



LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Aging & Disabilities Department

Director
MARAL KARACCUSIAN

Chief Deputy
VICTORIA JUMP

510 S. Vermont Avenue, 11th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90020
ad.lacounty.gov
(213) 291-0028

October 20, 2026

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT FISCAL YEAR 2026–28
FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION SECTION 5310 PROGRAM GRANT FUNDS
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS)
(3-VOTES)**

SUBJECT

The Los Angeles County Aging and Disabilities Department (AD) seeks approval and delegated authority to accept Fiscal Year (FY) 2026–28 one-time Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5310 Program grant funding in the amount of \$800,000, and any additional grant funding augmentation or redistribution, from the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA) for the period of November 1, 2026, through June 30, 2028. The FTA Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Senior and Individuals with Disabilities Program funds improve mobility for older adults and individuals with disabilities by removing transportation barriers and expanding accessible transportation options.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD

1. Approve and authorize AD's Director, or designee, to accept \$800,000 in one-time FY 2026–28 FTA Section 5310 grant funding, as well as any additional funding made available by LACMTA.
2. Approve and authorize AD's Director, or designee, to execute the resulting agreement and any future amendments necessary to extend the term or accept additional funding made available by LACMTA during the term of the agreement.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

HILDA L. SOLIS
First District

HOLLY J. MITCHELL
Second District

LINDSEY P. HORVATH
Third District

JANICE HAHN
Fourth District

KATHRYN BARGER
Fifth District



PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION(S)

On April 23, 2014, the Governor of California designated LACMTA as the recipient responsible for administering FTA Section 5310 Program funds allocated to large, urbanized areas within Los Angeles County. The FTA Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program is intended to improve mobility for seniors and individuals with disabilities by removing transportation barriers and expanding access to transportation options.

AD administers two programs supported by FTA Section 5310 funding: the New Freedom Transportation (NFT) Volunteer Driver Mileage Reimbursement Program (VDMR) and the Taxicab Services Program (TSP). These programs provide eligible older adults and individuals with disabilities with safe, reliable, and accessible transportation alternatives beyond traditional public transit.

The VDMR Program reimburses volunteer drivers for mileage incurred while transporting clients to medical appointments, nutrition sites, social service agencies, grocery stores, and other essential destinations that support health, independence, and community engagement. Reimbursement is provided at the approved mileage rate and is subject to established program policies, documentation requirements, and available funding. TSP subsidizes trips provided by licensed taxicab operators. Together, VDMR and TSP advance the County's goals of promoting mobility, health equity, and independent living while supporting responsible stewardship of public resources.

The recommended actions are necessary to accept FY 2026–28 FTA Section 5310 grant funding. Timely acceptance of these funds will maintain the continuity of VDMR and TSP services and help ensure that eligible older adults and individuals with disabilities continue to have access to safe, reliable, and accessible transportation.

IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN

The recommended actions support the following [Countywide Strategic Plan Goals](#):

- North Star 1, Focus Area Goal A (Healthy Individuals and Families), Strategy 2 (Improve Health Outcomes) by promoting comprehensive, inclusive, culturally-responsive competent care, healthy lifestyles, and improvement of physical health outcomes.

- North Star 1, Focus Area Goal D (Support Vulnerable Populations), Strategy 7 (Older Adults & People with Disabilities) by supporting purposeful aging, enhancing service delivery and care, promoting accessibility, and championing an environment where the needs, health, well-being, and rights of older adults, people with disabilities, and those who are dependent are prioritized.
- North Star 2, Focus Area Goal A (Public Health), Strategy 1 (Population Based Health) by focusing on our County health systems to improve health outcomes of individuals and communities with an emphasis on providing quality, accessible, and culturally responsive services.
- North Star 2, Focus Area Goal E (Economic Health), Strategy 4 (Disadvantaged Communities) by investing in and strengthen the economic capacity and infrastructure in historically disadvantaged and under-resourced communities.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The recommended actions will be funded with FTA Section 5310 funds awarded by the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) and administered through the LACMTA. These funds are passed to the AD to support the administration of the NFT–VDMR and NFT–TSP services.

The anticipated FY 2026–28 FTA Section 5310 funding allocation is \$800,000 and may be expended through June 30, 2028. The funds are included in the Department's FY 2026–27 Final Adopted Budget and will be included in the Fiscal Year 2027-28 budget request.

