Requested Council Meeting Date: August 20, 2018
Council Bills No. 2018-137
Item: Operating Assistance Grant Agreement

Originating Department: PUBLIC WORKS –MAPS

Attachments: 1) Council Bill No. 2018-137
2) Grant Agreement
3) Route Map

Department Head: David Hertzberg
Finance Department: Leslie Haase
City Attorney: Peter C. Edwards
City Manager: Samuel L. Anselm

Recommended Action: Approval of an Ordinance authorizing the acceptance of a Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission Public Transit Operating Assistance Grant Agreement for state funds of eleven thousand three hundred thirty four dollars and No/100 ($11,334) to be used for operating assistance for the Metro Area Public Transit System (MAPS), and containing an emergency clause.

Background:
The City of Joplin has operated the Metro Area Public Transit System (MAPS) since 1998 and the Sunshine Lamp Trolley since 2007. MAPS provides curb-to-curb public transit to residents of the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and the Sunshine Lamp Trolley provides deviated fixed route service within the City of Joplin.

Discussion:
MAPS and the Sunshine Lamp Trolley are funded by a combination of rider fares, donations, and the financial participation of other communities in the MPO. Additionally, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) reimburses the City for capital and operational expenses at 80% and 50% respectively. These FTA funds require a local match to qualify. The funds being offered by the State of Missouri are unique in that they do not require local matching funds. The State is offering $11,334 in grant funds for the State's FY2019.

Recommendation: City staff recommends approval of Council Bill 2018-137 to accept a MoDOT Grant and be approved on an emergency basis per Section 2.12 (6) of the Joplin City Charter.