CITY OF EUREKA CALIFORNIA

AGENDA SUMMARY CITY COUNCIL

TITLE: Transit Needs Assessment Public Hearing

DEPARTMENT: Finance

PREPARED BY: Lane Millar

PRESENTED FOR

☒Action ☐Information only ☐Discussion

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Council conduct a public hearing to receive input regarding unmet transit needs; and Direct staff to forward all comments to the Humboldt County Association of Governments (HCAOG).

FISCAL IMPACT

☒No Fiscal Impact ☐Included in Budget ☐Additional Appropriation

COUNCIL GOALS/STRATEGIC VISION

Supports the development of mode shift to public transit by identifying unmet transit needs in Eureka and the greater Humboldt County region.

DISCUSSION

Please see the definitions of "Unmet Transit Needs" and "Reasonable to Meet" provided on the following pages from HCAOG.

State law requires the regional transportation agencies and their composite communities address unmet transit needs on a yearly basis. Locally this effort is led by HCAOG as the region's regional transportation agency. Each jurisdictional area within the county is encouraged to conduct its own public hearing. The initial public hearing process concludes on December 31st, and is followed by HCAOG staff compiling the public input received and consulting with transit service providers. Using all of this information, a draft Unmet Transit Needs Report of Findings is prepared. HCAOG's Social Services Technical Advisory Committee (SSTAC) will then consider all available information compiled pursuant to the Unmet Transit Needs public participation process and forward a recommendation to the HCAOG Board. In the spring the HCAOG Board will consider and adopt the Unmet Transit Needs Report of Findings.

This agenda item provides the public an opportunity to identify unmet needs and the City Council to forward such needs to the HCAOG for consideration. The decision of the public hearing must use specific terms during the decision to be able to receive the money from HCAOG. The three choices are:

1. There are no unmet transit needs.

2. There are no unmet transit needs, which are reasonable to meet.

3. There are unmet transit needs, including those that are reasonable to meet.

In the event of finding that there are no unmet transit needs or that there are no unmet transit needs which are reasonable to meet, entities may expend TDA resources for non-transit purposes if excess funds remain. Finding that there are unmet transit needs, including those that are reasonable to meet, delivers a mandate to the respective entity to set aside funds, given that they are available, to implement a program to meet those needs deemed "reasonable to meet."

Staff recommend holding a public hearing, accept comments and testimony regarding any unmet transit needs within the City of Eureka area, and at its conclusion direct staff to forward a transcript of comments to HCAOG for inclusion in the Unmet Needs Report of Findings for 2027-28.

Attachments:

Citizen Participation Process for Transit Needs Assessment