FTA Section 5310 funding is subject to the availability of federal funds. Any changes to the allocation will be reflected in future budget requests. Any required local match will be provided in accordance with the approved grant agreement. There is no net County cost (NCC) associated with the program and no additional NCC will be requested for the recommended actions.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

On January 9, 2026, LACMTA issued Preliminary Funding Award Recommendations for the FTA Section 5310 Program Solicitation. AD's New Freedom Transportation programs were recommended to receive \$800,000 in operating assistance to continue the VDMR Program and TSP for two years. The recommended actions seek approval and delegated authority for AD to accept the FTA Section 5310 funds made available through LACMTA and to execute the associated agreement and subsequent amendments necessary to continue providing VDMR and TSP services to eligible older adults and individuals with disabilities.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

Board approval to accept FTA Section 5310 funds from the U.S. DOT through LACMTA will enable AD to continue providing critical transportation services to eligible VDMR and TSP clients. In accepting and administering these funds, AD will comply with all applicable statutory, regulatory, and program requirements. Upon receipt of the funds, AD will conduct competitive solicitations and award contracts to qualified service providers to deliver the required VDMR and TSP services.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES

Approval of the recommended actions will reduce transportation barriers for older adults and individuals with disabilities by expanding access to essential destinations, including medical appointments, grocery stores, social services, and community activities. VDMR will also allow participants to select a trusted friend or neighbor as their volunteer driver, helping strengthen community connections, reduce social isolation, and promote greater independence.

CONCLUSION

Upon your approval of the recommended actions, AD's Director, or designee, will accept the FTA Section 5310 funds U.S. DOT through LACMTA, and execute the associated agreement and any future amendments as noted herein.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Johnson Wang, Human Services Administrator I at (213) 738-5705 or JWang2@ad.lacounty.gov.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maral V. Karaccusian

Maral V. Karaccusian
Director

MK:VJ:SH:IP:on

cc: Chief Executive Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors

BOARD LETTER/MEMO CLUSTER FACT SHEET

☒ Board Letter

☐ Board Memo

☐ Other

CLUSTER AGENDA REVIEW DATE	9/30/2026	
BOARD MEETING DATE	10/20/2026	
SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT AFFECTED	☒ All ☐ 1 st ☐ 2 nd ☐ 3 rd ☐ 4 th ☐ 5 th	
DEPARTMENT(S)	Aging and Disabilities (AD)	
SUBJECT	Authorization to Accept Fiscal Year 2026-28 Federal Transit Administration Section 5310 Program Grant Funds	
PROGRAM	New Freedom Transportation (NFT) – Volunteer Driver Mileage Reimbursement (VDMR) and Taxicab Services Program (TSP)	
AUTHORIZES DELEGATED AUTHORITY TO DEPT	☒ Yes ☐ No	
SOLE SOURCE CONTRACT	☐ Yes ☒ No If Yes, please explain why: N/A	
SB 1439 SUPPLEMENTAL DECLARATION FORM REVIEW COMPLETED BY EXEC OFFICE	☐ Yes ☒ No – Not Applicable	
DEADLINES/ TIME CONSTRAINTS	Funding through the grant is available November 1, 2026 – June 30, 2028.	
COST & FUNDING	Total funding: \$800,000	Funding source: Federal Transit Administration Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Senior and Individuals with Disabilities Program Funds
	TERMS (if applicable): FTA 5310 grant funding is available from November 1, 2026 through June 30, 2028	
PURPOSE OF REQUEST	The purpose of this request is to: 1. Approve and authorize AD's Director, or designee, to accept \$800,000 in one-time FY 2026–28 FTA Section 5310 grant funding, as well as any additional funding made available by Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA). 2. Approve and authorize AD's Director, or designee, to execute the resulting agreement and any future amendments necessary to extend the term or accept additional funding made available by LACMTA during the term of the agreement.	

BACKGROUND (include internal/external issues that may exist including any related motions)	On April 23, 2014, the Governor of California designated LACMTA to administer FTA Section 5310 funds in Los Angeles County to improve mobility for older adults and individuals with disabilities. AD administers the NFT–VDMR and NFT–TSP, expanding access to safe, reliable, and accessible transportation beyond traditional public transit. Approval to accept FY 2026–28 FTA Section 5310 funding will sustain these essential services, enhance mobility and equitable access to critical destinations, and ensure continued transportation support for seniors and individuals with disabilities.
EQUITY INDEX OR LENS WAS UTILIZED	☐ Yes ☒ No If Yes, please explain how: Not Applicable
SUPPORTS ONE OF THE NINE BOARD PRIORITIES	☒ Yes ☐ No
DEPARTMENTAL CONTACTS	Name, Title, Phone # & Email: Johnson Wang, Human Services Administrator I, (213) 738-5705, JWang2@ad.lacounty.com .