



**U.S. Department
of Transportation**

**Federal Transit
Administration**

Region IV Annual Bulletin

**Newsletter of the
FTA Region IV**

Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North
Carolina, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virgin Islands

Message from the Regional Administrator

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!! I hope that each of you are enjoying the Holiday Season with much deserved rest and quality time with family and friends. We have had an incredibly busy fiscal year 2011 with a lot of great accomplishments to celebrate. On December 22nd, Secretary LaHood took the opportunity to highlight on his blog what an extraordinary productive year it has been for transportation across the nation (see his post at <http://fastlane.dot.gov/2011/12/2011-dot-year-in-review-fta.html>). Some of Region IV projects are highlighted and I recognize that there are many, many more accomplishments that occurred this past fiscal year, which are noted in our Newsletter. I want to personally Thank-You for your hard work, partnership, and commitment to delivering excellent transit services to the riding public. As we prepare for a new beginning in 2012, my wish is that we continue to work together in building and maintaining safe and reliable transit systems throughout the Southeastern Region; and that we strengthen our partnerships to overcome challenges and to maximize opportunities.

May you and your families have a Peaceful and Prosperous New Year!!

Sincerely,

Yvette G. Taylor, Ph.D.



FY 11 Discretionary Grants Selection

Region IV would like to CONGRATULATE the following grantees for their FY 2011 Discretionary Program Award! FY 2011 provided for very competitive discretionary programs for which the many Region IV grantees were selected, which are identified below. To date, the Alternatives Analysis, Bus and Bus Facility Livability, State of Good Repair, Clean Fuels, TIGGER III, TIGER III, Tribal Transit and Veteran's Initiative Program awards have been announced.

As the grantees move toward project implementation, please work with your FTA planner or grants manager for any questions, concerns, or deviations of the selected projects. Again, Region IV congratulates you on being selected for FY 2011 Discretionary Funding! FTA Region IV looks forward to working with you on these projects!



*Discretionary
Awards continued
on Page Two*

FY 2011 Discretionary Grants Awards — Congratulations FTA Region IV Recipients!

Clean Fuels - \$51.5M – Three projects in Region IV:
City of Gainesville, FL: \$3M
Columbus, GA: \$1.6M
Hillsborough Area Regional Transit Authority (HART),
FL: \$2.32M

TIGGER III - \$49.9M – Three projects in Region IV:
So. Fl. Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA): \$5.7M
South Carolina DOT: \$4.1M
Chattanooga Area Regional Transportation Authority, TN
(CARTA): \$2.5M

FY 11 Discretionary Grants Selection

FY 2011 Discretionary Grants Awards — Congratulations FTA Region IV Recipients!

Alternatives Analysis - \$25M – Six projects in Region IV:

Broward, FL MPO – University Drive AA: \$1.5M
LYNX Orlando, FL – State Road 50/UCF Connector:
\$1.2M
Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA), GA
– North Line AA: \$480,000
Town of Chapel Hill, NC – MLK Boulevard AA: \$560,000
Charleston, SC (Berkeley-Charleston-Dorechester COG) –
Charleston Area Fixed Guideway Transit Solution:
\$360,000
Memphis Area Transit Authority, TN – Madison Avenue
Midtown Collector: \$800,000

Bus and Bus Facility Livability Program - \$150M — Six projects in Region IV:

LYNX Orlando – Kissimmee, FL Intermodal Transfer
Center: \$2M
City of Gainesville, FL – RTS Facility Expansion: \$9M
South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA)
– Alternative Fuel Shuttle Bus Fleet: \$4.6M
Kentucky Transportation Cabinet – Murray Calloway
Transit Authority Sidewalks & Bikeways Improvements:
\$1.0M
Chattanooga Area Regional Transportation Authority
(CARTA), TN – Bus and Recreation Center
Connections: \$440,000
Memphis Area Transit Authority (MATA), TN – Traffic
Signal Priority System for Poplar Avenue and Elvis
Presley Blvd.: \$644,000

