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June 20, 2011

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GLENDALE RECEIVES GRANTS TO FUND TRANSIT SERVICES FOR DISABLED, ELDERLY RESIDENTS

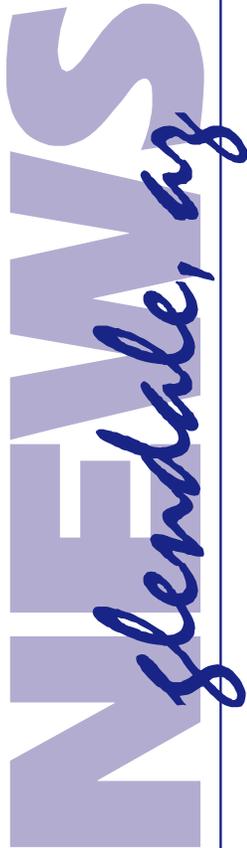
GLENDALE, Ariz. – The city of Glendale has once again received federal grant funding for transit projects, at a crucial time when budgets are being hit hard all over the Valley.

City staff aggressively pursued additional grant funding, much of which is targeted to serve elderly or disabled residents. The funds total more than \$2.3 million. Glendale participated in a competitive process along with other Valley cities and was awarded funding for several programs.

The city received a total of five grant awards, the first of which will provide funds to replace three Dial-a-Ride buses and reimburse transit vehicle maintenance expenses.

A second grant was awarded through the New Freedom program, which funds programs providing services to persons with disabilities, encouraging public transportation alternatives to address needs beyond the American with Disabilities Act (ADA.) The existing Glendale programs that will be partially-funded through grants, which totaled \$342,179, are the Taxi Subsidy Program, the Bus and Gus Individual Training (BAGIT), the Bus Buddies Program and Gus Bus, route 3, which primarily serves disabled and elderly riders. The Taxi Subsidy Program provides a three-quarter subsidy for persons with special transportation needs, assisting those making repetitive trips for medical treatments and therapies, such as dialysis and chemotherapy. The BAGIT and Bus Buddies programs educate residents, particularly seniors and those with special needs on how to use the public fixed route bus system and the Gus Bus.

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Transit Grant Funding

Add 1.1.1

The two remaining awards are transit facility grants that will fund pre-design and design work for a centralized transit center in Northwest Glendale. The pre-design phase will establish the scope, concept and location of the transit center, and the design work will also establish a plan for project implementation. The total amount of grant funding received from these five awards is \$2,338,947. Some of the grants are 100 percent federally-funded, while others require some portion of a local match. The Regional Public Transportation Authority will provide \$51,403 towards the local match for the purchase of vehicles, and the remaining local match, totaling \$630,582, is available in the Transportation Services capital and operating budgets.

For more information on Glendale's transit services, visit www.glendaleaz.com/transit or call 623-930-3501.

To see one of these transit programs in action, head to the Glendale Adult Center (5970 W. Brown St.) on Thursday, June 23 at 10 a.m. or 5:30 p.m. to check out the BAGIT program