

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FEDERAL GRANT FUNDING FURTHERS TRANSPORTATION NEEDS IN GLENDALE

GLENDALE, Ariz. – The Glendale City Council recently approved the use of funding through federal grants, along with local match contributions, to maintain important transit needs and install messaging signs along Bell Road.

The city received a total of five grant awards specifically for transit projects in the amount of \$1,344,767, the first and second of which will provide funds to replace two Dial-a-Ride buses and transit vehicle maintenance expenses.

A third grant was awarded through the New Freedom program, which funds programs providing services to persons with disabilities. This funding is specifically for a pilot Taxi Supplement Program, which will accommodate ADA paratransit riders travelling up to one mile outside city limits, and will help to reduce the number of paratransit service transfers between Glendale and adjacent cities.

The two final transit grants were obtained through Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC) and will provide for public transportation services to address the unique challenges faced by low-income persons seeking and travelling to and from employment. These funds will pay for a share of the existing Route 59 (59th Avenue) and Route 70 (Glendale Avenue), reducing costs to the city.

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Transportation Grants

Add 1.1.1

The grants require that the city provide match funds towards these projects in the amount of \$914,148. Valley Metro RPTA will provide \$70,251 of the total match on behalf of the city for the purchase of the vehicles. The remaining match of \$843,897 will come from monies in the Transportation Services operating budget that had previously been designated to fund the whole cost of these services.

The city, in cooperation with the Maricopa County Department of Transportation (MCDOT), has received Federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality funds to install intelligent transportation system (ITS) equipment along Bell Road. Currently, Glendale manages and operates an ITS on arterial roadways throughout the city, allowing staff to remotely monitor and adjust traffic signal timing, observe traffic through closed-circuit television (CCTV) cameras, and provide information to motorists through electronic message signs. In 2008, the city installed the technology for all the signals on Bell Road, including cameras at key locations. This project will add two message signs for westbound traffic in advance of 59th and 75th avenues, along with a CCTV camera at the intersection of 69th Avenue and Bell Road.

The total cost for this ITS project is estimated to be \$500,000; federal funds will provide \$382,200, and the city will fund an additional portion with designated monies, with approximately \$38,874 available through MCDOT.

For additional information on transportation projects in Glendale, visit

www.glendaleaz.com/transportation.

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