



STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE:	April 27, 2023
SUBJECT:	Approve the County of Shasta's Federal Transit Administration Section 5311(f) Intercity Bus Program Application for Federal Fiscal Year 2023 to Operate the Burney Express Bus Service
AGENDA ITEM:	5-7
STAFF CONTACT:	Jennifer Pollom, AICP, Senior Transportation Planner

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the board of directors:

1. Approve the county of Shasta's Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5311(f) Intercity Bus Program application for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2023 to operate the Burney Express bus service; and
2. Authorize the executive director to make minor administrative amendments as appropriate.

DISCUSSION:

The FTA provides funding for rural transit services via the Section 5311 program and, specifically, intercity transit via the Section 5311(f) program. Caltrans administers 5311(f) funds through a competitive process. SRTA is responsible for reviewing and approving Shasta Region 5311(f) applications prior to Caltrans review for funding ([SRTA's Policies and Procedures Manual](#), Chapter 3.15, page 309).

The county of Shasta submitted an FTA Section 5311(f) Intercity Bus Program application for \$280,000 to fund the Burney Express bus service for the operating period of July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024. Staff recommends approving the county's application so that the project may be reviewed by Caltrans for funding.

ALTERNATIVES:

The board of directors may choose not to approve the county of Shasta's 5311(f) application. Doing so would require Shasta County to use federal and state formula funds apportioned to the region or one-time rural public transit funds for Burney Express operating costs. These funds include: one-time federal COVID relief programs (ARPA FTA 5311(f), ARPA FTA 5311, CRRSAA FTA 5311), annual FTA 5311 Formula Grants for Rural Areas Program, and/or Transportation Development Act (TDA) State Transit Assistance (STA).

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

The county of Shasta prepared and submitted the application to Caltrans. Caltrans selects projects and administers the program. The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) concurs with the staff recommendations.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The county of Shasta's \$280,000 FTA Section 5311(f) FFY 2023 application, if funded and combined with the estimated farebox revenue, is anticipated to fully fund the Burney Express bus service for the operating period of July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024. This strategy efficiently funds rural transit needs first with the use of competitive 5311(f) funds, if awarded, and allows more TDA Local Transportation Fund (LTF) amounts for other needs, including streets and roads.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sean Tiedgen", is written over a horizontal line.

Sean Tiedgen, AICP, Executive Director