



CITY OF NOVI CITY COUNCIL
MAY 6, 2024

SUBJECT: Consideration of recommendation from the Older Adults Needs Committee to support funding for free transportation within the PEX service area for all riders 55+ and all residents experiencing a limiting disability who are unable to drive.

SUBMITTING DEPARTMENT: City Manager
Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services/OAS

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

On Monday, April 22, City Council passed a motion to subsidize senior transportation medical rides through People's Express for residents age 55+ and for any individual with a limiting disability who cannot drive beginning July 1, 2024. Staff have estimated this expense at \$12,610. This estimate was based on current Novi operating hours and rider data from the previous calendar year. It did not include allowances for an increase in hours or days of operation with PEX or out-of-boundary rides, therefore this total is likely to increase.

At the April 29 Older Adult Needs Committee, a motion was unanimously passed to "Recommend to City Council to support funding for free transportation within the PEX service area for all riders 55+ and all residents experiencing a limiting disability who are unable to drive." Should Council with this modified policy decision staff projects a cost based on current ridership of \$27,714 (expanded hours and days may affect this amount once PEX assumes responsibility).

Funds for these rides are allocated in the proposed FY2024-25 PRCS/OAS budget (i.e., the previous operating expenses for the City's transit service). Staff would monitor ridership and provide an update in December 2024 and adjust the budget accordingly.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Consideration of recommendation from the Older Adults Needs Committee to support funding for free transportation within the PEX service area for all riders 55+ and all residents experiencing a limiting disability who are unable to drive.