



TOWN OF GRAY

Henry Pennell Municipal Complex
24 Main St, Gray Maine 04039
www.graymaine.org

OFFICE OF THE TOWN MANAGER

Nate Rudy, Town Manager
nrudy@graymaine.org
(207) 657-3339

March 22, 2023

MEMORANDUM

TO: Gray Town Council

RE: March 19, 2023 summary of email discussion between Council Chair Carder, Town Manager Nate Rudy, and Recreation Director Anthony Dahms regarding the viability of purchasing and operating a transportation van for the Recreation department.

Sandy Carder to Nate Rudy: This cycle, we have asked Anthony to identify the van/vehicle he would propose to satisfy his desire to have some type of transportation for rec programming along with the associated costs. We also would like to know if we can use Sub D funds to lease/purchase or purchase outright this vehicle. I will log this under follow-up.

Nate Rudy to Anthony Dahms: Please make a proposal, but per our discussion this week I was advised by RTP that the training, insurance, and other logistics of running a van service is frustrating and probably cost prohibitive. If the goal is to have a van for "field trip" programming within Rec, that is a separate convo, but we need to be clear whether the intent of this van is to also be used for point-to-point ride service, which I do not support at this time but am willing to discuss.

Anthony to Nate Rudy: I'm not certain the current size of the Rec dept. could handle the logistics of ride services without a robust volunteer base. Field trip use was my primary goal. In my early search for a van, it appears the market is still not favorable towards a van purchase. The only ones I've found are high mileage, priced close to \$40,000 and up, and are located far away. A dealership I contacted about a new vehicle purchase said they are still 12-18 months away from having the inventory. I threw the question out to an online message board of recreational professionals, asking if they'd gotten any quotes or had any luck with dealers on vans, and we're not the only people struggling to find inventory.