



## **RECREATION, PARKS AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT**

---

<b>TO:</b>	Council	
<b>DATE:</b>	October 25, 2022	<b>DIVISION:</b> All
<b>FILE:</b>	N/A	<b>APPLICATION:</b> N/A
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	2022 Specialized Transportation Assistance Grant Allocation	

---

### **POLICY DIRECTION:**

The one 2022 Specialized Transportation Assistance Grant application was evaluated in accordance with Specialized Transportation Assistance Grant Policy C-102 and was found to be in compliance.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The Specialized Transportation Assistance Grant is intended to subsidize transportation costs related to medical and/or therapeutic appointments for seniors and persons with disabilities who reside in Rocky View County. Service providers submit annual Specialized Transportation Grant applications to the County, with their applications assessed in accordance with Specialized Transportation Assistance Grant Policy C-102.

Council establishes Specialized Transportation Assistance Grant funds on an annual basis in conjunction with the County's annual budget. Administration received one application from one service provider.

Policy C-102 does not provide specific guidance on the allocation of funds to individual applications. The option before Council is based on the grants provided and spent by the organization in previous years.

### **ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION:**

Administration recommends approval in accordance with Option #1.

### **BACKGROUND:**

The Specialized Transportation Assistance Grant Policy enables resourcing for Specialized Transportation providers operating within the County by establishing objectives, eligibility criteria, and the application process for grant fund distribution. In 2022, the per capita rate was \$7.70 x 39,407 (population based on 2018 municipal census), for a total budget of \$303,434, which was rounded up to \$303,500.

In the County, Specialized Transportation is predominately provided by the Rocky View Regional Handibus Society, which was the only applicant for 2022 (Attachment 'A').

**Rocky View Regional Handibus Society:** Requested Grant: \$303,500

The Society, operating as the "Rocky View Bus" program, is available to County residents facing transportation barriers in accessing community supports and services. The service strives to maintain the residents' independence and limit potential isolation, allowing the individual(s) to remain in their own homes and communities. Based on current funding levels and working on a pre-booked, ride-sharing model, up-to 20 one-way trips can be booked per month.

---

### **Administration Resources**

Cheryl Cresine, FCSS Coordinator, Recreation, Parks and Community Support



Regarding operations during the COVID-19 pandemic, daily ridership had dropped due to the intermittent shutdown of many facilities within the region. For County residents, however, the service has seen a substantial uptake in 2022, and the service continues to be utilized to attend medical appointments and to access everyday needs (i.e., groceries, pharmacies, etc.). Furthermore, the Society has indicated that their multi-stakeholder approach creates synergies that help reduce the overall cost of service provided to participating municipalities.

Looking forward, the costs of operating the shared ride service have increased exponentially. For 2023, we do anticipate a substantial increase in their grant request.

**BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:**

The budget allocation of \$303,500 for this grant program is included in the 2022 Operating Budget.

**OPTIONS:**

- Option #1                      THAT the 2022 Specialized Transportation Grant funds totaling \$303,500 be approved and awarded to the Rocky View Regional Handibus Society.
- Option #2                      THAT alternative direction be provided.

Respectfully submitted,

Concurrence,

“Brock Beach”

“Dorian Wandzura”

---

Acting Executive Director  
Community Services

---

Chief Administrative Officer

CC/rp

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- Attachment ‘A’ – Rocky View Regional Handibus Society 2022 Grant Application  
Attachment ‘B’ – Policy C-102