



The Juneau Coordinated Transportation Coalition (JCTC), Juneau’s Coordinated Human Services Transportation Provider Coalition, invites funding prioritization requests from member agencies for transportation projects.

Grants for Capital Projects (money available on or after July 1, 2024): Capital projects in transit include both capital to purchase (or retrofit/rebuild) a vehicle, to purchase transportation assistance devices, and funds for “purchased transportation services,” whereby a grant pays for the purchase of rides on public transit for the clients of a human services agency.

PLEASE EMAIL FUNDING PRIORITIZATION REQUESTS to Scott Ciambor at the City and Borough of Juneau Community Development Department.

Email to scott.ciambor@juneau.org

Requesting Agency Information:

Agency: Southeast Alaska Independent Living, Inc. (SAIL)

Contact Person: Joan O’Keefe Phone: 888-487-0987

Email: jokeefe@sailinc.org

Title/Description of Funding Request: Capital Request: Expansion ADA Taxi

Question 1) Can Capital Transit/CapitalAKcess currently meet the needs of the requesting agency's project?

Answer: No. The Accessible Taxi program is a compliment—not a replacement—to the valuable services provided by both Capital Transit/CapitalAKcess and fills a “special” niche for riders who are unable to plan ahead to schedule transportation through CapitalAKcess (i.e., sudden illness); those living outside the Capital Transit/CapitalAKcess boundaries; those who need transportation before or after the scheduled hours of operation or on holidays when Capital Transit/CapitalAKcess do not run; or for those who need a priority ride because of a frail medical condition (i.e., dialysis patients). Additionally, when snow/ice conditions limit Capital Transit/CapitalAKcess routes and/or ice and snow cause barriers to sidewalks, bus shelters, and private drives, often taxis can still access the pickup.

Question 2) Does the requesting agency serve persons with disabilities? Beneficiaries of the Alaska Mental Health Trust? (Persons suffering from dementia, TBI, persons with developmental disabilities, persons with mental illness, and persons who experience

chronic substance abuse.) Please describe clients who will use this transportation, including approximate numbers served per year.

Answer: In FY23, SAIL served ~1000+ seniors & people with disabilities, over 300 who reside in Juneau. Approximately 50% of SAIL consumers are beneficiaries of the AMHTA. That said, anyone can request the ramp-equipped taxi.

Our vendor, Juneau Taxi, provides several thousand trips per year in the accessible cabs. Fifty different individuals who need the ramp or low riding feature of the ADA cabs use it regularly. During tourist season ~1500 individuals who need the lift or low riding feature also receive rides.

Question 3) Describe these clients' specific social service, treatment, or medical and transportation needs to be addressed by this request.

Answer: Seniors and people with disabilities use the lift-equipped taxi for the full gamut of transportation needs including medical appointments, to receive social services, obtain groceries, visit friends and family, recreate, and do errands. For individuals who need the ramp or low riding feature and live outside of Capital Transit/CapitalAKcess boundaries, need rides outside of transit hours, cannot plan ahead, need rides on holidays when does not operate or when winter conditions limit routes, an accessible taxi may be their only transportation option.

Question 4) How much would your project cost? What type of vehicle do you wish to purchase and would it be used or new? If you want "purchased services" please estimate the number of hours of service per week or month that clients would be using transportation services.

Answer: Earlier this month, Schetky NW, one of the vendors we have used repeatedly, reported an ADA vehicle similar to what we are looking for would cost ~\$86,250 delivered to Juneau. ADOT&PF strongly discourages applying for used vehicles. Consequently, this request is for a new vehicle.

Our taxi vendor has tried many different makes and models over our 16+ year partnership. We are looking to purchase another Toyota Sienna with a side entry and ramp, or something similar.

Question 5) These projects may require local match funds. Is your agency able to provide the cash match to buy the vehicle?

Answer: Yes. Over the past 16+ grant cycles, SAIL has a 100% track record for securing all vehicle matches. Gratefully our taxi vendor, Juneau Taxi and Tours, has a long history of providing the required 20% match and has agreed to do so once again if SAIL hasn't found the match funding elsewhere.

Question 6) You must guarantee that you will share the vehicle in case of a public emergency in the community. In the absence of such an emergency, can you offer any

way that other human service agencies in Juneau could realistically share the use of the vehicle you are requesting? Explain why, how, or why not.

Answer: Yes, we can guarantee these vehicles will be shared in an emergency. These vehicles need to be available 24:7 as a taxi or a back-up and therefore would not be available for use by other human service agencies (except when they call for a taxi!)

Question 7) Is this request for a NEW vehicle that will be ADDED to your fleet, or is it for REPLACEMENT of a vehicle currently in your fleet? This is a replacement ADA taxi.

We are requesting an expansion vehicle. Last year SAIL requested and was approved for a replacement vehicle for our 2019 Toyota Sienna which now has ~140,000 miles and front end issues. We'd like to take this vehicle off the road however doing so would leave only one working ADA taxi. We learned long ago that every system needs a backup as vehicles need to be taken off the road for routine and major maintenance--and without a backup vehicle, it's an unreliable system. The vehicle we are requesting this grant cycle is that 2nd accessible taxi--so riders can rely on having an ADA vehicle available 24:7, 365 days a year.

Description of vehicle to be replaced: N/A (expansion)

Additional Comments: Thank you for your consideration!

Process to review and prioritize funding requests:

The JCTC will meet with community stakeholders during a Community Transportation Needs Assessment (CTNA) meeting to hear brief presentations from each member agency on their funding requests. Although the goal of coordinating transportation services will best be met if the agencies present at the CTNA are able to reach consensus on project prioritization, a vote on prioritization may be necessary. In this event, each participating stakeholder agency will be allowed one vote each on prioritizing capital and purchase-of-services projects.

Each agency request selected as a priority will need to write and submit their own grant application to the AK DOT&PF Transit Office (Deadline: December 15, 2023). Each agency whose request proceeds forward to a state grant application MUST have registered with the State as either a New Applicant or register (or renew your information). You can read more about the state process, state timeline, and grant qualifications online at: http://www.dot.alaska.gov/stwdplng/transit/hs_application_info.shtml. Please notice that no human service agency may apply unless the agency's request has been set as a priority under a local process, including a local government official resolution listing the agency's project as a community priority. The City and Borough of Juneau (CBJ) Assembly serves this function for the coordination of human services and public transit in Juneau. The priority recommendations from the JCTC will be forwarded to the CBJ Assembly for formal adoption by resolution.