State of Good Repair - \$775M – 19 projects in Region IV (Shown by State):

Alabama

City of Huntsville Public Transit – Public Transit Bus
Maintenance Facility Construction: \$3,293,061

Florida

Florida DOT – Council of Aging of Clay County Transit
Vehicle Replacement & Related Equipment: \$468,736
Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority – Transit Vehicle
Replacement: \$5M
Indian River – Transit Vehicle Replacement: \$500,000
Jacksonville Transportation Authority (JTA) – Vehicle
Replacements & Facility Rehab: \$308,200
Lee County – Transit Vehicle Replacement: \$13,920,000
St. Johns County – Transit Vehicle Replacement for the
Sunshine Bus Company: \$527,780

Georgia

Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA) –
Phase II Brady Mobility Facility: \$14.08M
Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA) –
Browns Mill Heavy Maintenance Facility Improvements:
\$5,628,000
Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA) –
Transit Vehicle Replacements: \$7M

Kentucky

Transit Authority of River City (TARC) – Transit Vehicle
Replacements: \$5,104,515

North Carolina

Town of Chapel Hill – Transit Vehicle Replacement:
\$7,470,000

Puerto Rico

Puerto Rico Highway and Transportation Authority
(PRHTA) - Replacement, Upgrade, & Expansion of
Intermodal & Integrated Automated Fare Collection
Systems: \$6,720,000

South Carolina

Pee Dee Regional Transportation Authority – Construction
of New Bus Maintenance Facility: \$2,091,507
Waccamaw Regional Transportation Authority – Asset
Management System: \$4,798

Tennessee

Chattanooga Area Regional Transportation Authority
(CARTA) - Transit Vehicle Replacement: \$4,148,000
Nashville Metropolitan Transit Authority – Myatt
Maintenance Facility Renovation: \$4,649,819
Nashville Metropolitan Transit Authority – Facility Roof
Replacement: \$721,131

Virgin Islands

Government of the Virgin Islands – Facility Improvement:
\$1,080,000

TIGER III - \$511M – One project in Region IV:

City of Charlotte, NC — Blue Line Capacity Extension:
\$18.0M

Tribal Transit - \$15M – Four projects in Region IV:

Poarch Band of Creek Indians, AL: \$155,584
Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, MS: \$200,000
Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, NC: \$140,000
Catawba Indian Nation, SC: \$385,518

Veteran's Initiative - \$30 – 10 projects in Region IV

Pinellas County, FL MPO: \$1,098,339
Broward, FL MPO: \$539,937
City of Tallahassee, FL: \$1.2M
Jacksonville Transportation Authority, FL (JTA):
\$1,925,200
Polk County, FL: \$1,542,267
LYNX Orlando, FL: \$1,056,800
Atlanta Regional Commission, GA: \$419,855
Kentucky Transportation Cabinet: \$797,506
Wake County, NC: \$601,661
Lowcountry Council of Governments, SC: \$124,480



Under Review — Will be announced soon!

Over-the-Road-Bus - \$8.8M
Paul Sarbanes Transit in the Parks - \$26.7M

Planning and Program Development

TEAM and Grant Application Deadlines

Many of the grantees within Region IV will have carryover balances. Carryover balance notifications will be emailed to each of the grantees by **09 January 2012** and all grantees with carryover balances are encouraged to apply for this funding as soon as possible. This will allow FTA to work with you and focus on new fiscal year apportionment grants as soon as the apportionment notice is published.

FTA staff requests that all lapsing grant applications be entered in TEAM and under FTA review no later than **30 April 2012**. Our regional goal is to have all of the lapsing grant applications to DOL by **31 May 2012**, thus enabling us to assist you with the FY 2012 apportionment applications. Applications that do not require DOL review should be entered into TEAM for FTA's review by **31 July 2012**. Finally, please ensure that your Civil Rights programs are current, including your Title VI and EEO plans along with your program DBE goals.

