

AGENDA ITEM # _____

DATE: August 31, 2015

COAC NUMBER: 15-5613

**CITY OF GOODYEAR
CITY COUNCIL ACTION FORM**

SUBJECT: Authorize an IGA between the City of Goodyear and the Regional Public Transit Authority for the provision of transit services.

STAFF PRESENTER: Christine McMurdy, Grants Administrator
COMPANY:
CONTACT:

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the City Manager to execute an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Regional Public Transit Authority (RPTA) to establish responsibility for the provision of transit services in Goodyear.

PURPOSE:

This Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) establishes responsibilities for the provision of transit services in Goodyear, including Fixed Route Bus Service, reimbursement of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Public Transportation Funds and administration of the ADA Platinum Pass program for a five-year period. The agreement can be amended annually as necessary.

BACKGROUND AND COMMUNITY BENEFIT:

During the City Council retreat in November 2014, the Council requested and received information on revenue received from the digital marquee located at the Park and Ride and the Local Transportation Assistance Fund, also referred to as LTAFII. Staff advised that while there is no time limit on spending the funds received for the digital marquee, the LTAFII funds, which can only be spent on transit activities, expire within a 2-year period (reverting back to Valley Metro for use on other transit activities).

Council advised staff that they were interested in extending existing transit services like Route 3 which operates on Van Buren Street and currently terminates at Central Avenue; extending the Zoom, which currently terminates at the YMCA at Litchfield Road and Thomas Avenue; and learning more about the taxi voucher program that is offered by several cities in the valley to offset the cost of cab service to a destination not currently served by public transit.

Staff worked with Valley Metro to explore these possibilities and is recommending an extension of the Avondale Zoom service from the YMCA south on Litchfield Road to McDowell Road and then east on McDowell Road to Palm Valley Blvd. where it will turn around and head west to Litchfield Road, and then north to the YMCA.

Staff investigated extending Route 3 on Van Buren Street to Estrella Parkway but the lack of activity centers along this stretch of Van Buren makes the extension costly and inefficient despite the stop that could be made at the Goodyear Library. The estimated

costs are \$1.4M in FY 2016 (includes bus capital to maintain 30 minute headway) and \$500,000 in FY 2017 & 2018.

Staff will schedule a work session in the near future to present information to Council about the taxi voucher program and how Dial-a-Ride (DAR) service is provided in the Southwest Valley.

PREVIOUS ACTIONS AND DISCUSSION:

In June 2009 the City Council adopted a Circulator Study developed by URS Consultants that identified community interest in alternative transportation that would connect the City's residents, employees and visitors with the City's activity and employment centers. The study also analyzed funding requirements and strategies to assist in the development of a circulator system in Goodyear.

In April 2013, the City Council adopted the Southwest Valley Local Transit System Study, which analyzed potential future transit services in the southwest valley that can be provided both locally and regionally. The study suggested that transit use in the southwest valley could be productive if it is provided at a reasonable level of service. The information in the study identified future transit-supportive areas of the southwest valley, recommended transit service types and identified a route system that corresponds to future land use and projected population levels.

In July 2014, the City Council adopted the City of Goodyear Transportation Master Plan that included a transit element. During the Open House meetings held for public input on the Master Plan, numerous residents expressed interest in local, regional and high-capacity transit services for Goodyear.

In November 2014, during the City Council retreat, Councilmembers expressed interest in committing unallocated transit revenues towards extension of existing transit services like the Zoom Circulator.

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

Zoom Extension

The extension of the Zoom Circulator into Goodyear will be funded with federal Avondale/Goodyear Urbanized Area Funds, which contribute 50% federal funding to operating cost for local transit service. Goodyear's 50% match will be paid with Local Transportation Assistance Funds (LTAFII). The current balance of LTAFII funds is \$601,926.18. These funds may be used for transit programs and projects only.

FY2015-16

\$66,248

The extension of the Circulator does not start until October 26, 2015. The FY2015-16 cost noted above has been pro-rated for July 1 - Oct 25, 2015.

ADA Public Transportation Funds

The maximum amount of ADA Public Transportation Funds (PTF) the City is entitled to receive for FY2014-15 is \$22,473 and for FY2015-16 is \$23,372. Upon approval of the IGA, the RPTA will use these funds to credit actual costs for ADA trips in Goodyear. As long as passengers are ADA certified, ADA PTF funds will be credited to the City for DAR and taxi-based transportation services.

ADA Platinum Pass Program

The Platinum Pass Program provides trips to ADA certified customers on fixed route bus service at no cost to the customer. The program provides cost avoidance for the City and the customer (Full fare for DAR = \$4 per trip). ADA certified passengers that choose the Platinum Pass option receive a Platinum Pass fare card that can be used for all fixed route and Light Rail fare boxes. Valley Metro deducts the fixed route bus fare (\$2.50 per ride) from the City's ADA PTF allocation.

ATTACHMENTS:

IGA Regional Public Transit Authority