

STAFF REPORT



MEETING DATE:	5/7/2014
SUBJECT:	Adopt Resolution Authorizing First Class Shuttle, Inc. to submit a 2014 Federal Transit Administration Section 5311(f) Intercity Bus Program Grant Application
AGENDA ITEM:	5-5
STAFF CONTACT:	Jennifer Pollom, Associate Transportation Planner

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the board of directors adopt Resolution 14-03 authorizing First Class Shuttle, Inc. to submit a 2014 Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5311(f) Intercity Bus Program Capital Project Assistance application for three wheelchair-equipped shuttle vans at a cost of \$300,000.

DISCUSSION:

The FTA Section 5311(f) Intercity Bus Program provides funding for public transportation equipment and services connecting rural areas to urbanized areas. Applications should be authorized by the applicable metropolitan planning organization or regional transportation planning agency.

First Class Shuttle, Inc., requests SRTA's authorization to submit a FTA Section 5311(f) grant application in the amount of \$300,000 for three wheelchair-equipped buses. The buses would be used to provide public transportation service between Redding and the Sacramento International Airport with stops in Red Bluff, Corning, Orland and Williams. Yolo County Transportation District provides continuing service from the Sacramento International Airport to destinations in Sacramento, Davis, and the surrounding area. The fare from Redding to Sacramento is \$70 per person one-way. Approximately 22,000 passenger trips are provided annually.

First Class Shuttle's fleet is due for replacement and is in need of wheelchair lift-equipped vehicles. If funded, the FTA Section 5311(f) grant would help ensure continued, interregional service to Sacramento as well as support a Redding-based business. No other FTA Section 5311(f) applications are proposed in the region.

ALTERNATIVES:

The board of directors may choose not to adopt the resolution. This would disqualify the application.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

Caltrans administers the FTA Section 5311(f) program for California. Grant awards are expected to be announced by June 30, 2014. First Class Shuttle, Inc. has consulted with the Consolidated Transportation Services Agency to ensure that services are coordinated with other public transit in the region. The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) concurs with the staff recommendation.

FINANCING:

There is no fiscal impact to the agency. Authorization of the grant does not obligate SRTA to finance or otherwise support the service in the future. If the grant is successful, funds will be administered directly between the applicant and Caltrans.



Daniel S. Little, AICP, Executive Director

Attachments: Resolution 14-03: Federal Transportation Administration Section 5311(f)
Intercity Bus Program Application Funding for Federal Fiscal Year 2014
SRTA Letter of Support

RESOLUTION



RESOLUTION NUMBER:	14-03
SUBJECT:	Federal Transportation Administration Section 5311(f) Intercity Bus Program Application Funding for Federal Fiscal Year 2014

WHEREAS, the US Department of Transportation provides grants to states through the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for operating and capital assistance projects for non-urbanized public transportation systems under Section 5311 of the Federal Transit Act (FTA C9040.1G); and

WHEREAS, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) has been designated by the Governor of the State of California to administer FTA Section 5311(f) grants in California; and

WHEREAS, First Class Shuttle, Inc., a private for-profit company, desires to apply for said financial assistance to purchase three wheelchair-lift equipped vehicles for services from Redding to Sacramento with various intermediate passenger stops; and

WHEREAS, First Class Shuttle, Inc. has coordinated with other transportation providers and users in the region (including social service agencies); and

WHEREAS, Caltrans requires a resolution of the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency (SRTA) authorizing submittal of the application before it can be considered for funding; and

WHEREAS, SRTA's authorization of the grant does not imply or impart any obligation on the part of SRTA to finance or operate the First Class Shuttle, Inc. service, or limit its support of new services of a similar nature.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency:

1. Authorizes First Class Shuttle, Inc. to submit a 2014 Federal Transit Administration Section 5311(f) Capital Project Assistance application to the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) for three new shuttle busses with wheelchair accessibility; and
2. Authorizes the executive director to provide any other information and assurances as needed to Caltrans for the application to proceed.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 7th day of May, 2014, by the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency.

Susie Baugh, Chair
Shasta Regional Transportation Agency



1255 East Street, Suite 202 • Redding, CA 96001 • (530)262-6190 • FAX (530)262-6189
E-Mail srta@srta.ca.gov • HOME PAGE www.srta.ca.gov

Daniel S. Little, Executive Director

April 29, 2014

James Ogbonna, Branch Chief
Department of Transportation
Division of Mass Transportation
P.O. Box 942874
Sacramento, CA 94274-0001

Subject: Federal Transit Administration (FTA) 5311(f)

Dear Mr. Ogbonna:

The Shasta Regional Transportation Agency supports First Class Shuttle, Inc.'s application for a FTA Section 5311(f) grant for capital assistance. If awarded, funds will be used to purchase three vehicles with wheelchair capacity to replace an aging fleet and ensure reliability of the current intercity service they provide between Redding and the Sacramento Airport.

First Class Shuttle, Inc. is the only transit provider with direct service from Redding to the Sacramento Airport with connections to intercity transit providers in Anderson, Red Bluff, Corning, Orland and Willows. Its current service helps bridge the gap for travelers making intercity connections from the north state to and beyond the airport.

The proposed capital assistance will increase accessibility and passenger comfort for mobility impaired travelers making connections between these rural towns and the Sacramento Airport and beyond through connecting services. First Class Shuttle, Inc. has consulted with the designated Consolidated Transportation Services Agency to ensure that information about First Class Shuttle, Inc.'s services, as well as inbound/outbound connections to other public transportation services, is available and coordinated.

Sincerely,

Daniel S. Little, AICP, Executive Director
Shasta Regional Transportation Agency (MPO)

DSL/JEP/jac