FTA Region IV Important Deadlines and Reminders for Grant Applications

October 22, 2011	<p>TEAM reopens:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Execute any FY 2011 outstanding awards. • Update Recipient Information Screen, which includes contact information for agency personnel. • Check the Civil Rights screen to prevent delays from lapsed/expired programs. • Begin entering draft grants for carryover balances, if known. Begin preliminary NEPA document, if applicable.
November 01, 2011	PIN FY 2012 Certifications and Assurances within 90 days of this Nov. 01, 2011 date.
January 09, 2012	Carryover notifications emailed by FTA to grantees and cc to MPOs.
February 9, 2012	Response due to FTA regarding carryover and lapsing fund applications. Response should include a schedule for your applications and if you intend to lapse any funding.
April 30, 2012	<p>Region IV lapsing grant deadline for all draft grants requiring DOL certification to be entered in TEAM and under FTA to review.</p> <p>After you have ensured that the draft application has been entered accurately and completely, please notify your FTA representative to review the application.</p>
May 31, 2012	<p>Region IV lapsing grant deadline for submission to DOL.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grant submissions for lapsing funds after this date will be handled on a case-by-base basis and may not make it through the grant review process in sufficient time to obligate during the fiscal year. • The DOL certification process can take up to 30-60 days. Following DOL certification, discretionary grants will be sent for Congressional Release (which can take 30-60 days).
June - July, 2012	<p>Reviewing and processing of current year and non-lapsing grant applications and non-DOL grant applications. Discretionary Grants in release.</p> <p>We will prioritize the carryover and new FY apportionment application reviews during this period, particularly if the apportionment notice is late.</p>
July 31, 2012	Region IV grant deadline for non-DOL grant applications.
August – September, 2012	<p>Obligations, Awards, and Execution of Grants.</p> <p>During this time, we expect to obligate and award the funding that has been in process since May. This will include grants returning from DOL and if discretionary funding, following their release.</p>
September 29, 2012	Anticipated TEAM closing.

Planning and Program Development



Helpful Hints as you plan your Program of Projects and Grant Applications for FY 2012:

New Grant Applications vs. Grant Amendments: When possible FTA recommends that you determine if an amendment to ADD new funding is appropriate. Before entering a new application in TEAM, please discuss this possibility with your planner and/or grant representative.

Project Eligibility: If you are unsure if the proposed project or service is eligible after reviewing the program circulars, please consult your planner before entering it in a grant application, particularly with the New Freedom, Job Access Reverse Commute and several of the discretionary programs.

Environmental Coordination and Approval: If you are planning to pursue any facility-related projects (e.g. shelters, administrative and/or maintenance facilities) to include rehabilitation, engineering and design, construction, or land acquisition, please make sure you contact your planner as soon as possible to determine the appropriate level of environmental documentation that will be required. This requirement must be met PRIOR to applying for a grant application to support these activities.

Flex Funds and Transfers: If you are requesting funds to be transferred from FHWA to FTA, please contact Marie Lopez at marie.lopez@dot.gov to request a draft grant number before making your request to the MPO. Please be sure and identify the specific highway program from which you will be requesting the transfer. Keep both your planner and Marie informed on the status of that transfer as it goes from the MPO, to the DOT, to FHWA, and ultimately to FTA. The draft number should be contained on all fund transfer documents.

FY 2012 Certifications and Assurances

The FY 2012 Certifications and Assurances were published on November 1, 2011.

The Federal Register Notice is located at http://www.fta.dot.gov/12825_14035.html

Grantees are expected to pin these in TEAM within 90 days from the date they are published.

Please note that grantees will notice two required signatures when completing their FY 2012 Certifications and Assurances submissions, one for an “official” representative and one for an “attorney”. It is common for only one of the grantee’s employees to have TEAM access, with that employee typically signing the Certification and Assurances both as “attorney” and “official”.

