



February 26, 2026

To: City Council and Sam Anselm, City Administrator

From: Darryl Newcomb, Transit Supervisor

Re: Application for MoDOT Transit Funding

Executive Summary

The Transit Department recommends approval of the ordinance to authorize the mayor to apply for federal financial assistance for the purposes of public transit programs.

Discussion

In accordance with the Missouri Department of Transportation's (MoDOT) requirements for transit grant applications, the City must adopt an annual ordinance authorizing the mayor to apply for federal financial assistance and to execute any related agreements. The most recent ordinance fulfilling this requirement – Ordinance No. 4802 – was adopted in August 2025.

Federal transit grants administered through MoDOT provide significant support for the City's transit program, covering up to 50% of eligible operating expenses and up to 80% of qualified capital expenditures. Over the next 12 months, the Transit Department plans to submit an application for the annual operations grant.

Fiscal Impact

In 2025, the total operating cost of the City's transit program was \$252,560. Of this amount, \$121,770 was reimbursed through federal operating assistance available via MoDOT. The remaining operational costs were supported through a combination of transit fare revenue, contributions from SeniorAge, and the city's general sales tax revenues.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WEST PLAINS, MISSOURI, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OR CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO APPLY FOR FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF WEST PLAINS AND TO EXECUTE ANY CONTRACT(S) RESULTING FROM SUCH APPLICATION FOR ANY GRANTS BETWEEN THE CITY OF WEST PLAINS AND THE MISSOURI HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION PROVIDING FOR CAPITAL, OPERATING, AND/OR MARKETING ASSISTANCE, COMPRISED OF FEDERAL FUNDS TO BE EXPENDED FOR COMMISSION-APPROVED TRANSIT PROJECTS.

WHEREAS, the Missouri Department of Transportation is authorized to make grants for general public transportation projects; and,

WHEREAS, the contract for financial assistance will impose certain obligations upon the applicant, including the provision by it of the local share of project costs; and,

WHEREAS, it is the goal of the applicant to provide the best transit system that can be provided with the funds available.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST PLAINS, MISSOURI AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1: That the mayor or city administrator is hereby authorized to apply for federal financial assistance on behalf of the City of West Plains and to execute any contract(s) resulting from such application for any grants between the City of West Plains and the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission providing for capital, operating, and/or marketing assistance, comprised of federal funds to be expended for Commission-approved transit projects.

Section 2: That all ordinances or parts of ordinances therefore enacted which are in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Section 3: This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after the date of its passage and approval.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 20_____.

CITY OF WEST PLAINS, MISSOURI

(SEAL)

BY: _____
MAYOR MICHAEL TOPLIFF

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK KELLIE MAYERS