

RESOLUTION NO. 23-17

A RESOLUTION OF KITSAP TRANSIT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AUTHORIZING STAFF TO ENTER INTO AN MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH THE FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION (FTA) TO PERMIT FTA TO RECEIVE CONSULTANT SUPPORT FROM KITSAP TRANSIT TO ASSIST, EXPIDITE AND IMPROVE ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE AND REVIEW PROCESSES FOR KITSAP TRANSIT PROJECTS

WHEREAS, Kitsap Transit (KT) has a large number of complex projects that require the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to support the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA); and

WHEREAS, the FTA is in need of additional staff resources to complete environmental reviews in a timely manner; and

WHEREAS, the FTA has a program referred to as the 139(j) program allowing public transportation agencies to hire a consultant on behalf of the FTA to assist in reducing the burden of work on the FTA staff; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to 23 U.S.C. § 139(j), the U.S. Secretary of Transportation may allow a public entity receiving financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) under chapter 53, title 49 of the United States Code to provide funds to a federal agency, including an agency of DOT, that is participating in the environmental review process for the project or program receiving financial assistance. Such funds may be provided only to support activities that directly and meaningfully contribute to expediting and improving transportation project planning and delivery for projects; and

WHEREAS, the FTA and KT have determined that supplemental staffing and liaison positions would expedite and improve KT's projects environmental review processes, enhance coordination, and streamline consultation and permit review on certain public transportation projects and programs; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of funding assistance addressed in the Memorandum of Agreement is to facilitate environmental review processes for public transportation


projects sponsored by KT through the assignment of consultant employee(s) to the FTA paid for by KT; and

WHEREAS, KT will solicit a consultant through an RFQ process for this role however, FTA will have sole discretion of consultant hired to work for the FTA to benefit KT; and

WHEREAS, this agreement will expire upon the end of authority granted by 23 U.S.C. 1390 or five-years (5-years) from Effective Date, whichever is earlier.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Board of Commissioners hereby authorize Kitsap Transit staff to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement for the 139(j) program with the Federal Transit Administration to support upcoming environmental review processes.

ADOPTED by the Kitsap Transit Board of Commissioners at a regular meeting held on the 7th day of March, 2023.

DocuSigned by:

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Rebecca Erickson, Chairperson

ATTEST:

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Stephanie Milne-Lane
Clerk of the Board