The preferred signature method is two-fold. First, the party verifying the completion of the Certifications and Assurances as the grantee’s official representative should sign the document in TEAM as the “official”. The “attorney” signature should normally be executed by the attorney for the grantee who has reviewed the Certifications and Assurances on behalf of the grantee and verified legal compliance. If the “official” and “attorney” signatures are signed by the same person, FTA requests that the grantee provide a brief letter verifying that an attorney reviewed the Certifications and Assurances submitted by the grantee and apprised the grantee of FTA’s regulatory requirements as described in the Certifications and Assurances. This letter should be added in TEAM by the grantee.



Planning Certification Reviews

We have 11 Planning Certification Reviews identified for FY 2012. Transit agencies are reminded that they are expected to participate in these certification reviews. Both FHWA and FTA staff will be present for the reviews, based on funding availability. Please ensure that your agency participates in these reviews. The following urbanized areas are scheduled for a review: Columbus, GA, Northeast Florida, Collier County, FL, Capital Region, FL, Knoxville, TN, Rock Hill, SC, Birmingham, AL, Cabarrus-S. Rowan, NC, Asheville, NC, Charlotte, NC, Winston-Salem, NC.

Programmatic Updates

SAFETEA-LU Continuing Resolution

Congress passed the 8th Continuing Resolution extending SAFETEA-LU to March 31, 2012. FTA plans to publish a 6/12th partial apportionment Federal Register Notice in January 2012.

FY 2011 Funding and Grants

FTA Region IV processed 365 grants in FY 2011, totaling approximately \$895M. Thank you for your continued partnership in obligating these dollars by the required deadlines. Below is a breakdown by state of the FY 2011 grant awards.

FY 2011 Grant Awards - FTA Region IV

State	Total Grants	Total Award
Alabama	19	\$ 47,688,323
Florida	108	\$ 295,743,812
Georgia	30	\$ 155,265,388
Kentucky	27	\$ 48,134,253
Mississippi	12	\$ 23,068,210
North Carolina	62	\$ 151,679,704
Puerto Rico	20	\$ 44,434,383
South Carolina	26	\$ 39,456,491
Tennessee	61	\$ 89,718,646
Virgin Islands	0	\$ -
Totals	365	\$ 895,189,210

Organizational Updates



New Staff and Geographic Assignments

There have been several changes over the past year in Region IV with new hires and departures of staff. An updated organization chart and Region IV geographic assignment has been posted to the Region IV website at:

<http://www.fta.dot.gov/about/region4.html>

Choose "Organizational Chart" on the right-side menu bar.

Very Small Starts, Small Starts and New Starts Programs



New Starts Program (Dear Colleagues letters)

On 30 September 2011, FTA issued a Dear Colleague Letter signed by Administrator Peter Rogoff announcing the development of a more streamlined process for Risk Assessments. This effort is further detailed in a second Dear Colleague Letter issued on the same date signed by the Associate Administrator of Program Management and Planning and Environment Henrika Buchanan-Smith and Lucy Garliauskas, respectively. These two Dear Colleague letters can be found at the following URLs:

http://www.fta.dot.gov/newsroom/12910_13883.html

http://www.fta.dot.gov/newsroom/12910_13881.html

As part of the New Starts process streamlining efforts, the FTA published a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) in the *Federal Register* on Thursday, September 13, 2011 to transform the current regulation for Project Management Oversight (49 C.F.R. part 633) into a discrete set of managerial principles for sponsors of major capital projects to:

- ◆ Enable FTA to more clearly identify the necessary management capacity and capability of a sponsor of a major capital project
- ◆ Spell out the many facets of project management that must be addressed by a sponsor of a major capital project in a project management plan.
- ◆ Change the scope and applicability of the rule.
- ◆ Tailor the level of FTA oversight to the costs, complexities, and risks of a major capital project.
- ◆ Set forth the means and objectives of FTA risk assessments.
- ◆ Articulate the roles and responsibilities of FTA's project management oversight contractors. NPRM can be found at:

<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2011-09-13/pdf/2011-23371.pdf>.

