



Agenda Item Report

Legislative Board: City Council
Date: January 20, 2026
Contact: Alicia Ramirez, City Clerk
Agenda Item ID / Number: 2026-2- / 1.3

ITEM TITLE: Acceptance of a grant award from Hays County in the amount of \$21,000.00 for the operation of Senior Transportation Program related to maintenance and operations (City Clerk Alicia Ramirez)

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Buda City Council expanded the STAR service within the Buda extra-territorial jurisdiction (ETJ) in FY2025.

The City was awarded a grant Hays County to cover personnel and maintenance costs related to the expansion program for \$21,000.00.

2. BACKGROUND/HISTORY

STAR (Seniors Taking a Ride) Senior Transportation Program is a program offered by the City of Buda to transport independent ambulatory seniors and individuals with disabilities. The STAR was established in 2005. Our goal is to provide senior transportation to enhance the quality of life and promote independence for persons 60 years or older or individuals with disabilities residing within the Buda city limits. To verify if you live within the Buda city limits, [click here](#). Type your address in the search bar or search for your street on the map. You may also review the Neighborhood Subdivision List to confirm your subdivision.

This program is free for seniors, and we offer rides to various locations in Buda, Kyle, and San Marcos (service area). Riders may make reservations 30-days in advance or at least a minimum of two (2)-business days' notice. Service is from the rider's curbside to their destination (curb-to-curb). We do not provide service to Austin.

Our priority destinations are non-emergency or routine medical appointments are also included. Surgical procedures are classified as an emergency; therefore, these destinations are not included in our service program. Other destinations include the pharmacy, grocery store, shopping center, bank, etc.

Coordinated Ride Request: Grocery Store and retail trips will be scheduled on Tuesdays (Buda), Wednesdays (Buda), and Thursdays (Buda/Kyle) from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm, and Friday (Buda) from 8:00 am to 9:00 am.

SERVICE DAYS AND HOURS

Our service days and hours are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. To schedule a ride or obtain additional information, complete the Registration/Request Form on the website (preferred method) or contact the City of Buda STAR Service at 512-523-1014.

3. ANALYSIS

N/A

4. FINANCIAL IMPACT

Hays County: \$21,000.00

5. STRATEGIC PLAN/GOALS

EXCEPTIONAL CITY SERVICES WITH A LOW TAX RATE

6. STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVES

Senior STAR Transportation Program funding

7. PROS AND CONS

PROS: The STAR Program continues to serve as a transportation alternative for the elderly and those individuals with disabilities within the ETJ.

CONS: The STAR Program would only serve Buda citizens; however, staff may open the program to provide additional services as well as community events.

8. ALTERNATIVES

N/A

9. REQUESTED ACTION / SUGGESTED MOTION / RECOMMENDATION

Staff seeks the Council's direction to accept or reject the grants to purchase and operate the second bus for the Senior Transportation Program.

Attachments:

[2025-1218 HC 343 - City of Buda Transportation Program Signed Community Services Contract.pdf](#)
[i3 Exhibit A.pdf](#)