

Public Transportation Division Update

NCPTA Conference
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Public Transportation Division - NCDOT
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PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION DIVISION

Public Transportation Division

Programs and Services support the
NCDOT mission -

Connecting people and places in North
Carolina - safely and efficiently, with
accountability and environmental
sensitivity.



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NC Transit at a Glance

98 transit systems

single county systems - 68

rural regional / multiple county – 6

small urban – 3

urban, single city – 14

urban regional – 2

consolidated urban/rural – 5



NC Transit at a Glance

- \$250M a year industry employing more than 5,000 people
- FY2008 - NC transit systems served 62.6 million passengers (11% increase over FY2007)
- Operated nearly 2,600 vehicles
- Traveled 83 million miles of revenue service





What's Going on With . . .

- State Budget
- ARRA Funding
- Maintenance Reviews
- Triennial Reviews
- Grants Management





What's Going on With . . .

- Local Coordinated Plans
- Planning





FY10 and FY11 State Funding

\$96M from restored funds to match New Start projects

Reduced by \$24.9M

\$71.5M and \$71.6M - Governor's Budget Proposal for FYs 2010 and 2011





FY10 and FY11 State Funding

Program Reductions - \$24.9M

New Starts

Urban technology

Rural capital

Statewide grant program

Human service transportation mgmt.



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State Funding

Program priorities -

1. Sufficient funds to match federal grants, including $\frac{1}{2}$ of nonfederal match for grants to urban systems for major capital purchases
2. Retain \$54M for state operating assistance
 - \$34M urban systems
 - \$20M rural systems





ARRA Funding

\$103.5 M transit formula funds

\$70.5M urbanized areas – administered locally

\$33.05M nonurbanized areas – administered by
NCDOT



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ARRA Funding

Broad scope of projects – must meet federal definition of capital and legislative intent

- Facility renovation and new construction
- Safety and security
- Technology
- Preventive maintenance (vehicles and facilities)
- Park and ride lots
- Vehicle purchases





ARRA Funding

- More than 350 transit projects identified
- Operating assistance ?
- MPOs have identified projects in all 17 urban areas
 - Many applications submitted
 - STIP updates underway





ARRA Funding

NCDOT project list (nonurbanized areas)

- 59 system applied
- \$41M in requests for \$24M in available funds
- Governor certified that projects meet the intent of the legislation (all NC projects)
- Government Accountability Office (GAO) oversight





ARRA Funding

- Systems asked to prioritize projects
- Statewide on board cameras and web-based maintenance software projects
- Each eligible application (not project) will be recommended for some funding
- Board of Transportation approval in June (handout)
- Application to FTA in late June (schedule accelerated for Congressional release process)





Maintenance Reviews

Nonurbanized Area Systems

- State Management Review finding
- FTA state of good repair emphasis
- Contractual obligation (NCDOT and subrecipients)
- Document activities – if not documented, it didn't happen
- All reviews completed by August 2009





Triennial Reviews

Nonurbanized Area Systems

- State Management Review finding
- Insufficient monitoring and oversight - document compliance with all FTA requirements
- Third party consultants
- Review period July 1, 2007-December 31, 2008





Triennial Reviews

- Follows FTA process for urban Section 5307 funds
- Begin in September 2009
- Review schedule based on grantee funding level and geographical location (eastern, central, western) of PTD staff
- Desk and site reviews





Triennial Reviews

- Review annual certification and assurances and NCDOT contract requirements in preparation for the review
- Training for subrecipients will be provided





Grants Management

- Opportunities for improvement with timely implementation of grants
- Millions of dollars in grants with no activity in 12 months or more
- Working with FTA to address concerns with direct award grants with state matching funds
- Don't ask for funding until it is needed – grant awards do not reserve the funds indefinitely





Grants Management

Period of performance extensions

- Limited # of extensions and timeframe
- Must show reasonable progress
- No longer automatic
- Must request prior to the end of the period of performance
- Requested by grantee – not NCDOT staff
- Quarterly progress reports regardless of financial activity





Grants Management

Budget Revisions

- Justification for revision
- Cannot revise project scope
- Don't assume automatically approved
- Requested by grantee – not NCDOT staff
- FTA grants require documentation of FTA approval





Grants Management

Budget Amendment

- All amendments that increase funding now go to the Board of Transportation
- 10% or less rule no longer applies
- Don't assume automatically approved – request prior to incurring cost
- Requested by grantee – not NCDOT staff
- FTA grants require documentation of FTA approval





Local Coordinated Plans

12-month progress

- Most urban areas have developed plans
- 45 plans completed for rural areas
- Nearly \$12M announced in early 2009 for Section 5310, JARC, New Freedom
- Funds not being requested for small urban areas (50k – 200k population)
- \$2.7M in applications received
- Application period to be extended





Local Coordinated Plans

- Notice out by Friday, pending FTA feedback on timeframe given ARRA application period
- Diversify funding – look beyond Section 5307, 5311 and state programs
- Other eligible applicants are applying – potential to adversely impact coordinated systems
- Application on NCDOT website





Planning

- Updated Community Transportation Plan and Consolidation Feasibility Study scope of work
- Emphasis on public involvement, service planning and implementation plan/schedule
- 90% federal/state participation eligible for rural planning activities
- Combined urban/rural system – Section 5307/5303 and Section 5311 planning funds





Planning

- Consolidation feasibility study – currently use state funds
- All planning projects based on availability of funding
- Plan implementation expectation
- Plan serves as basis for funding
- Goal of updating all rural plans within next 18-24 months





Questions?



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