Please check out FTA's New Starts website at

<http://www.fta.dot.gov/planning/>

[planning_environment_5221.html](http://www.fta.dot.gov/planning_environment_5221.html) for any future updates.

Environmental Program Updates



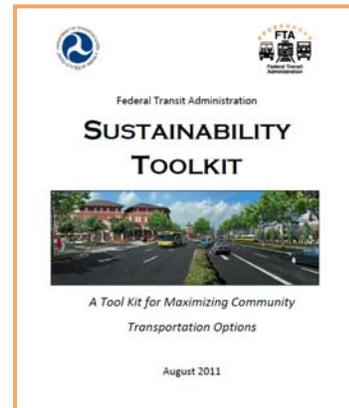
In 2010, FTA began a Pilot Program to hire Environmental Protection Specialists (EPS) in various Regional Offices. These positions are part of the Office of Planning and Environment (TPE), and report directly to the headquarters office. The specialists are located in the Regional offices and serve as a

resource for both grantees and staff. The EPS for Region IV is **Brian Smart** (Brian.Smart@dot.gov). Brian is available to assist in early discussions regarding the appropriate class of action for NEPA documents, to participate in environmental scoping, and to provide technical assistance both internally and externally throughout the entire planning process. FTA's goal is to have the EPS involved early in the planning process to ensure that NEPA evaluations are consistent with FTA requirements. Although Brian is available to assist with review of NEPA documents and related special studies, primarily for larger or more controversial projects, the direct responsibility for NEPA review remains with the FTA Region IV Planning staff.

Region IV strongly suggests that you engage our office as soon as possible to discuss any proposed projects and to cooperatively determine the appropriate environmental action. We encourage grantees to use the beginning of the fiscal year to prepare the required environmental documentation for FTA review. The environmental documentation must be reviewed and approved by FTA in advance of seeking Federal funds for real property acquisition or any construction related activities. Please allow 30 days for FTA to respond to all NEPA document submittals. The review and comment period often takes less than 30 days after the submittal is factored into staff workload.

FTA's Environmental Analysis and Review website is located at http://www.fta.dot.gov/planning/planning_environment_5222.html. This website provides all the necessary information to guide transit agencies, resource agencies, and the public through the environmental review process for transit projects and improvements that receive Federal funds. Please also visit the Region IV Grantee Resource Center (http://www.fta.dot.gov/region4_12134.html) for Region IV's NEPA Flowchart, Documented Categorical Exclusion template, and NEPA Reevaluation Worksheet. Other resources will be added at the beginning of 2012, including an updated Section 106 Worksheet and consultation flowchart.

Environmental Sustainability and Livability



Sustainability Toolkit

Contained within the FY 2011 Administrator's Annual Performance Plan (APP) was a requirement for each region to develop a Sustainability Tool Kit. Based on this requirement, three Region IV employees, Tom Thomson, Elizabeth Martin and Robert Buckley, undertook this task. The Region IV Sustainability Tool Kit was completed in August of 2011 and deployed to various organizations to use in developing their own Sustainable Communities initiative. The Toolkit includes background information concerning this initiative, the six livability principles, climate change tools, land development tools and other tools developed by DOT, HUD, or EPA – the three members of the Interagency Partnership for Sustainable Communities. For a copy of the Sustainability Toolkit, please contact the FTA Region IV office at 404-865-5600.



To learn more about the Livable and Sustainable Communities Initiative, please visit the FTA Region IV Website at <http://www.fta.dot.gov/about/region4.html>. Choose "Livable and Sustainable Communities" from the right-side menu.

New Grantee Information

Robert Buckley is the New Grantee Coordinator in Region IV. If you or an agency you know is interested in becoming a new grantee, please contact Robert Buckley. Our New Grantee Handbook is also available on our website: http://www.fta.dot.gov/region4_7507.html



Civil Rights Program

DBE Program

DBE Final Rule (effective 28 February 2011) requires all FTA Region IV grantees who have a DBE program to submit a Small Business Development Plan (49 CFR Part 26.39) as part of their current DBE Plan by 28 February 2012. This is a new requirement and represent a major change to the DBE program. A new DBE program update must be submitted and uploaded into TEAM by all FTA Region IV grantees that have a DBE program by 28 February 2012.

Title VI and Environmental Justice (EJ) Circulars

The new proposed Title VI and EJ circulars public comment period has officially ended on 2 December 2011. Many of the Region IV grantees have already made comments to the docket before the comment period ended and through the recent Information Session held at MARTA HQ in Atlanta on 17 November 2011.



TEAM Training

Last year FTA Region IV developed a series of TEAM training webinars to provide a better understanding of the TEAM system and FTA's requirements in that system. Since that time, this training has reached over 500 TEAM users throughout Region IV. These training sessions will continue into this year. In addition, FTA Region IV is currently working to update those webinars and potentially develop additional trainings and tools to continue providing guidance to Region IV grantees on the requirements of the TEAM system.

Dates and locations for the training are yet to be determined, but will be provided on the TEAM Training website as they are scheduled:
http://www.fta.dot.gov/region4_12240.html

For any questions, feel free to contact Robert Buckley at Robert.Buckley@dot.gov or 404-865-5618.

United We Ride

One Vision **1** One Call
Coordinating Human Service Transportation

Region IV continues to work with United We Ride (UWR) Ambassador Jo Ann Hutchinson from the Community Transportation Association of America. If you are not on Jo Ann's mailing list and have not seen her blog, be sure to drop her a line. She has a wealth of information to assist you with your coordinated planning efforts. Jo Ann can be reached at Hutchinson@ctaa.org or at 800.891.0590, ext. 730.

Region IV continues to conduct UWR Quarterly Calls with Jo Ann and FTA Headquarter Staff. Dates and the call-in number for the FY 2012 Region IV UWR calls are below:

Tuesday, March 13, 10AM EST
Tuesday, June 12, 10AM EST
Tuesday, September 11, 10AM EST
Tuesday, December 11, 10AM EST

Call-in Number: 866-906-9888
Pass Code: 1642949

Region IV Website Updates

The Region IV website can be found at:
<http://www.fta.dot.gov/about/region4.html>

The website contains the latest organizational information, a grantee resource center and upcoming events in Region IV. Please add to your favorites and regularly check for updates!



Also, if you haven't already signed up, please sign up on FTA's website to receive periodic updates.

Program Management

The Office of Operations and Program Management (OOPM) staff would like to thank everyone for their responsiveness to our inquiries on a vast array of elements. The annual newsletter provides a good opportunity to offer a brief overview of the upcoming activities in FY 2012.

TEAM Federal Financial Report (FFR) and (MPR)

As a reminder, Quarterly FFRs and MPRs are due 30 days after the end of the quarter for ALL:

- 1) Active grants made to grantees in areas over 200,000;
- 2) ARRA grants; and,
- 3) Section 5309 grants (regardless of UZA size). Please be sure to update expired milestones and provide narrative progress reports. For more information on these reports and what they contain, please visit FTA Circular 5010.1C or contact your program manager.



For areas under 200,000, annual FFRs and MPRs are due for all of your other grants (non-ARRA, non-5309) no later than October 30.

