

Transit/TDM Program Application Guidance

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Purpose of Program Application Guidance

- ❑ Support Item 449.E of the 2008 Appropriations Act – incorporate principles of local maintenance of effort, transit sustainability, public benefit, and asset management into all public transportation programs
- ❑ Implement the CTB’s Transit Investment and Sustainability Policy
- ❑ Improve application process by providing information on program eligibility requirements, funding, evaluation process and application procedure
- ❑ Inform stakeholders of changes to programs
- ❑ Document the grant application process to improve transparency, efficiency and effectiveness

Overview of Grant Programs

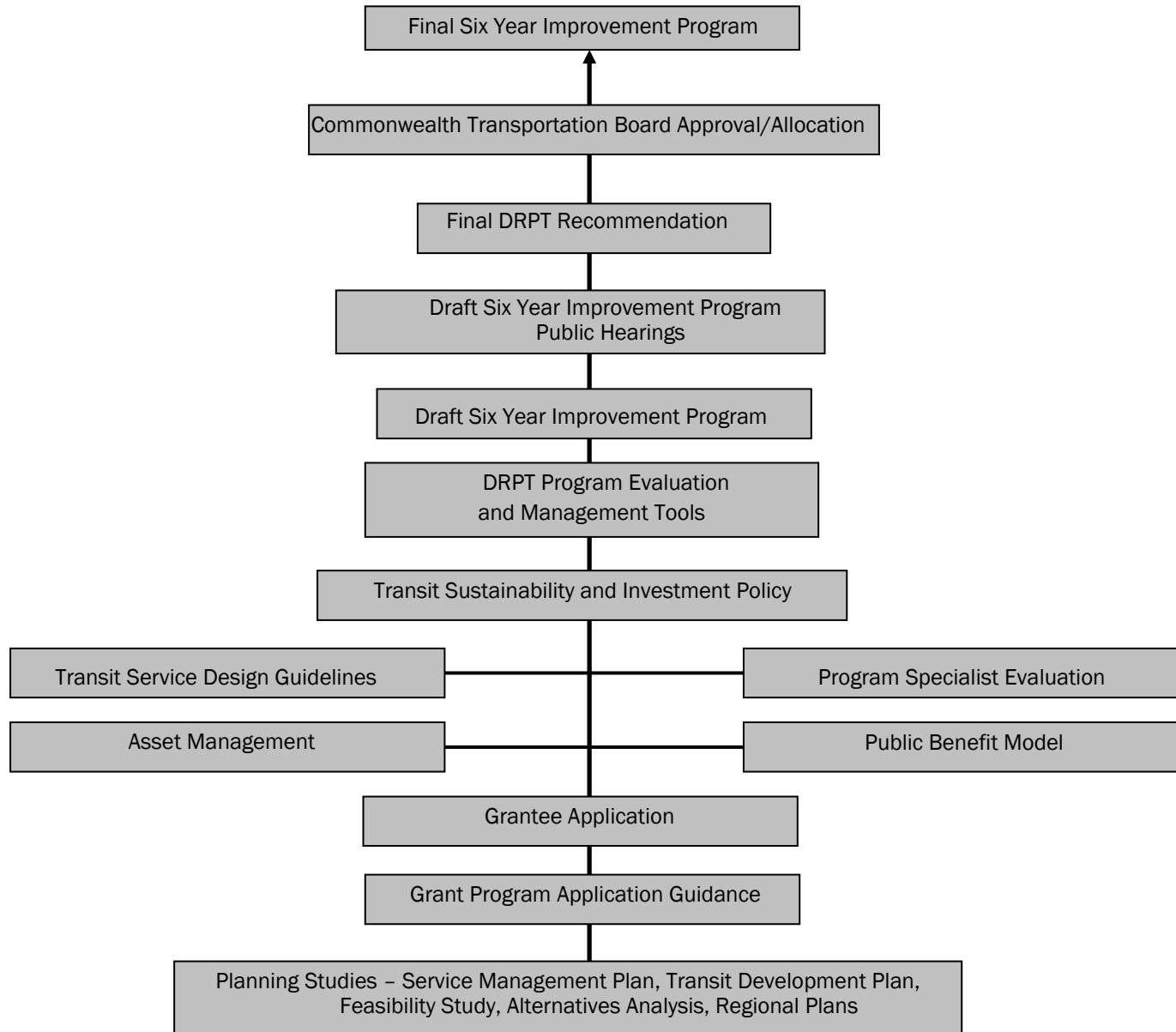
Federal Programs

- ❑ FTA Section 5303 Metropolitan Planning
- ❑ FTA Section 5304 Statewide Planning
- ❑ FTA Section 5307 Small Urban Areas Program
- ❑ FTA Section 5310 Transportation for Elderly Persons and Persons with Disabilities
- ❑ FTA Section 5311 Rural and Small Urban Areas
- ❑ FTA Section 5316 Jobs Access and Reverse Commute Program (JARC)
- ❑ FTA Section 5317 New Freedom Program

State Programs

- ❑ Operating Assistance
- ❑ Capital Assistance
- ❑ Demonstration Project Assistance
- ❑ Technical Assistance
- ❑ Public Transportation Intern Program
- ❑ TDM /Commuter Assistance
- ❑ Transportation Efficiency Improvement Funds (TEIF)
- ❑ Senior Transportation Program

Six Year Improvement Program



Transit Sustainability and Investment Policy

- ❑ Transit Sustainability and Investment Policy
 - provides a framework for the efficient and effective expenditure of transit funds and for realizing the highest return on investment
 - intended to assist the Board, local policy-makers, and stakeholders in their reviews and decision making processes for funding requests submitted to DRPT through the use of evaluation tools
- ❑ CTB approved on October 16, 2008

Investment Policy Tools

- ❑ Asset Management
 - Strategic and systematic process of operating, maintaining, and expanding physical assets effectively through their life cycle
- ❑ Transit Service Design Guidelines
