Transit Capital Assistance

Total Funding Available: $6.9 billion

Overview: Transit Capital Assistance may be used for bus, rail, and related capital assistance. The funds are broken down in the following manner:

- $100 million set aside for discretionary grants for transit capital.
- $5.40 billion apportioned to states using the 5307 program distribution formula. (NC: $71m)
- $677 million apportioned to states using the 5311 program distribution formula. (NC: $33m)
- $675 million apportioned to states using the Growing States distribution formula.
- $16.9 million or 2 percent of the 5311 distribution is set aside for Indian Reservation Roads.
- Balance of funds reserved for FTA Administration.

Special Factors:

- No matching funds required.
- Priority is to be given to projects in economically distressed areas.
- Priority is to be given to projects that can be completed within three (3) years.
- Funds cannot supplant existing funding, and states must certify within 30 days of apportionment that existing funding is maintained.
- Fifty percent of funding to states (excludes suballocation to Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs)) must be obligated within 120 after apportionment Any funds not obligated within 120 days will be withdrawn and reapportioned to other states that are able to obligate the funds.
- All funds must be obligated within one (1) year of apportionment. Any funds not obligated within one (1) year will be withdrawn and reapportioned to other states that are able to obligate the funds. The Secretary of the Federal Highway Administration can grant an extension of one (1) year if a state is experiencing "extreme conditions" that create an "unworkable bidding environment".
- Periodic reports to the Federal Transit Administration that include information on spending and job creation will be required.

How to Access Funding: Funds will be distributed to existing transit recipients 21 days after enactment of the legislation. Fifty percent of funding must be obligated with 180 after apportionment, and all other funds must be obligated within one (1) year of apportionment. Any funds not obligated within these time periods will be withdrawn and redistributed under the Competitive Surface Transportation Program. The Federal Transit Administration has released guidance that can be found at http://www.fta.dot.gov/index_9118.html.

Federal Contact: Federal Transit Administration
Regional Office: (415) 744-3133
The Office of Program Management: (202) 366-4020
www.fta.dot.gov/funding/grants/grants_financing_3561.html

State Contact: Jim Trogdon, (919) 733-1161, jhtrogdon@ncdot.gov
Susan Coward, (919)733-2520- scoward@ncdot.gov

League Staff Liaison: Charles Archer, carcher@nclm.org, 919-715-3918