MEMORANDUM

TO: Metropolitan Planning Organization
FROM: Sandy Smith, Long Range Planner I
DATE: March 28, 2016
RE: 16TP011 – Award FTA §5310 Grant funds to Black Hills Works in the amount of $130,000 to purchase 2 transit style buses

The Rapid City Area Metropolitan Planning Organization receives approximately $283,869 in federal funds on a yearly basis as part of the Federal Transit Administrations §5310 program to provide capital assistance to elderly persons and/or persons with disabilities. The Rapid City Area Metropolitan Planning Organization solicited applications from entities throughout the region regarding assistance with vehicles. Funding is provided as an 80/20 split for capital costs and as a 50/50 split for operating costs.

Black Hills Works has requested assistance for four buses to replace four of their current vans. The vans that are seeking replacement are having frequent mechanical issues. Replacement of vans will allow Black Hills Works to continue to provide transportation for the population supported. The cost of the buses is approximately $65,000 each. The federal portion would be $52,000 with a local match of $13,000 for each bus. This would total $260,000 – $208,000 of federal funds with $52,000 as the local match.

Black Hills Works has also requested assistance for operating costs totaling $586,570. The federal and local portion of this would be $293,285 each. The total amount of requested federal funds is $501,285 for both capital and operating expenses.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends awarding Black Hills Works an estimated $130,000 for the purchase of two buses for the purpose of providing transportation services for those supported by Black Hills Works.