 - Provide guidance on the actions and conditions necessary to effectively implement and operate new transit service
- ❑ Project Programming
 - The process that DRPT utilizes to determine the funding allocation recommendations to the Board
- ❑ Operating Maintenance of Effort
 - Requires that local spending on transit operations is maintained from year to year; not reduced by increased state aid
- ❑ Public Benefit
 - Use of DRPT's economic model to calculate gallons of gasoline saved, return on investment and emissions reductions for major new projects
- ❑ Program Application Guidance
 - Shall develop, maintain, and distribute program application guidance for all transit programs administered by DRPT

Program Application Guidance Structure

- ❑ The guidance provides the following for each federal and state grant program administered by DRPT:
 - Program Description
 - Eligible Recipients
 - Eligible Expenses
 - Match Ratio and Limits of Funding
 - Application Evaluation Process
 - Application Procedure

Evaluation Criteria

- ❑ Evaluation Criteria applied consistently across all programs.
- ❑ Programs have all (or a subset of) the following criteria:
 - **Project Justification** – explanation of need/problem
 - **Planning** – documentation that sufficient planning conducted (not necessary if application is for conducting a plan)
 - **Project Scope** – approach to addressing the need/problem
 - **Project Readiness** – ability to initiate and advance project in FY funds requested
 - **Technical Capacity** – identification of project management team, ability to execute
 - **Project Budget** – ability to execute project scope within project budget
 - **Project Schedule** - ability to execute project scope within project schedule
 - **Monitoring and Evaluation Plan** - applicant's approach to measuring performance and evaluating the results of the project/plan

Implementation for FY10

- ❑ Final Program Application Guidance document will be published and distributed by end of November 25th
- ❑ Grant Application Period begins December 1st
- ❑ Grant Application Period ends February 2nd
- ❑ Draft Six Year Improvement Program recommendation to CTB in March



Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation