



TO: Linda Gorton, Mayor
Urban County Council

FROM: Hilary Angelucci
Senior Special Projects Administrator

DATE: April 28, 2026

SUBJECT: United Way, Rides United Pilot Transit program

Request: Authorization to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with United Way of the Bluegrass, INC. for the operation of the Rides United program, a pilot project to provide transportation services within Lexington-Fayette County, at a cost of \$375,000. This project was approved as a Council fund balance project in December 2025.

Transportation services will be provided by the United Way of the Bluegrass in partnership with Lyft under three categories of needs: essential and subsistence, maintenance and personal business, and social and quality of life needs. Project funding uses a per-ride blended rate model, consisting of up to \$23 per ride for the transportation services and \$7 per ride for administrative costs. The pilot project is projected to provide approximately 12,500 rides. The funding will be disbursed in two (2) phases; \$125,000 allocated for Phase 1 and \$250,000 allocated for Phase 2, allowing for adjustments to the program in Phase 2 if necessary.

The term of the MOU is through June 30, 2028, or until all funding for Rides United has been exhausted and all reporting obligations are complete. This agreement may be terminated for any reason whatsoever by providing 30 days advance written notice.

The cost for FY 2026 is \$375,000. Funds are budgeted.

Account number: 1101-900359-0001-71101

File Number: 0341-26

Director/Commissioner: Angelucci/Hamilton

