Rural Public Transportation in Washington State

17th Annual Northwest Tribal Transportation Symposium

Portland Oregon
Red Lion Hotel on the River~Jantzen Beach
April 19 – 22, 2010
CONSOLIDATED GRANT PROGRAMS

• State Competitive Grants
  – Paratransit/Special Needs Non-Profit
  – Rural Mobility Competitive
• State Transit Formula Grants
  – Paratransit/Special Needs Formula
  – Rural Mobility Transit Formula
• Federal Competitive Grants
  – FTA §5310, §5311, §5316, §5317
What Does It All Mean?

State Funds

Rural Mobility
  – Rural Areas Making Connections

Paratransit Special Needs
  – Supporting people with disabilities, low income, and the elderly
What Does It All Mean?

Federal Funds

5310 – Capital for service to older adults
5311 – Rural service
5313 – Planning
5316 – Employment transportation for people with low income (JARC)
5317 - transportation for people with disabilities that go beyond ADA
NOT IN CONSOLIDATED GRANT PROGRAM

- Office of Transit Mobility Grants
- Trip Reduction Performance Program
- Commute Trip Reduction Grants
- FTA §5307 – Urban and Small Urban
- FTA §5311(c) – Tribal Set Aside
- FTA §5311(f) – Intercity Bus Program
- Vanpool Investment Program
- Regional Mobility Grants
FTA 5311c

Tribal Set Aside

- Administered by FTA Region X
- No match requirement
- Planning, Start-up and Enhancement
- Must be Federally recognized
- Considerable competition
Technical Assistance

• The program is designed to help Native American tribes enhance economic growth and development by improving transportation services. Technical assistance is limited to planning and may support transit service improvements and expansion, system start-up, facility development, development of marketing plans and materials, transportation coordination, training and other public transit problem solving activities.
WHY CONSOLIDATED GRANT PROGRAM?

• Application process streamlined
• Complements provider coordination
• More input on funding the best projects
• Opportunity to leverage funds – *Bigger bang for buck*
• Serve more people in the state
Grant Schedule

- Presently
  - Human Service Transportation Planning

- September 2010
  - Plans Due
  - Call for Projects
  - Training

- December 2010 – Grant Applications Due

- Spring 2011 – Grant Awards Made

- July 2011 – Projects Begin
COMPETITIVE GRANT AWARDS

2007 – 2009 Biennium
97 projects
$33 million in state and federal funds awarded

2009 – 2011 Biennium
110 projects
$37 million in state and federal funds awarded
## TRANSPORT AGENCY GRANT AWARDS

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<td>$19.5 million and 27 Paratransit/Special Needs grants awarded</td>
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<td>$4.25 million and 10 Rural Mobility grants awarded</td>
<td>$4.25 million and 10 Rural Mobility grants awarded (first year)</td>
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Total = $28 million
## COMPARING STATE BUDGETS

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<td>• $25 million in P/SN</td>
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<td>– $19.5M Transit</td>
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<td>– $5.5M Nonprofits</td>
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<td>• $14 million in</td>
<td>• $17 million in</td>
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<td>Rural Mobility</td>
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<td>– $7M Transit</td>
<td>– $8.5M Transit</td>
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<td>– $7M Competitive</td>
<td>– $8.5M Competitive</td>
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Regional and Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organizations

Asotin County is an adjunct member of the Palouse RTPO
Kitsap County is a member of both the Peninsula RTPO and the Puget Sound Regional Council
San Juan County is not a member of any RTPO
Local Coordination Planning

ACCT Implements New Federal Planning Requirements

ACCT staff are currently working with transportation providers and planning organizations across the state to implement a new federal planning requirement for federal public transportation grant recipients.

The recently passed SAFETEA-LU requires the establishment of local coordinated plans for all human services transportation programs. Applicants for WSDOT's public transportation grant program are required to participate in the planning process with their local Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO) or Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO).

RTPO Human Service Plans

- Benton-Franklin-Walla Walla RTPO (BFCG) - Benton, Franklin, and Walla Walla Counties
GRANT PLANNING BLUEPRINT

• Convene Stakeholder Group
• Gather Data and Information
  – Common Origins
  – Common Destinations
  – Existing transportation services
• Identify Unmet Transportation Needs
• Develop Transportation Alternatives Utilizing Coordination
MOBILITY MANAGEMENT

• Federal Capital grant with 20% match requirement.
• Eligible Mobility Management activities.
• Issue a Federal Operating Agreement
• Will utilize an operating invoice and bill the same as operating.
WHAT’S ON THE HORIZON?

• Federal Reauthorization
  – CAMP
  – Sustainability Grants
  – No More JARC?

• Blogs
  – wsdotfederalfunding.blogspot.com/
  – nrccapitolclips.blogspot.com/
  – dc.streetsblog.org/
Help from WSDOT

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Questions

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