



Trisha Tillotson
Community Development Agency Director

David Garcia
Director of Public Works

NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Board Agenda Memo

MEETING DATE: May 19, 2026

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: David Garcia, Director of Public Works

SUBJECT: Resolution approving execution of certifications and assurances, authorized agent forms and submittal of an application for \$94,282 in Fiscal Year 2025-26 Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP) PUC 99313 and 99314 Funding Administered by the California Department of Transportation (Districts I, II, III, IV)

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the attached Resolution

FUNDING: Funding for this Agreement is provided through Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP) Funding and is included in the Transit Services Fiscal Year 2026-27 budget. A budget amendment is not required, and there is no impact to the General Fund.

BACKGROUND: The Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP) is one of several programs established by Senate Bill 862 (2014) that provides operating and capital assistance for transit agencies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to improve mobility. The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is the administrative agency for LCTOP. Caltrans is responsible for ensuring that the statutory requirements of the program are met, and local agency recipients are responsible in ensuring projects selected provide maximum public benefits for transit ridership, greenhouse gas reductions and other co-benefits. Eligible projects are operational or capital projects that must be consistent with the project leads' most recent short range transit development plan, regional plan or publicly adopted plan that programs funds for transit projects including a transportation improvement plan.

The current 2025-26 LCTOP total allocation amount for Nevada County is \$94,282 (99313 - \$89,980 via NCTC; 99314 - \$4,302 via the County). The call for projects is currently underway, and agency applications were due April 28, 2026. Nevada County Connects has submitted operating grant applications for the full allocation amount. The planned projects are as follows:

- Low-Income Pass Subsidy Program: \$58,290 (99313 - \$53,988; 99314 - \$4,302). This program provides subsidized bus passes to qualifying individuals with annual income of 138 – 200 percent of the federal poverty level.
- Free Fare Incentive Program: \$35,992 (99313). This is a fare incentive project to improve access to our rural fixed route public transit and will offer free fare days connected to community events as an alternative to using cars to reduce emissions and increase ridership.

The purpose of the proposed projects is to enhance transit accessibility by removing cost barriers associated with the local transportation. The Low-Income Pass Subsidy program currently provides passes to approximately 143 individuals per month, while the Free Fare Incentive

program provided a total of over 17,200 passenger trips in 2025. The program supports the consumers of our partner agencies such as FREED, Behavioral Health and Social Services, as well as supporting our local businesses and cultural events throughout the year.

Attachments:

1. Resolution to Approve LCTOP Program Grant Application
2. AR Signature Page- Free Fare Incentive Program
3. AR Signature Page-Low-Income Pass Subsidy Program

Item Initiated by: Robin Van Valkenburgh, Transit Services Manager
Approved by: David Garcia, Director of Public Works