

## Re: grant opportunity

Jim Nee <mwrrta >

Hi Alice,

Very interesting idea. MWRTA has been the lead on grants for this program regarding mobility management, and we have an active (and soon to be resubmitted application) for that purpose.

Because of the high local match requirements for ops grants under CTP, (50%, no offsetting fares) we'd want to make sure we understand expectations on service before even putting any time into the application. There could be the real potential for problems in the budget, so we'd need to hash those out first, especially on the local match side. Ball park, each town might need to contribute \$50-100k, which is easy for some towns, but a non-starter in others.

I agree that a conversation makes sense. Let me know some days/times you have and I'll compare them to my schedule for a call.

Jim

Sent from my iPhone

On Apr 13, 2023, at 3:47 PM, Alice Sapienza wrote:

Jim, we were inspired by our recent AARP challenge grant proposal to seek your interest in applying for a Community Transit Grant (CTG). MWRTA would be lead organization, with collaborating communities of Sudbury and Wayland *at least*, to broaden and expand the microtransit approach described in the AARP application.

We have actively engaged with Wayland about our mutual transportation needs and the benefits of working with you to address them. We also reviewed the MART case study using QRIDE in Fitchburg, with its focus on a "self-sustaining MicroTransit model... [providing] low-cost transportation for on-demand General Public rides through increases in shared ridership by integration of non-emergency medical transportation trips with workforce trips on existing routes."

You had noted your own goal of improving MWRTA fixed routes close and/or contiguous to our towns. Thus, we envision the CTG application could propose an app-supported, cross-community, micro-to-fixed-route service design. Some of the ideas we discussed include transportation, from all areas of the towns, and with expanded days/hours, to:

- Employment sites
- Education opportunities
- Child care/elder care sites/Senior Centers
- Community sites/events (including faith communities; weekday, weekend, evenings)
- Transfers to other MWRTA, commuter rail, MBTA stops
- Shopping sites (Route 20, Route 9).

Does this appeal?

We realize the effort involved and assure you of our commitment to work with you in developing required materials and supplying robust supporting evidence for the above focus.

Can we set up a day/time to talk about this next week?