

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION

Ordinance 1) authorizing execution of a two-year interlocal agreement (and supplements if necessary) with the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) to accept up to \$204,946 of state funds to support the City's Commute Trip Reduction (CTR) program; and 2) amending the 2021-2022 Operating Grants, Donations and Special Reserves Fund to increase the appropriation by \$153,702.

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Transportation Department

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Ordinance authorizes an agreement with WSDOT to accept state funding for the City's CTR program from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023. The City anticipates utilizing the state CTR grant to facilitate employer compliance with the surveying and reporting requirements of state law and City code.

RECOMMENDATION

Move to adopt Ordinance No. 6612

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

The regulatory framework for CTR involves two facets. One facet is state requirements (implemented through Bellevue City Code (BCC) 14.40) for CTR at large employer worksites (100 or more employees commuting in the 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. peak period). There are currently 60 worksites in Bellevue with over 50,000 employees affected by these requirements.

The other facet is City requirements (specified in BCC 14.60.070) for implementation of Transportation Management Programs (TMPs) at large real estate developments. There are currently 65 buildings in Bellevue with TMP agreements on file. The CTR and TMP requirements have significant elements in common and some overlap of population (City-wide, approximately 26,000 employees work for a CTR employer located in a TMP building). However, nearly 16,000 employees located in TMP buildings work for small employers not affected by CTR regulations.

Additional background about CTR and TMP requirements is included in Attachment A.

The CTR and TMP activities are two elements of the City's 2015-2023 Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Plan completed in 2015, which incorporates City TDM-related goals, plans and strategies into a single coordinated document. Since the start of CTR regulations in 1993, affected sites in Bellevue have demonstrated a significant decline in drive-alone rate, from 74.3 percent in 1993 to 61.1 percent in 2018. Vehicle miles traveled (measured across all commuters, including those using non-drive-alone modes) have decreased moderately from 11.4 miles per employee (one-way) in 2008, when measurement began, to 9.9 miles in 2018. For TMP buildings, analysis of available data (done in

conjunction with the TMP code revision in 2017) shows a decline of 0.9 percent each year in the rate of drive-alone commuting to the buildings. This rate of reduction is similar to what is seen at CTR-affected worksites and is better than overall measures of change in downtown (as measured by US Census and Bellevue mode share surveys).

WSDOT Agreement for CTR Funding

Current CTR funding allocations to jurisdictions are based on the CTR Program Funding Allocation Policy adopted in December 2008 by the state TDM Technical Committee. This policy provides funds to support the costs of required program activities, as well as to help jurisdictions meet the goals in their CTR plans.

The previous CTR implementation agreement with the state was adopted by Council on October 7, 2019 (Ordinance No. 6477). This Ordinance authorized a four-year agreement with the state, but the state has terminated the four-year agreement authorized by Ordinance No. 6477, and the grant funding for 2021-2023 is being awarded by a new, 2-year agreement.

Upcoming Change in Method of CTR and TMP Implementation

King County Metro (KCM) has been providing CTR services to jurisdictions since implementation of the state CTR law began in 1993. In recent years KCM has been providing CTR services to approximately nine jurisdictions. KCM has decided to stop performing this line of work for jurisdictions by the end of 2021. For the City of Bellevue, KCM is willing to provide transition services in the first half of 2022 to help the City make the transition to another implementation method for CTR, including training of City staff and transfer of CTR and TMP platforms, databases and templates to the City.

The City anticipates utilizing the state CTR grant to facilitate employer compliance with the surveying and reporting requirements under state law and City code. Local funding will support TMP activities and provide additional CTR outreach and assistance activities to ensure effective employer CTR programs.

POLICY & FISCAL IMPACTS

Policy Impact

Bellevue City Code

BCC 14.40 codifies the City's CTR regulations as adopted by Ordinance No. 5795 (March 2008), which amended the City's CTR regulations as required by the State CTR Act of 1991, later amended in 2006.

BCC14.60.070 specifies the City's TMP regulations for large buildings.

Fiscal Impact

This Ordinance will allow the City to enter into a new CTR agreement with WSDOT. The agreement is for a two-year term (July 2021 through June 2023) for Bellevue to receive its proportionate share of state technical assistance funding, on a reimbursable basis, for CTR activities totaling approximately \$204,946. There is no City match requirement. This action will increase the City's 2021-2022 Operating Grants, Donations and Special Reserves Fund budget and appropriation by \$153,702, which is the amount anticipated to be reimbursed in 2021-2022.

OPTIONS

1. Adopt the Ordinance 1) authorizing execution of a two-year interlocal agreement (and supplements if necessary) with the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) to accept up to \$204,946 of state funds to support the City's Commute Trip Reduction (CTR) program; and 2) amending the 2021-2022 Operating Grants, Donations and Special Reserves Fund to increase the appropriation by \$153,702.
2. Do not adopt the Ordinance and provide alternative direction to staff.

ATTACHMENTS & AVAILABLE DOCUMENTS

Proposed Ordinance No. 6612

AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL LIBRARY

Additional Background on Commute Trip Reduction Requirements
Transportation Demand Management Implementation Agreement with WSDOT (for the employer CTR program)