Transit/TDM Program Application Guidance

Corey Hill,
Chief of Public Transportation
Contents

- Purpose of Program Application Guidance
- Overview of Grant Programs Administered by DRPT
- Six Year Improvement Program
- Grant Program Calendar
- Transit Sustainability and Investment Policy
- Implementation
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

Final Six Year Improvement Program

Commonwealth Transportation Board Approval/Allocation

Final DRPT Recommendation

Draft Six Year Improvement Program

Public Hearings

Draft Six Year Improvement Program

DRPT Program Evaluation and Management Tools

Transit Sustainability and Investment Policy

Transit Service Design Guidelines

Program Specialist Evaluation

Asset Management

Public Benefit Model

Grantee Application

Grant Program Application Guidance

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