

Getting you where you need to go!

October 23, 2016

Town of Marshfield
Select Board Members
122 School Street
Marshfield, VT 05658

Cc: Bobbi Brimblecomb, Town Clerk

RE: US2 Commuter Special Appropriation Request

Greetings:

In April of 2010, GMT and Rural Community Transportation (RCT) began operating the US2 Commuter, providing transportation along the Route 2 Corridor between St. Johnsbury and Montpelier. Service includes intermediate stops in East Montpelier, Plainfield, Marshfield, West Danville and Danville.

In FY16, the US2 Commuter averaged 79 boarding's per day, equaling 20,215 in total ridership. While ridership dipped below FY15's performance, the route is still very productive according to the standards it is held to by the State of Vermont.

This service was initially funded by a Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) grant, which provided federal funding to cover 80% of the net cost of the service for a three-year period. The remaining net service costs are covered by passenger fares and a 20% local match from the towns served by the route.

As in previous years, GMT will continue to request the remaining 20% match from the towns served. For FY18 local match funds, GMT will be requesting level funding of \$8,333 per town.

GMTA requests the following language be listed as a separate Warning Article on the Marshfield Town Meeting Ballot for March 2017 voter consideration.

"Shall the Town of Marshfield appropriate the sum of \$8,333 as its share of the eighth year cost of commuter bus service along Route 2 with service into Montpelier. This appropriation funds a portion of the total cost of the service, which will also be supported by appropriations from other towns, State and Federal funds, and passenger fares."

Please feel free to contact me for additional information or with questions. Thank you for your consideration and continued support.

Best regards,



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