



Transit Funding 101

Bureau of Transit,
Local Roads,
Railroads and
Harbors

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What does WisDOT do?

- Administer federal and state transit funding programs
- Provide oversight for regulatory compliance
- Provide technical assistance
- Develop policies
- Develop program and contract for intercity bus services



What doesn't WisDOT do?

- Start, design, or manage transit projects
- Provide or contract for transit service (except intercity bus)



Types of transit

- Public
- Specialized



Types of expenses

- Capital
- Operating
- Planning



Types of service areas

- Rural (<2,500)
- Small urbanized (2,500-50,000) – Urban by state definition, rural by federal definition
- Urban (50,000+)
 - Large urban (200,000+)



Transit programs

- Federal
 - 5304
 - 5307
 - 5309
 - 5310
 - 5311
 - STRAP (5314)
 - JARC (5316) WETAP
 - New Freedom (5317)
- State
 - 85.20
 - 85.21
 - 85.215
 - 85.22
- Technical assistance
 - RTAP



Urban Mass Transit Operating Assistance (5307/85.20)

- Combined federal/state funds
- Urban public transit
- Operating expenses
- Local public entities can apply
- Funded 58.4% of Tier B project costs in 2009



Federal Discretionary Capital Assistance Program (5309)

- Federal funds (Congressional earmark)
- Urban public transit
- Capital expenses
- Local public entities can apply
- Funds 80% of project costs



Rural/Small Urban Public Transportation Assistance (5311/85.20)

- Combined federal/state funds
- Small urbanized public transit
- Operating expenses
- Local public entities can apply
- Funded 65% of project costs in 2009
- 2/3 of mileage must be in urbanized area (government units contributing to local share)



5311 Capital

- Federal funds
- Rural or small urbanized public transit
- Capital expenses (buses, buildings, etc)
- Local public entities can apply
- Funds 80% of project costs (90% for ADA and Clean Air Act equipment)



STRAP (5314)

- Federal funds (Congressional earmark) – Wisconsin only
- Rural/small urbanized public transit
- Operating and planning grants
- Only leftover funds available for 2011
- Funds 80% of project costs
- Capital not an allowable expense



STRAP cont'd

- Federal pilot
- Objectives
 - Serve rural populations
 - Address needs of non-ambulatory riders
 - Improve mobility options
 - Coordinate transportation services
 - Encourage public participation in planning



RTAP

- Set-aside of federal 5311 program
- Funds education/training for rural transit professionals
- Funds 80% for most in-state events, some in-state at 100%, 70% for out-of-state



Specialized Transit

- Specialized Transit is transportation funding for specific populations (elderly, disabled, low-income) or for specific purposes



WETAP

- Combined federal/state funds
- Collaboration between Wis. Depts. of Transportation, Workforce Development
- Serves low-income workers
- Operating and capital expenses
- Public or private entities may apply
- Funds up to 75% of project costs
- Coordination requirement



Specialized Transportation Assistance for Counties (85.21)

- State funds
- Serves elderly and persons with disabilities
- Operating or capital expenses
- Counties are only eligible applicants
- Funded by formula
- Requires 20% local cash match



Elderly & Disabled Transportation Capital Assistance (5310/85.22)

- Combined federal/state funds
- Serves elderly and those with disabilities
- Capital expenses only
- Private non-profits, or local public entities meeting certain requirements can apply
- Funds 80% of project costs
- Coordination requirement



New Freedom (5317)

- Federal funds
- Provides service to the disabled “above and beyond” ADA requirements
- Capital (Includes mobility management) and operating expenses
- Private non-profits, local public entities, transit operators can apply
- Funds 80% of capital, 50% of operating costs



New Freedom cont'd

- Intent
 - Fill gaps in transportation
 - Integrate people with disabilities into society
- Eligible projects
 - Remove transportation barriers
 - New alternatives and services beyond ADA (not operational Aug. 10, 2005 or after)
- Coordination planning required

Tribal Elderly Transportation Assistance Program (85.215)

- New program in 2010
- Only available to tribes
- Funding thru casino contracts
- \$22,500 per tribe in 2010