

Metropolitan Transit Authority

1900 Main
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MAR 22 2010

713-739-4000

www.ridemetro.org

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March 2, 2010

President & Chief Executive Officer
Frank J. Wilson

Mr. Alan C. Clark, MPO Director
Houston-Galveston Area Council
P. O. Box 22777
Houston, Texas 77227-2777

Re: JARC Application

ALAN
Dear Mr. Clark:

The purpose of this letter is to request additional Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5316 Job Access / Reverse Commute (JARC) funds for a previously selected project and notification to the Transportation Policy Council (TPC) about the revised project budget.

The Brazoria County Park & Ride project was submitted by Connect Transit (Gulf Coast Center) and approved in July 2009 by both the METRO Board and the Transportation Policy Council for incorporation into the JARC program. The original project scope included program management and operating assistance for five (5) years of bus service, with the local match provided by the City of Pearland. The project further envisioned METRO's lease of a closed auto dealership located on the southeast corner of SH-288 and County Road 59 (CR 59). METRO was to have provided the local match for this lease. This would have allowed early start of the service while a more permanent location was being investigated and / or acquired.

As discussed during our December 18, 2009 meeting, a change has now occurred in the plans for park & ride project implementation. METRO has recently learned that the auto dealership owner will not lease the land, thus that location is no longer available for the proposed park & ride lot.

In an effort to continue implementation of the project, METRO has identified a second location for the proposed park & ride lot. Located on the southwest corner of SH-288 and CR 59, the new location is a vacant 12-acre tract that is available for purchase for approximately \$2.794

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million. (See map Attachment 1.) METRO proposes to purchase this tract and commits to meeting the local match requirement as shown in the attached budget proposal.

Since acquisition of the newly identified land and subsequent facility design and construction will likely take 6-12 months, METRO will investigate locations for a temporary lease during a start-up period. This would allow service to begin in the spring 2010 and continue while real estate is acquired and design and construction for the permanent facility are completed.

The current Gulf Coast Center budget for the Brazoria County Park & Ride project contains \$1.25 million (\$1 million federal dollars) for the facility lease or purchase. METRO proposes that approximately \$100,000 (\$80,000 federal dollars) remain in this project budget to cover costs if a temporary lease site is found, and that the remaining current land budget of \$1.15 million (\$920,000 federal dollars) be transferred to a METRO project to acquire land for the Brazoria County Park & Ride lot. Further, METRO requests the addition of approximately \$1.644 million (\$1.315 million federal dollars) to cover the remaining purchase price and associated expenses such as surveys, closing costs, etc.

METRO also intends to pursue a turnkey approach for acquisition of the land and park & ride lot infrastructure improvements. Under such an arrangement, the property owner would not only sell the land to METRO, but would design and construct the facility (to METRO's park & ride facility standards); METRO would purchase the land and facility upon its completion. METRO plans to submit a separate request for additional JARC funding for the design and construction project costs.

METRO believes that the addition of JARC funds for this project is a worthwhile use of a portion of the remaining available FY2009 JARC funds. In previous verbal coordination with the JARC Project Evaluation Team, all team members approved the allocation of additional funds for land acquisition.

Please notify the Transportation Policy Council of this TIP and JARC program administrative revision at its March 2009 meeting. Also, please feel free to contact Edie Lowery, METRO Director / Grant Programs at 713-739-6925 if you have questions regarding our request.

