Grant Program Workshop

5307 Urbanized Area
5337 State of Good Repair
5339 Buses and Bus Facilities

October 15, 2019
Workshop Agenda

- FTA Section 5307, 5337, and 5339 Program Introduction
- Solicitation Overview
  - Houston UZA Apportionments
  - Eligible Applicants
  - Eligible Projects
  - Federal Share/Local Match Requirements
  - Application Guidelines/Evaluation
- Grant Application Overview
- FTA/METRO Suballocation
- Questions
Program Introduction

- Program Website:
  https://www.ridemetro.org/Pages/GrantPrograms.aspx
## Schedule of Activities

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<td>Deadline for Written Questions to be Published</td>
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The Urbanized Area Formula Funding program (49 U.S.C. 5307) makes federal resources available to urbanized areas and to governors for transit capital and operating assistance in urbanized areas and for transportation-related planning.

- 2019 Appropriations for the Houston UZA
  - 5307 Urbanized Area - $82,298,684

The State of Good Repair Grants Program (49 U.S.C. 5337) provides capital assistance for maintenance, replacement, and rehabilitation projects of high-intensity fixed guideway and bus systems to help transit agencies maintain assets in a state of good repair.

- **2019 Appropriations for the Houston UZA**
  - 5337 State of Good Repair - $6,822,182

FTA Section 5339

- The Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities Program (49 U.S.C. 5339) makes federal resources available to states and direct recipients to replace, rehabilitate and purchase buses and related equipment and to construct bus-related facilities including technological changes or innovations to modify low or no emission vehicles or facilities.

- 2019 Appropriations for the Houston UZA
  - 5339 Buses and Bus Facilities - $9,543,741

- https://www.transit.dot.gov/bus-program
2019 Appropriations for the Houston UZA

5307 Urbanized Area $82,298,684
5337 State of Good Repair $ 6,822,182
5339 Buses and Bus Facilities $ 9,543,741
Houston UZA
Eligible Applicants

- Recipients of funds must qualify to be a Direct Recipient of federal funds and be an operator of public transportation.

- A Direct Recipient is a public entity that is legally eligible under federal transit law to apply for and receive grants directly from the FTA.

- As a Direct Recipient, recipients of funds will be subject to all federal requirements.
Eligible Projects

Funds not maintaining existing METRO, Fort Bend County, or Harris County services will be considered for allocation to other designated public transit providers not in the METRO service area, but in the Houston UZA, provided that the proposed use of funds benefit the Houston UZA.
Federal Share, TDC & Local Match Requirements

- Capital assistance is provided at 80 percent Federal share; 20 percent local share.

- Operating assistance requires a 50 percent local match.

- Transportation Development Credits Policy and Procedures:
Application Guidelines / Evaluation

• Each agency is allowed to submit one or more applications.

• Applications must be submitted electronically via e-mail at grantapplications@ridemetro.org
  – Applications must be received no later than 4:00 PM CST on November 8, 2019

• Evaluation panel is comprised of representatives from local and regional agencies
Applications

There is no prescribed format although application should include, but not be limited to, the following items:

- Project description
- Eligibility
- Demonstrated transit benefit to the Houston UZA
- Financial capacity to carry out the project including evidence of local match requirement
- Five year expenditure plan
- Risk Assessment Form
Applicants are encouraged to provide additional information as necessary which could include the following information:

- How does the project establish, preserve or improve mobility of the individuals in the community?
- Does the project address a recognized need in the community? If yes, please include examples such as feedback from public meetings, surveys, complaints, etc.
- Does the applicant report sufficient experience in managing transportation projects to provide assurance of success?
- Does the applicant report sufficient experience in managing previous grant awards?
- Does the applicant report sufficient financial capability and resources to implement and successfully carry out the project?
Application Information Continued

- Does the applicant have the sufficient local match to support the implementation for the project? If yes, please list sources of local match.
- Does the applicant have a long-term commitment to maintain and utilize capital equipment/facilities acquired with federal funds beyond the availability of the requested resources?
- Does the project describe an active coordination effort aimed at improving efficiency and effectiveness? If yes, please provide examples.
- Explain how the proposed project addresses gaps and/or barriers that have been identified?
- Is the project a new service?
Application Information Continued

- Does the project expand or enhance an existing service?
- Does the project facilitate a state of good repair for existing service?
- Does the proposed project contribute significant ridership as it relates to the service area?
- How would this project be sustained without federal funding?
- Does the project have local support? Evidence includes, but is not limited to:
  - Endorsement letters for organizations or individuals
  - Fare or other monetary contributions received from riders
  - Resolutions by local governing bodies
# Risk Assessment Form

- Please note that this is an application requirement

**5307 Urbanized Area Formula Grant Program**
**5337 State of Good Repair Formula Grant Program**
**5339 Bus and Bus Facilities Formula Grant Program**

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If yes, please give details including awarding agency.

1. Have you had a grant closed due to material noncompliance in the last 5 years?

2. Have you failed to make substantial progress on past grants?

3. Do you have no experience with a similar Grant Program?

4. Do you have qualified auditor’s opinion on a financial statement in the past five years? If so provide details.

5. Do you have questioned costs on single audits in the last five years? If so, provide details.

6. Have you had an audit finding relating to cash management in
FTA Suballocation

- The METRO Board approves the program of projects.

- METRO will provide a suballocation letter (split letter) to awardees upon METRO Board approval.

- Awardees will apply directly to FTA for the funding as direct recipients.

- FTA will require the uploading of the suballocation letter as part of the application process in TrAMS.
Questions?

- Application Deadline: no later than 4:00 PM CST on November 8, 2019
  - Application Submissions at grantapplications@ridemetro.org

- METRO Grant Programs Website
  - https://www.ridemetro.org/Pages/GrantPrograms.aspx

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