

City of Las Cruces[®]

PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE

Council Action and Executive Summary

Item # 4

Resolution# 14-129

For Meeting of _____
(Ordinance First Reading Date)

For Meeting of February 4, 2014
(Adoption Date)

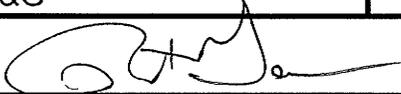
Please check box that applies to this item:

QUASI JUDICIAL LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATIVE

TITLE: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF \$50,000.00 TO THE SOUTH CENTRAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (SCCOG) FOR THE OPERATION OF THE SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL TRANSIT DISTRICT (SCRTD).

PURPOSE(S) OF ACTION:

To authorize payment.

COUNCIL DISTRICT: N/A		
<u>Drafter/Staff Contact:</u> David Weir	<u>Department/Section:</u> Community Development/ A&G	<u>Phone:</u> 528-3067
<u>City Manager Signature:</u>		

BACKGROUND / KEY ISSUES / CONTRIBUTING FACTORS:

The City of Las Cruces has been a member of the SCRTD since its formation in 2006. The SCRTD was formed under a State law (New Mexico Regional Transit District Act, Chapter 73, Article 25, Sections 1-18, NMSA 1978 (2003)) that allows two or more governments to organize in order to provide and coordinate transit services within the shared territory. The SCRTD is comprised of Dona Ana County, Sierra County, Otero County, and eight municipalities within those counties. In order to reduce administrative burdens for the SCRTD, the SCCOG has been operating as fiscal agent for the SCRTD until such time that the SCRTD has sufficient revenues to operate independently. Per State law, the SCRTD intends to utilize a regional transit district's authority to finance, construct, operate, maintain, and promote an efficient, sustainable, and regional multi-modal transportation system, which includes the authority to request a referendum on the gross receipts tax between 0.0625% and 0.5% for its operational purposes.

In the interim, the SCRTD has been funded through a \$250,000.00 start-up grant through the New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT) and by financial contributions from the participating City and County governments. Ultimately, the SCRTD expects to request dedicated funding from the gross receipts tax through the voters in November 2014. All interim funding will be used for pilot projects and for the administrative needs of the SCRTD to continue implementing its regional transit goals.

As mentioned above the City has been an active participant in the SCRTD since its inception. The City supports regional transit because of its potential to benefit the City and the regional population. As the largest population center in the SCRTD, the City contains many of the services that are used by residents of the region. Additionally, regional transit will expand the employee pool available to City businesses. In the City Council's FY14 Budget, a discretionary spending fund was created for City Council identified initiatives and projects. The support of the SCRTD was identified for a \$50,000.00 one-time allocation of funds to support regional transit. This Resolution provides the means for these one-time funds to be allocated to SCRTD.

SUPPORT INFORMATION:

1. Resolution.

SOURCE OF FUNDING:

Is this action already budgeted?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	See fund summary below
	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	If No, then check one below:
	<i>Budget Adjustment Attached</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Expense reallocated from: _____
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Proposed funding is from a new revenue source (i.e. grant; see details below)
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Proposed funding is from fund balance in the Fund.
Does this action create any revenue?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	Funds will be deposited into this fund: _____ in the amount of \$_____ for FY_____.
	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	There is no new revenue generated by this action.

BUDGET NARRATIVE

During the FY14 budget process, the Council established a discretionary fund to be used for Council identified projects. The allocation of \$50,000.00 for assistance to the SCRTD was determined by Council as one project for the use of this discretionary fund in the FY14 Budget. This Resolution would release this money for the purpose that it was intended.

FUND EXPENDITURE SUMMARY:

Fund Name(s)	Account Number(s)	Expenditure Proposed	Available Budgeted Funds in Current FY	Remaining Funds	Purpose for Remaining Funds
General	10184010 722190 18000	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$0.00	N/A

OPTIONS / ALTERNATIVES:

1. Vote "Yes"; this will authorize the City Manager to transfer the funds to the SCCOG which is acting as the fiscal agent for the SCRTD.
2. Vote "No"; this will not authorize the City Manager to transfer the funds and a new purpose must be found for the budgeted amount.
3. Vote to "Amend"; this would be based on Council direction.
4. Vote to "Table"; this will delay action on the matter.

REFERENCE INFORMATION:

The resolution(s) and/or ordinance(s) listed below are only for reference and are not included as attachments or exhibits.

1. N/A

RESOLUTION NO. 14-129**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF \$50,000.00 TO THE SOUTH CENTRAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (SCCOG) FOR THE OPERATION OF THE SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL TRANSIT DISTRICT (SCR TD).**

The City Council is hereby informed that:

WHEREAS, the City is an initial member of the SCR TD and a City Councillor represents the City on the SCR TD Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, the SCR TD is continuing its organizational start-up activities and is in the need of interim funding to assist operations and administrative needs; and

WHEREAS, the SCCOG is the fiscal agent of the SCR TD; and

WHEREAS, the City Council supports the SCR TD's mission of providing regional transit service to south central New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has designated \$50,000.00 of their discretionary funds from the FY14 budget for one-time assistance to the SCR TD; and

WHEREAS, this one-time funding will help the SCR TD develop pilot transit projects to demonstrate the need for public transportation and the effectiveness of a regional body providing public transportation within the region.

NOW, THEREFORE, Be it resolved by the governing body of the City of Las Cruces:

(I)

THAT the City Manager of the City of Las Cruces is authorized to develop a financial framework to transfer the funds to the SCCOG as fiscal agent for the SCR TD.

(II)

THAT City staff is hereby authorized to do all deeds necessary in the accomplishment of the herein above.

DONE AND APPROVED this _____ day of _____, 2014.

APPROVED:

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

(SEAL)

Moved by: _____

Seconded by: _____

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Attorney

VOTE:

Mayor Miyagishima:	_____
Councillor Silva:	_____
Councillor Smith:	_____
Councillor Pedroza:	_____
Councillor Small:	_____
Councillor Sorg:	_____
Councillor Levatino:	_____