ARRA Reporting and Oversight:

Now that all of the ARRA dollars have been obligated, grantees are reminded to implement projects on schedule and continue reporting per the statutory deadlines. We continue to provide ARRA oversight and our ARRA engineers will be working with you throughout the year on the implementation and oversight of your projects. We would like to see these projects completed and grants closed by the **end of September 2013**. For more on ARRA reporting, please visit: http://www.fta.dot.gov/index_9440_10542.html

Program Oversight Reviews

Oversight Reviews:

In FY 2012, we are anticipating having:
42 triennial reviews
28 financial reviews
14 procurement system reviews

If you are not having a triennial review in 2012 or if you have had repeat findings from a previous triennial review, you can expect an FTA site visit, Special Review or both depending on your individual situation.

Focus Areas for Oversight Reviews:

- Financial,
- Procurement,
- Buy America,
- NTD, and;
- Preventive Maintenance



We had a number of issues with the lack of Independent Cost Estimates, Price/Cost Analysis and questions about Change Orders over the past year. It is extremely important that you follow the guidance in the FTA Circular 4220.1F and/or contact your Program Manager for guidance early in the solicitation process. If not, this could impact the federal participation in your project. If you have questions, please contact your Program Manager early in the process so the eligibility for FTA reimbursements can be maintained.

Oversight Workshops:

A State Management Review Workshop is scheduled to take place in Atlanta, Georgia on February 28-29, 2012. For more information concerning registration or other questions, please contact David Schilling at 404-865-5645 or david.schilling@dot.gov.

NTI Oversight Training:

National Transit Institute (NTI) will be hosting a number of courses this year in the region. Please check the website for the current class schedule. There are a number of classes in 2012 that you may be interested in attending. Also, the site is updated with new courses throughout the year.

You can register for any NTI class by going to the NTI website (www.ntionline.com).

Final Thoughts

Below are few items of interest from the Region IV FTA staff. Please feel free to contact us with any questions concerning the following or visit the appropriate webpage for each listed below. We look forward to working with you in the coming year!

Final Policy Statement on the Eligibility of Pedestrian and Bicycle Improvements Under Federal Transit Law:

All pedestrian improvements located within one-half mile and all bicycle improvements located within three miles of a public transportation stop or station shall have a de facto physical and functional relationship to public transportation. This policy change allows these improvements to be eligible as a capital expense under eligible FTA programs.

<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2011-08-19/pdf/2011-21273.pdf>

DBE requirement:

Additional Small Business Development Participation (49 CFR Part 26.39) are required to be included in DBE plans by 28 February 2012. DBE plans must include an element to structure contracting requirements to facilitate competition by small businesses in general, in addition to specific strategies for identified DBEs. Examples for how to address this requirement are included in the DBE FRN published in January 2011.

<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2011-01-28/pdf/2011-1531.pdf>

Title VI and Environmental Justice (EJ) Circulars:

These new circulars will clarify what is already required by law and draws a sharper distinction between the requirements for Title VI and EJ. Highlights include guidance and draws distinction for large and small transit providers, MPOs and States.

Proposed Title VI Circular:

<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2011-09-29/pdf/2011-25122.pdf>

Proposed EJ Circular:

<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2011-09-29/pdf/2011-25123.pdf>

FCC's requirement for Narrowbanding:

Land Mobile Radio systems in the frequency range 150 – 174 MHz and 421 – 512 MHz must operate the narrowband channels 12.5 KHz or less, or meet the 12.5 KHz equivalent efficiency requirement before 1 January 2013.

http://www.fta.dot.gov/newsroom/12910_12756.html

- ◆ Most current public safety radio systems use 25 kHz-wide channels.
- ◆ The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has mandated that all non-Federal public safety licensees using 25 kHz radio systems migrate to narrowband 12.5 kHz channels by 1 January 2013.
- ◆ Agencies that do not meet the deadline face the loss of communication capabilities.
- ◆ Agencies need to start planning now to migrate to narrowband systems by assessing their current radio equipment and applying for new or modified licenses.

TEAM Grantee Tip

Please contact the appropriate planner for your particular geographic area to resolve any outstanding issues to ensure timely and prompt grant submission and award. For a current listing of planners and their geographic assignments, visit the FTA Region IV website.

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