



## NORTHEAST OHIO AREAWIDE COORDINATING AGENCY

### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** NOACA Board of Directors.

**FROM:** Grace Gallucci, Executive Director & Chief Executive Officer

**DATE:** December 2, 2022

**RE:** **Resolution No. 2022-041: Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities (Section 5310) Program and American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) Funding Recommendations**

#### **ACTION REQUESTED**

The Board of Directors is asked to approve the SFY 2023 Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities (Section 5310) Program and the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) Project Recommendations.

The Planning and Programming Committee recommend this action.

#### **BACKGROUND**

The Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities (Section 5310) Program addresses the special transportation needs of seniors and individuals with disabilities. NOACA seeks to eliminate barriers and improve transportation options in Northeast Ohio for older adults, individuals with disabilities, and people of low income through the coordination of resources and efforts of public transit operators, human service agencies, and other transportation providers. Furthermore, NOACA will encourage the efficient and effective use of resources by eliminating gaps and redundancies in transportation services. This year, NOACA is receiving additional funding through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA), which aligns with the Section 5310 Program and will be combined with the available Section 5310 funding during this round.

The total amount of Section 5310 funds apportioned to the region for federal fiscal year (FFY) 2022 was \$2,696,335, of which \$269,633 (10%) will be retained by NOACA for program planning and administration. The remaining \$2,426,702 of federal funds is available to be programmed for new project recommendations. Additional American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) funding in the amount of \$323,632 is provided to support the Section 5310 Program. ARPA funds are available at 100% federal funding for competitive applicants. Capital projects funded through Section 5310 are at 80% federal share with a 20% local match from awardees. NOACA has designated at least 60% of funding for transit agency project proposals and up to 40% for non-profits, for-profits, and government agencies, awarded through a competitive application process. Transit agencies are eligible for operations funding at 50% federal funding with a 50% local match.

<b>Total FFY 2022 Funding Amount-Cleveland UZA</b>	<b>\$2,696,335</b>
<b>Apportionment</b>	
NOACA Administration Funds (10%)	\$ 269,633
FFY 2022 Amount of Funding to be Programmed	\$ 2,426,702
<i>Total Funding for Transit Agencies (at least 60%)</i>	<i>\$ 1,456,022</i>
<i>Total Flexible Non-profits, Communities, etc. (up to 40%)</i>	<i>\$ 970,680</i>
Carryover From Previous Years Available	\$12,678
FFY 2021 Federal ARPA Funds	\$323,632
<b>Total Available Funding for SFY 2023 Projects</b>	<b>\$2,763,012</b>

NOACA accepted project proposals and applications from June 10, 2022 to August 5, 2022. NOACA received two transit project proposals requesting a combined total of \$3,827,856, and 20 competitive requests from municipalities, non-profits, for-profits, and social service agencies requesting a total of \$2,339,950. Project proposals and applications were evaluated against program eligibility and prioritization criteria contained in the Program Management Plan. A summary of the requests and recommendations is attached.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT**

There is \$2,696,335 in FTA funds available to the Cleveland Urbanized Area from Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2022. Of this amount, \$269,633 will be used by NOACA for program administration. At least \$1,456,022 will be available for transit agencies to implement their projects, and up to \$970,680 of the FFY 2022 allocation will be made available for competitive projects implementation. There is an additional \$12,678 in carryover funds from previous projects that either came in under budget or were cancelled. There is an additional \$323,632 in FFY 2021 ARPA funds also available for projects this round.

**CONCLUSION/NEXT STEPS**

Pending Board approval, NOACA will manage the SFY 2023 program to ensure that projects are programmed and awardees are supported to expend awarded funds in a timely manner.

**Attachment 1: SFY 2023 Section 5310 Program and ARPA Program Recommendations**

GG/em/jtl

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-041  
ENHANCED MOBILITY FOR SENIORS  
AND INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES  
(SECTION 5310) PROGRAM AND  
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021  
(ARPA) RECOMMENDATIONS**

**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**, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) provides funding for the Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities (Section 5310) Program to address the special transportation needs of seniors and individuals with disabilities to eliminate barriers and improve transportation options in Northeast Ohio for older adults and individuals with disabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) provides funding through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA), which aligns with the Section 5310 Program and was combined with the available Section 5310 funding this round; and

**WHEREAS**, as a designated recipient for the Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities (Section 5310) Program for the Cleveland Urbanized Area (UZA), NOACA has the responsibility to administer the selection process for grants, ensure federal compliance, manage grant distribution, and oversee the projects receiving those federal funds; and

**WHEREAS**, available funding through federal fiscal year 2022 for the Cleveland UZA totals \$2,696,335 for the Section 5310 program; and

**WHEREAS**, up to 10% of a fiscal year's apportionment can be used for planning and administering the Section 5310 program by NOACA staff; and

**WHEREAS**, a solicitation for projects was issued, and projects were evaluated against the goals of the Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan for Northeast Ohio to develop recommendations; and

**WHEREAS**, the projects recommended are consistent with the goals of the Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan for Northeast Ohio, as required by FTA; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Directors of the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency, consisting of 48 principal officials serving general purpose local governments throughout and within the counties of Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, and Medina, and the City of Cleveland that:

**Section 1.** Transportation providers (listed as Organizations in Attachment 1) are amended to Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan for Northeast Ohio.

