

RESOLUTION NO. 2006-232

AUTHORIZING AN ENDORSEMENT TO NAME THE NORTHEAST OHIO AREA-WIDE COORDINATING AGENCY AS THE DESIGNATED RECIPIENT OF FEDERAL FUNDS FOR JOB ACCESS/REVERSE COMMUTE AND NEW FREEDOM FEDERAL PROGRAMS

WHEREAS, the Federal Transportation Act, Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act (SAFETEA-LU), requires that the Governor designate recipients for the Job Access/Reverse Commute (JARC) and New Freedom Programs; and

WHEREAS, the Northeast Ohio Area-wide Coordinating Agency (NOACA) is eligible to become a designated recipient of an urbanized area based upon the recommendation of the Governor of Ohio, through the Ohio Department of Transportation; and

WHEREAS, as designated recipient for the JARC and New Freedom programs, NOACA would be the principal agency to develop the required comprehensive human services coordinated transportation plan, selection criteria, select projects, ensure federal compliance, manage grant distribution and oversee the projects receiving those federal funds; and

WHEREAS, the status of the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority as the designated recipient for the Cuyahoga County portion of the Cleveland Urbanized Area will remain unchanged.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority, Cuyahoga County, Ohio:

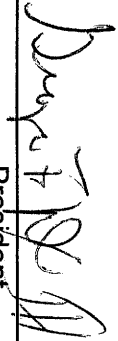
Section 1. That the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority fully supports and endorses NOACA as the designated recipient of federal funds for the JARC and New Freedom Programs.

Section 2. That the General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer of the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority recommends the Governor of Ohio through the Ohio Department of Transportation to act so that NOACA's status as the designated recipient of Federal funds for the JARC and New Freedom Programs shall become effective within FFY 2007.

Section 3. That the General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer of the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority shall forward a copy of this resolution to the Northeast Ohio Area-wide Coordinating Agency, the Ohio Department of Transportation and the Federal Transit Administration.


Section 4. That this resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

Adopted: December 19, 2006



President

Attest:



CEO, General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer



Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority
STAFF SUMMARY AND COMMENTS

TITLE/DESCRIPTION: AUTHORIZING AN ENDORSEMENT TO NAME THE NORTHEAST OHIO AREAWIDE COORDINATING AGENCY (NOACA) AS THE DESIGNATED RECIPIENT OF FEDERAL FUNDS FOR JOB ACCESS/REVERSE COMMUTE AND NEW FREEDOM FEDERAL PROGRAMS.	Resolution No.:	2006-232
	Date:	December 14, 2006
	Initiator:	Finance & Administration
	Division	

ACTION REQUEST:

- Approval Review/Comment Information Only Other _____

- 1.0 **PURPOSE/SCOPE:** This action will allow the Authority to endorse the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA) as the designated recipient of federal funds for the Job Access/Reverse Commute (JARC) and New Freedom Programs.

- 2.0 **DESCRIPTION/JUSTIFICATION:** The Federal Transportation Act, Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act (SAFETEA-LU), changed the JARC Program to become a formula program and created the New Freedom Program (this program provides formula funds for new transportation services and public transportation alternatives beyond those required for ADA to assist persons with disabilities). These programs contain language mandating coordination of transportation services with other federal human services programs, private, non-profit, and public transportation providers as well as a competitive selection process for distribution of funds.

NOACA, as the metropolitan planning organization for the five Northeast Ohio Counties of Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain and Medina will ensure that these program requirements are met, in consultation with all coordinating parties. As designated recipient for the JARC and New Freedom programs, NOACA would be the principal agency to develop the required comprehensive human services coordinated transportation plan, selection criteria, select projects, ensure federal compliance, manage grant distribution and oversee the projects receiving those federal funds.

- 3.0 **PROCUREMENT BACKGROUND:** Does not apply.

- 4.0 **DBE/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION BACKGROUND:** Does not apply.

- 5.0 **POLICY IMPACT:** Does not apply.

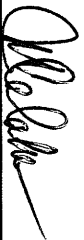
- 6.0 **ECONOMIC IMPACT:** GCRTA will continue to apply for and receive its portion of the funds allocated to the Cleveland Urbanized Area. GCRTA will participate in the planning process and will compete for funds available under the JARC and New Freedom Programs. SAFETEA-LU includes a total of \$5.6 million in Federal funds under these programs allocated to the Cleveland Urbanized Area. Under these programs, the Federal share of eligible capital and planning costs may not exceed 80% of the new cost of the activity. The Federal share of the eligible operating cost may not exceed 50% of the net operating costs of the activity.

7.0 ALTERNATIVES: Do not authorize the endorsement of the NOACA as the designated recipient for JARC and New Freedom Program funds for the Cleveland Urbanized Area. This would not allow NOACA to apply for federal funds under the Job Access and Reverse Commute and new Freedom Programs.

8.0 RECOMMENDATION: This action was reviewed by the Finance Committee at their December 5, 2006 meeting and recommended for approval by the Board of Trustees. It is recommended that the Resolution endorsing NOACA as the federally designated recipient for JARC and New Freedom Program funds for the Cleveland Urbanized Area be approved.

9.0 ATTACHMENTS: None

Recommended and certified as appropriate to the availability of funds, legal form and conformance with the Procurement requirements.



CEO, General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer