



City of Yakima, Transit Division
2301 Fruitvale Blvd.
Main Office Phone: 575-6175

Date: May 12, 2020
To: Honorable Mayor and Members of City Council and Alex Meyerhoff,
Interim City Manager
From: Alvie Maxey, Yakima Transit Manager *AMM*
Subject: CARES Act Grant Funding

The following Information Item is to provide notification that Yakima Transit will be receiving \$6,268,035 in funding from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), as part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

The CARES Act grant is provided in direct response to the COVID-19 health crises and does not replace or reduce other grant funding opportunities anticipated to be received by Yakima Transit.

No matching funds are required with this grant, however, Yakima Transit will have to carefully track and provide quarterly reports to the FTA detailing how this funding is utilized. The funding provided through this grant can also be carried over into the next three years or until otherwise utilized by Yakima Transit.

This funding is only applicable for Yakima Transit operations use and will enable Yakima Transit to maintain current schedules, routes and staffing at regular capacity. Thus far, maintaining regularly scheduled operations, in conjunction with the sudden drop in ridership due to COVID-19 related concerns has enabled Yakima Transit to provide passengers the ability to practice social distancing and minimize overcrowding on buses. Therefore, maintaining current schedules, routes and staffing at regular capacity has been viewed and practiced as a method to better ensure the safety of Yakima Transit employees, passengers and the general public.

The CARES Act grant funding can be used very broadly to cover a number of different Yakima Transit expenses and is not limited to COVID-19 related expenditures. However, this funding will certainly be utilized to offset expenses related to the purchase of personal protective equipment (PPE), new Plexiglas bus driver enclosures, cleaning and disinfectant supplies and all other expenses pertaining to Yakima Transit's response to the health crises.