AREAWIDE COORDINATING AGENCY

WHEREAS, the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA) is the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the counties of Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain and Medina, and the City of Cleveland; and the areawide water quality management agency for the same region; and

WHEREAS, Metropolitan Planning Organizations are mandated by the federal government to update the Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan;

WHEREAS, the Title 49 U.S.C. 5310 authorizes the formula assistance program for the Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities (Section 5310) Program to improve mobility for seniors and individuals with disabilities;

WHEREAS, the Section 5310 program is administered by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) with funds being allocated to designated recipients of urbanized areas. As a result, the Cleveland UZA is required to identify a designated recipient to receive FTA Section 5310 funding; and

WHEREAS, NOACA was officially designated by Governor Kasich on October 9, 2014;

WHEREAS, as the designated recipient, NOACA assumes program administration responsibilities on behalf of FTA. These responsibilities include notifying agencies of available funding, developing project selection process, determining project eligibility, developing and updating a program management plan and program of projects, maintaining control over procured assets, and ensuring that all sub-recipients comply with federal requirements;

WHEREAS, the federal program circular for FTA Section 5310 states that all projects funded by Section 5310 dollars must be “included in a locally-developed, coordinated public transit-human services transportation plan developed and approved through a process that included participation by seniors, individuals with disabilities, representatives of public, private, and nonprofit transportation and human services providers and other members of the public;”

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency, consisting of 45 principal officials serving general purpose local governments throughout and within the counties of Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, Medina and City of Cleveland that:

Section 1: The Executive Director is authorized to make the updated Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan available to the public.

Section 2: The Executive Director is authorized to initiate the competitive selection process for Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities (Section 5310) Program and may prioritize project funding based on identified needs in this plan.

Section 3: The Executive Director is authorized to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to appropriate Federal, State, and local agencies.
RESOLUTION NO. 2019-036
(COORDINATED PUBLIC TRANSIT-HUMAN
SERVICES TRANSPORTATION PLAN FOR NORTHEAST OHIO)

Certified to be a true copy of a Resolution of the
Governing Board of the Northeast Ohio Areawide
Coordinating Agency adopted this 14th day of June,
2019.

Secretary: [Signature]

Date Signed: 6-14-2019