



STAFF REPORT

DATE OF MEETING: FEBRUARY 22, 2021 / AGENDA ITEM NO. 12

To: Mayor and City Council

From: Kit Newland, Department Director (x7822)

Subject: AN ORDINANCE APPROVING SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS AND EXPENDITURE OF GRANT FUNDS FROM DENVER REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS TO PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION SERVICES THROUGH LAKEWOOD RIDES PROGRAM

SUMMARY STATEMENT: The Recreation Division within the Community Resources Department requests permission to receive grant funding from the Denver Regional Council of Governments (“DRCOG”) in the amounts of \$135,000 and \$20,000 to help offset the costs associated with the Lakewood Rides program. DRCOG is the recipient of grant funds under Title III of the Older Americans Act (the “OAA”), State (of Colorado) Funding for Senior Services (the “SFSS”), and a Senior and Vulnerable Transportation (“SVT”) grant, and desires to provide the aforementioned grant funding amounts to the City. In exchange, the City must agree to carry out the purposes of the grants in accordance with the City’s grant proposals and applicable law.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Lakewood Rides provides transportation services for Lakewood residents 60 and older, and individuals of any age who have a disability, for grocery trips, medical appointments, congregate meal sites, Adult Day Centers, wellness, education, employment, social, volunteerism and personal trips. Lakewood Rides is a demand response human service transportation program, and operates on a first-come, first-served basis. Door-through-door assistance is provided, to include hand-offs and assistance in pick-up and drop-off on any floor of a building. The destination boundaries are east to University, west into Golden, north to 49th Avenue, and south to Quincy Avenue. The program’s office hours are 7am to 5pm. The first pick-up is at 7:40am, and the last return time is 4:15pm. To request a ride, riders register themselves or can be registered by a caregiver. Riders request their ride time and pick-up/drop-off locations and, if available, the ride is scheduled. In general, a 7-minute pick-up window is given with exception for riders with extensive mobility challenges/frailty. Reminder calls are given to those riders with memory challenges or who need extra time, as needed. Staff provide assistance carrying items, extending an arm for balance, with leverage for standing from a sitting position, and with any mobility device. Emergency contact information is obtained when available in case a rider experiences health concerns while in the Lakewood Rides bus driver transportation care.

BUDGETARY IMPACTS: If approved, the City would accept grant funds in the amount of \$155,000 from the Denver Regional Council of Governments, which will help offset general fund expenses used to operate Lakewood Rides.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS: Staff recommends approving the attached resolution.

ALTERNATIVES: City Council could deny approval. Should the Council take this approach, the City will either need to continue funding Lakewood Rides through the use of the general fund or ask for a reduction in services offered by Lakewood Rides.

PUBLIC OUTREACH: This item was promoted through the regular communication channels for items that come before the City Council.

NEXT STEPS: Pending approval, Recreation Division staff will notify the Denver Regional Council of Governments of the City's intent to receive and use the grant funds.

ATTACHMENTS: Ordinance O-2021-6
Lakewood Rides Proposal – OAA/SFSS
Lakewood Rides Proposal – SVT
DRCOG Contract
DRCOG Approval Letters

REVIEWED BY: Kathleen E. Hodgson, City Manager
Benjamin B. Goldstein, Deputy City Manager
Alison McKenney Brown, City Attorney