

2015-16 and 2016-17 Fiscal Year CET Funding Request – City of Prineville

In the current 2014-15 fiscal year, COIC receives \$10,000 from the City of Prineville to help fund the City's local and inter-community CET services (total of \$20,000 over the 2013-15 two-year biennium period). The request for 2015-16 and 2016-17 fiscal years proposes an increase in funding. This additional funding will allow us to maximize our grant funding request, and will cover routine cost inflation. **COIC requests a total of \$12,000 per year for the 2015-16 and 2016-17 fiscal years.**

City Leverage Opportunity

A primary funding source for local CET services is the federal 5310 grant program. This funding stream supports transportation for the elderly and those with disabilities. COIC must apply every two years for this funding, and grants are awarded through a competitive process.

This grant program has a local match requirement – for every \$9 of federal funding requested the local community must contribute \$1 (9:1 match rate). This is a very favorable match rate – many federal grants for transportation services require a 1:1 match (\$1 of federal funding for \$1 of local funding). So the City's allocation over the two-year period has the potential to leverage nearly \$200,000 in federal matching grant funds.

Overall Budget

For the upcoming 2015-16 fiscal year we estimate that providing our current level of CET services in Crook County will cost a total of \$280,000. So the City's contribution to services constitutes approximately 4.3% of the overall cost of the service. The remainder of funding comes from a mix of federal funding, state Special Transportation Fund (STF) resources, contract funding (Central Oregon Council on Aging), and a contribution from Crook County. Rider fares round out the budget.

Services Provided

- Local general public transit services within the Prineville UGB. Weekdays from 7:00 AM to 5:30 PM.
- Local service is "demand-response" or dial-a-ride. Customers must schedule their rides at least a day in advance. The bus then picks them up at their point of origin and delivers them to their destination.
- Ride reservations are made by phone through the Cascades East Ride Center, operated by COIC and located in Redmond. This is the region's CET ride scheduling call center, as well as the region's medical ride brokerage entity.

- A Prineville-Redmond Community Connector bus makes 5 round trips to Redmond daily (weekdays only). No reservations are required for this service, and the bus has a published schedule.
- For more info on CET services, visit the website: <http://www.cascadeseasttransit.com/>

Ridership Report

- CET provided a total of 8,928 rides in Prineville over the 2014 calendar year.
- Additionally, a total of 17,577 rides were provided on the Prineville-Redmond Community Connector shuttle during the 2014 calendar year.
- In terms of trends – ridership on the local service has been flat over the past two years, after a period of higher ridership in the 2010-2012 time period. Ridership declines are attributed to cutbacks in local service due to funding reductions.
- Demand for inter-community rides has been increasing since 2012.
- COIC recently purchased a larger 38-passenger bus for the Prineville-Redmond bus route due to increasing demand.