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ENHANCED MOBILITY FOR SENIORS  
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(SECTION 5310) PROGRAM AND  
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(ARPA) RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Section 2.** Projects and funding amounts (as listed in Attachment 1) are approved for amendment to NOACA's 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

**Section 3.** The Executive Director is authorized to enter into contracts with the appropriate entities, as needed, to implement the approved FFY2022/SFY2023 Section 5310 Program.

**Section 4.** The Executive Director is authorized to transmit certified copies of this resolution to appropriate federal, state, and local agencies.

Certified to be a true copy of a Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency adopted this 9<sup>th</sup> day of December 2022.

Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

*Jan R. Homestead*

*12/9/22*

**Attachment 1: NOACA SFY 2023 Section 5310 and ARPA Program Recommendations**

**Project Recommendations**

#	Organization Name	Request	QTY	Total Cost (100%)	Request (Federal Share)	Max QTY Recommended	Recommendation (80% or 100% Federal Share)
1	NOACA	Administration*		\$ 269,633	\$ 269,633	n/a	\$ 269,633
Program Administration Total				\$ 269,633	\$ 269,633		\$ 269,633
<b>Transit Agency Recommendations - Section 5310 Funds (80% Federal Funding)</b>							
2	Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority	Replacement Vehicle (s)	12	\$ 1,860,000	\$ 1,488,000	8	\$ 950,264
3	Laketran	Replacement Vehicle (s)	12	\$ 1,967,856	\$ 1,574,284	5	\$ 507,887
Transit Agency Total			24	\$ 3,827,856	\$ 3,062,284	13	\$ 1,458,151
<b>Competitive Applicant Recommendations - Section 5310 Funds (80% Federal Funding)</b>							
4	Berea	Replacement Vehicle (s)	1	\$ 150,000	\$ 120,000	1	\$ 97,500
5	Fairview Park	Replacement Vehicle (s)	1	\$ 57,116	\$ 45,693	1	\$ 45,693
6	Jewish Family Service Association of Cleveland, Ohio	Replacement Vehicle (s)	2	\$ 154,000	\$ 123,200	1	\$ 50,050
7	NCC Solutions**	Replacement Vehicle (s) Type 1	1	\$ 150,000	\$ 120,000	1	\$ 120,000
8	NCC Solutions**	Replacement Vehicle (s) Type 2	1	\$ 75,000	\$ 60,000	1	\$ 60,000
9	Parma	Replacement Vehicle (s)	4	\$ 83,420	\$ 66,736	1	\$ 13,556
10	Parma Heights**	Expansion Vehicle (s)	1	\$ 136,000	\$ 108,800	1	\$ 108,800
11	S.A.W, Inc.	Replacement Vehicle (s)	1	\$ 83,000	\$ 66,400	1	\$ 53,950
12	Senior Transportation Connection	Replacement Vehicle (s) Type 1	4	\$ 500,000	\$ 400,000	1	\$ 100,000
13	Senior Transportation Connection	Replacement Vehicle (s) Type 2	6	\$ 504,000	\$ 403,200	2	\$ 134,400
14	Southwest General Health Center	Replacement Vehicle (s)	1	\$ 116,600	\$ 93,280	1	\$ 93,280
15	Strongsville	Replacement Vehicle (s)	1	\$ 130,000	\$ 104,000	1	\$ 104,000
Competitive Section 5310 Program Recommendation Total			24	\$ 2,139,136	\$ 1,711,309	13	\$ 981,229
<b>Competitive Applicant Recommendations - ARPA Funds (100% Federal Funding)</b>							
16	New Avenues to Independence, Inc.	Replacement Vehicle (s)	2	\$ 104,000	\$ 83,200	2	\$ 104,000
17	Rocky River	Replacement Vehicle (s)	1	\$ 38,000	\$ 30,400	1	\$ 26,110
18	Society for Handicapped Citizens of Medina County	Replacement Vehicle (s)	1	\$ 73,522	\$ 58,818	1	\$ 73,522
19	Youth Challenge	Replacement Vehicle (s)	2	\$ 120,000	\$ 96,000	2	\$ 120,000
Competitive ARPA Recommendation Total			6	\$ 335,522	\$ 268,418	6	\$ 323,632
State Fiscal Year 2023 Section 5310 + ARPA Program Total						32	\$ 3,032,645

\*Section 5310 Administration Funds are 100% Federal