Sincerely,



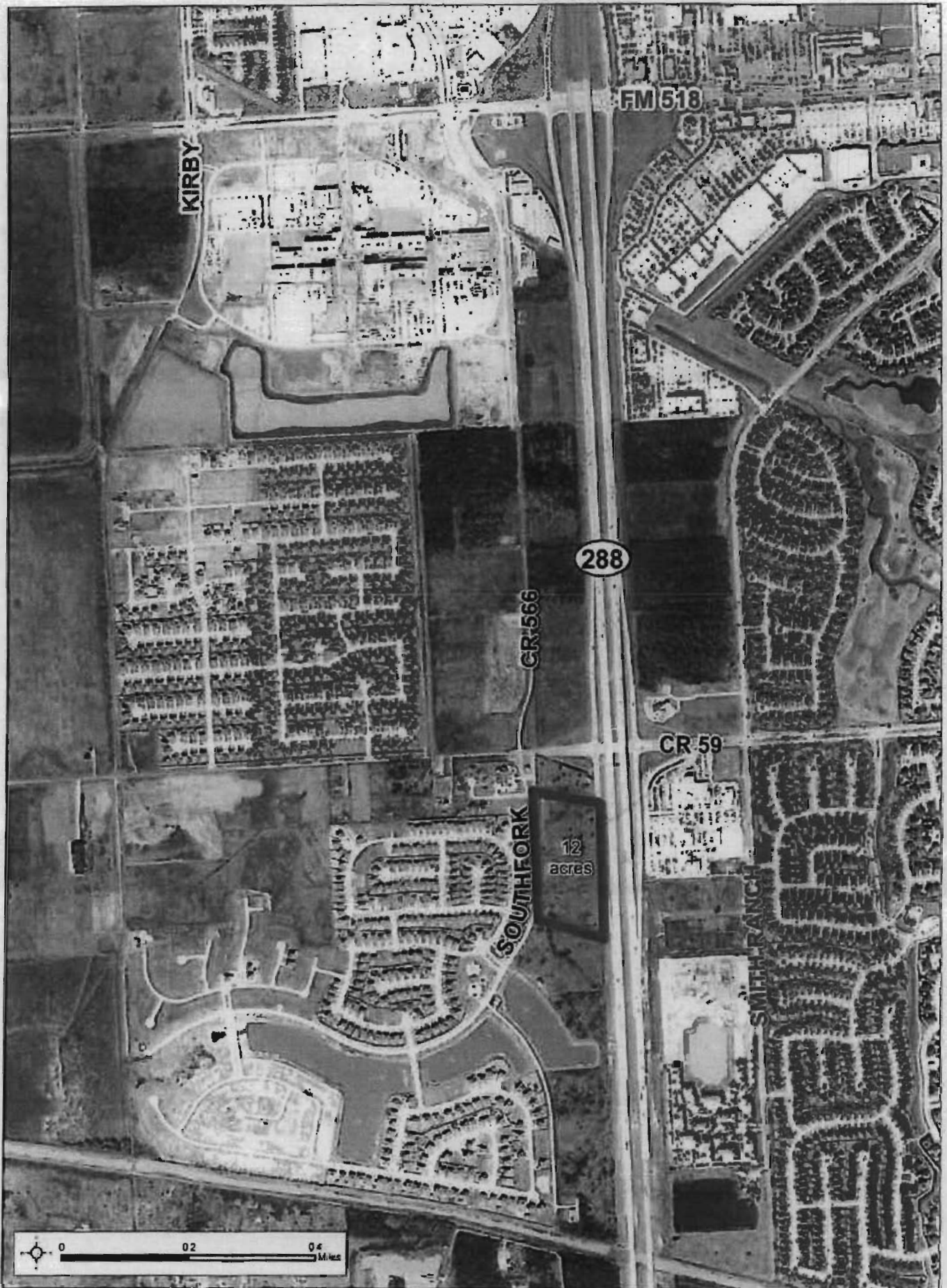
John M. Sedlak
Executive Vice President

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Attachments

Xc: JARC PET members

SH288/Brazoria Park & Ride Location



ATTACHMENT 2

ALLOCATION OF JARC FUNDS

Sub-grantee	TX-37-X059	TX-37-X059-01	TX-37-X059-02		TOTAL	
	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008	FY2009	FTA \$\$	100% \$\$
Fort Bend Cty						
83/17 veh	\$126,055				\$126,055	\$151,873
80/20 CCC	\$212,020				\$212,020	\$265,025
50/05 CCC	\$178,403				\$178,403	\$356,806
Subtotal	\$516,478				\$516,478	\$773,704
Family Services						
50/50 CCC	\$120,000	\$428,519			\$548,519	\$1,097,038
80/20 loan guarnt		\$70,400			\$70,400	\$88,000
Subtotal	\$120,000	\$498,919			\$618,919	\$1,185,038
Reg vanpool						
80/20 lease	\$1,400,000				\$1,400,000	\$1,750,000
80/20 PM	\$139,435				\$139,435	\$174,294
Subtotal	\$1,539,435				\$1,539,435	\$1,924,294
Gulf Coast Ctr						
80/20 lease		\$1,000,000			\$1,000,000	\$1,250,000
80/20 lease		(\$920,000)			(\$920,000)	(\$1,150,000)
100 plannig		\$74,391			\$74,391	\$74,391
50/50 op		\$773,040			\$773,040	\$1,546,080
Subtotal		\$927,431			\$927,431	\$1,720,471
Energy Corr Dist						
80/20 Veh graphics			\$28,000		\$28,000	\$35,000
80/20 Info sys			\$24,000		\$24,000	\$30,000
80/20 shelters			\$96,000		\$96,000	\$120,000
50/50 op asst			\$2,341,218		\$2,341,218	\$4,682,436
50/50 outreach			\$52,661	\$97,339	\$150,000	\$300,000
100 ECD staff PM				\$161,856	\$161,856	\$161,856
100 Contr staff PM				\$243,144	\$243,144	\$243,144
Subtotal			\$2,541,879	\$502,339	\$3,044,218	\$5,572,436
METRO Land						
80/20 land acq.		\$920,000		\$1,307,424	\$2,227,424	\$2,784,280
80/20 proj mgmt				\$8,000	\$8,000	\$10,000
Subtotal		\$920,000		\$1,315,424	\$2,235,424	\$2,794,280
METRO PM						
100 PM	\$50,000				\$50,000	\$50,000
Subtotal	\$50,000				\$50,000	\$50,000
TOTAL	\$2,225,913	\$2,346,350	\$2,541,879	\$1,817,763	\$8,931,905	\$14,020,223
FTA ALLOCATION	\$2,225,913	\$2,346,350	\$2,541,879	\$2,983,501	\$10,097,643	
FTA AVAILABLE	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,165,738	\$1,165,738	

Yellow shading shows proposed revisions for Brazoria County land acquisition.