



# CITY OF SOUTH BEND

## REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

### Redevelopment Commission Agenda Item

DATE: January 11, 2024

FROM: Denise Linn Riedl, CIO

SUBJECT: Commuters Trust Funding

\_\_\_\_\_ Pres/V-Pres

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_ Secretary

Date: January 11, 2024

APPROVED  Not Approved

*SOUTH BEND REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION*

Funding Source\* (circle one) River West; River East; South Side; Douglas Road; West Washington; RDC General

\*Funds are subject to the City Controller's determination of availability; if funds are unavailable, as solely determined by the City Controller, then the authorization of the expenditure of such funds shall be void and of no effect.

#### Purpose of Request:

Innovation & Technology staff requests the Redevelopment Commission's approval of \$200,000 to support the Commuters Trust program that promotes transportation equity in South Bend. Specifically, funds will go towards covering transportation costs incurred by participants who use the Ride Guarantee program to travel to and from work.

Commuters Trust was launched in 2019 with funds from the Bloomberg Philanthropies Mayor's Challenge to help individuals overcome transportation barriers. In partnership with local employers and nonprofits, the program provides subsidized transportation options (Uber, Lyft and Transpo) to residents living in and around South Bend. In 2022, the program started transitioning from being a philanthropic pilot to public-private partnership that is run by and partially funded by the City.

Since launching in 2019, Commuters Trust has partnered with 16 local employers, providing over 500 employees with rides to and from work. This has resulted in roughly 25,000+ Uber and Lyft Rides and 97,000+ Transpo rides.

Primarily, this funding will be used to subsidize the cost of transportation to the employer and program participants, sharing up to 50% of total transportation costs. Any remaining funds will be used for legal and accounting support, printing supplies, advertisement, IT support, technical software, and survey distribution.

Please do not hesitate to contact [Driedl@southbendin.gov](mailto:Driedl@southbendin.gov) for any additional information.

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INTERNAL USE ONLY: Project Code: \_\_\_\_\_;

Total Amount – New Project Budget Appropriation \$200k;

Total Amount – Existing Project Budget Change (increase or decrease) \$ \_\_\_\_\_;

Funding Limits: Engineering: \$ \_\_\_\_\_; Other Prof Serv Amt \$ \_\_\_\_\_;

Acquisition of Land/Bldg (circle one) Amt: \$ \_\_\_\_\_; Street Const Amt \$ \_\_\_\_\_;

Building Imp Amt \$ \_\_\_\_\_; Sewers Amt \$ \_\_\_\_\_; Other (specify) Amt \$ \_\_\_\_\_