



# **City of Grand Island**

**Tuesday, August 27, 2013**

**Council Session**

## **Item I-5**

**#2013-290 - Consideration of Approving Interlocal Agreement with Hall County Regarding Transit Services**

**Staff Contact: Chad Nabity**

# **Council Agenda Memo**

**From:** Chad Nabity, AICP

**Meeting:** August 27, 2013

**Subject:** Interlocal Agreement with Hall County to Provide Transit Services within Grand Island

**Item #'s:** I-5

**Presenter(s):** Chad Nabity, AICP

## **Background**

In March of 2012, the City of Grand Island was declared a Census Defined Urbanized Area. This designation changes the funding streams and responsibilities for a number of programs, including those used to provide Transportation Services within the City of Grand Island. With this new designation, Section 5307 Urban Transit Funds became available to the City of Grand Island. On September 25, 2012 the Grand Island City Council authorized the Mayor to send a letter requesting the City of Grand Island be named the recipient of these transit funds. The Governor then approved the request.

## **Discussion**

Since the mid-1970s, Hall County, using Section 5311 Rural Transit Funding, has provided elderly and para-transit services through Senior Citizens Industries Inc. Over the years, this service has evolved into a full-scale, portal-to-portal transit service, providing transportation to all residents of Hall County through a combination of busses and discounted cab vouchers.

Since the new “Urbanized” designation, the City of Grand Island will begin receiving 5307 funds for transportation services, instead of the 5311 funds Hall County was receiving. However, in order for us to plan for and contract with an entity to provide transit services within the City of Grand Island, and in order for the services to continue through this transitional period, the attached Interlocal Agreement is being proposed to you for approval.

This Interlocal Agreement is also being proposed for approval by the Hall County Board of Supervisors.

The agreement would allow Hall County to continue to contract with Senior Citizens Industries Inc. to provide the same level of transit services within the City of Grand Island as they have in the past. The agreement will also allow the City of Grand Island to provide a payment of \$109,526 to Hall County, as shown in the proposed 2013-14 budget in fund 226. The budget shows \$109,526 for 2013-14 fiscal year for Transit Services.

The proposed agreement will end on September 30, 2014, which is the end of the fiscal year for the City of Grand Island. However, it is planned and the State of Nebraska Department of Roads has indicated that funding would continue to be available through the Section 5311 program, and this arrangement could be renewed for at least one and maybe two additional years.

### **Alternatives**

It appears that the Council has the following alternatives concerning the issue at hand. The Council may:

1. Move to approve
2. Refer the issue to a Committee
3. Postpone the issue to future date
4. Take no action on the issue

### **Recommendation**

City Administration recommends that the Council approve the Interlocal Agreement with Hall County as presented

### **Sample Motion**

Move to approve the Interlocal Agreement as presented.

**INTERLOCAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF HALL AND  
THE CITY OF GRAND ISLAND FOR TRANSIT SERVICE**

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Nebraska Interlocal Cooperation Act codified at Article 8, Chapter 13 and §§13-303 of the Nebraska Revised Statutes, the County of Hall (County) and the City of Grand Island (City) do hereby enter into an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement (Agreement) for the County to provide transit service for residents of the County and the City to provide the necessary matching funds to the County to provide that service; and

WHEREAS, in March, 2012, the United States Bureau of the Census designated Grand Island and its surrounding area as an Urbanized Area having a population in excess of fifty thousand (50,000) persons; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the aforementioned designation by the U.S. Census Bureau, residents of the Urbanized Area lost access to Section 5311 Rural Transit funds; and

WHEREAS, the State of Nebraska has unexpended Section 5311 Rural Transit funds and will allow those funds to be disbursed to benefit the residents of the Urbanized Area as it transitions to using Section 5307 Urban Transit funds to provide urban transit services; and

WHEREAS, the Parties wish to continue to provide existing transit services until the City can establish urban transit services through the use of Section 5307 funds.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Parties do hereby set forth the terms of their Interlocal Cooperation Agreement for the City to provide matching funds to the County to enable the County to continue to provide transit services as follows:

I.

The duration of this Agreement shall be for 15 months commencing on July 1, 2013 and ending on September 30, 2014.

II.

The County agrees to continue to adhere to Hall County Resolution 13-015 and the terms of its present agreement with Senior Citizens Industries, Inc. for transit services.

III.

The County agrees to provide the matching funds necessary to fund the operations of Hall County Public Transportation for the months of July, August and September of 2013. Thereafter, the County agrees to pay only the cost of service to Hall County patrons outside the city limits of Grand Island.

IV.

The City agrees to pay the County matching funds in the amount of One Hundred Nine Thousand Five Hundred Twenty-Six Dollars (\$109,526.00) that are necessary for the County to continue to receive Section 5311 funds. This amount is understood to include funding for cab tickets and approximately Eleven Thousand Dollars (\$11,000.00) for the annual purchase of a new bus. It is further understood that the \$109,526.00 amount represents matching funds for the fiscal year of the City commencing October 1, 2013 and ending September 30, 2014. The City agrees to provide said matching funds within thirty (30) days of receiving a written request by the County, but no sooner than October 1, 2013.

V.

The terms of this Agreement shall not be altered or amended unless done so in writing with the approval of both the governing bodies of the Parties.

VI.

This Agreement may be terminated by either Party for any reason or no reason upon the approval of such action by the governing body of either Party with a minimum of thirty (30) days notice to the other Party.

COUNTY OF HALL

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Pamela Lancaster, Chairperson  
Hall County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Marla J. Conley  
Hall County Clerk

CITY OF GRAND ISLAND

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

By

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jay Vavricek, Mayor  
City of Grand Island

\_\_\_\_\_  
RaNae Edwards  
Grand Island City Clerk

R E S O L U T I O N   2013-290

WHEREAS, Hall County has been providing transit services to all of the citizens of Hall County through and agreement with Senior Citizens Industries Inc. and the State of Nebraska to use Section 5311 Rural Transit Funds within Hall County for almost 40 years; and

WHEREAS, the City of Grand Island, Nebraska has been declared a Census Defined Urbanized Area with a population of more than 50,000 people; and

WHEREAS, funding for transit services in Grand Island will be impacted because of the declaration of Grand Island as a Census Defined Urbanized Area; and

WHEREAS, the City and the County wish to continue to provide transit services to the Citizens who reside within the Census Defined Urbanized Area; and

WHEREAS, the State of Nebraska has made available unallocated funding under the Section 5311 Rural Transit Program that will allow Grand Island residents to continue to avail themselves of transit services in the same manner as has previously been provided within the agreement between Hall County and Senior Citizens Industries Inc. and

WHEREAS, it is in the interest of the Citizens of Grand Island, and the governing bodies of both Grand Island and Hall County for the City to fund transit services in the City through the existing contract between Hall County and Senior Citizen Industries Inc. until such time as the City is ready to authorize a separate contract for the provision of transit services within the City; and

WHEREAS, the City of Grand Island and the Hall County, Nebraska, have indicated an interest in working together to provide transit services in their respective jurisdictions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA, INTERLOCAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF HALL AND THE CITY OF GRAND ISLAND FOR TRANSIT SERVICE, is hereby approved.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor is hereby authorized and directed to execute the Agreement for Transit Service on behalf of the City of Grand Island.

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Approved as to Form <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
August 23, 2013	<input type="checkbox"/> City Attorney

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Grand Island, Nebraska, August 27, 2013.

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Jay Vavricek, Mayor

Attest:

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RaNae Edwards, City Clerk