



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration

Bicycles and Transit

revised February 2013 to incorporate updated guidance from the most recent surface transportation authorization, Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21)



The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) supports bicycle transportation by providing funding for bicycle-related improvements to public transportation facilities and vehicles through many of its grant programs. Examples of FTA-funded bicycle improvements include secure racks and shelters at transit facilities, equipment for transporting bicycles on public transit vehicles, and bicycle access routes in the area around transit stations. Multiple FTA grant programs are able to help cities, towns, transit agencies, and rural areas invest in bicycle infrastructure, which improves personal mobility and helps more people access public transportation.

Investments in bicycle access to public transportation can help communities promote livability and become more sustainable. Bike routes around stations increase the number of people riding their bikes to public transportation and make the streets safer for both pedestrians and cyclists. Linking bicycling and public transportation also provides a greater variety of transportation options, and building bicycle parking at transit facilities can be much less expensive and require much less space than automobile parking.

Linking bicycles and transit together is a win-win proposition. Bicycle friendly transit vehicles and stations provide cyclists with expanded travel options and expand transit ridership. Linking bicycles and public transportation helps us achieve more livable communities by providing essential connectivity for trips to employment, community services, shopping and recreation.

For more details; please visit: www.fta.dot.gov/bikesandtransit/

Capital Improvements for Bicycle Access

FTA's grant programs support bicycle access improvements through "associated transit improvements" funding and by making project grants through the programs listed on the reverse side, whether as part of a larger transit project or independently.

FTA's two principal funding programs that support bicycle access improvements are the Urbanized Area Formula Grants and the Non-Urbanized Area Formula Grants. These programs allow many activities that support bicycling to be funded as Transit Enhancements, which include: bicycle and pedestrian access, historic preservation of transportation facilities, bus shelters, landscaping and scenic beautification, and public art, among other things. Urban areas with a population of at least 200,000 must spend at least one percent of their Urbanized Area Formula funding on transit enhancements.

Bicycle improvements that are eligible for transit enhancement funds include: bicycle paths at a transit station, bicycle routes in the vicinity of transit stations, bicycle parking and storage equipment at stations and equipment for transporting bicycles on public transportation vehicles.

Although FTA's formula grants require that 20% of most transit projects be locally funded, associated transit improvement projects only require a 10% local share. In urban areas with over 200,000 residents, bicycle improvement projects only require 5% local funding.¹

In addition to these programs, funds provided under the Fixed Guideway Capital Investment Grants, Bus and Bus Facilities Formula Grants, and Formula Grants for Other than Urbanized Rural Areas programs may also be used for bicycle improvements as described above, pursuant to program requirements, at a 90% federal share. Bicycle projects funded through other programs, are eligible for a standard 80% federal share, provided they are consistent with the program's eligibility and purpose.

Further details on all of FTA's grant programs are available at www.fta.dot.gov/grants.

¹ - In urbanized areas over 200,000 in population, and receiving Urbanized Area Formula funding, bicycle projects are eligible for a 95% federal share for the first 1% of program funds.

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



Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Program & Bicycle Related Funding Opportunities

| Program Name | Statute (Title 49) | Funding Type | Eligible Recipients | Program Purpose | Eligible Bicycle Activities | Federal Share for Bicycle Activities |
|--|--------------------|---------------|--|--|--|--|
| Metropolitan & Statewide and nonmetropolitan Transportation Planning | 5303, 5304, 5305 | Formula | States, with allocation of funding to Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO) | Provides funding and procedural requirements for multimodal transportation planning in metropolitan areas and states that is cooperative, continuous, and comprehensive, resulting in long-range plans and short-range programs of transportation investment priorities. | Planning for bicycle facilities in a state or metropolitan transportation network. | Federal share is 80% formula-based with a required 20% non-federal match |
| Urbanized Area Formula Grants | 5307 | Formula | FTA apportions funds to designated recipients, which then suballocate funds to state and local governmental authorities, including public transportation providers | Provides grants to Urbanized Areas (UZA) for public transportation capital, planning, job access and reverse commute projects, as well as operating expenses in certain circumstances. These funds constitute a core investment in the enhancement and revitalization of public transportation systems in the nation's urbanized areas, which depend on public transportation to improve mobility and reduce congestion.. Consolidates JARC eligible projects. | Bicycle routes to transit, bike racks, shelters and equipment for public transportation vehicles | Bicycle projects can receive a 95% federal share for the first 1% of program funds in large urbanized areas. |
| Fixed Guideway Capital Investment Grants | 5309 | Formula | State and local government agencies, including transit agencies | Provides grants for new and expanded rail, bus rapid transit, and ferry systems that reflect local priorities to improve transportation options in key corridors | Bicycle racks, shelters and equipment | Bicycle projects receive a 90% federal share. |
| Bus and Bus Facilities Formula Grants | 5339 | Formula | Designated recipients and states that operate or allocate funding to fixed-route bus operators | Provides capital funding to replace, rehabilitate and purchase buses and related equipment and to construct bus-related facilities | Bicycle routes to transit, bike racks, shelters and equipment for public transportation vehicles | Bicycle projects receive a 90% federal share. |
| Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities | 5310 | Formula | States (for all areas under 200,000 in population) and designated recipients, State DOTs for private non-profit agencies and public agencies that coordinate human service transportation States or local government authorities, private non-profit organizations, or operators of public transportation that receive a grant indirectly through a recipient | This program is intended to enhance mobility for seniors and persons with disabilities by providing funds for programs to serve the special needs of transit-dependent populations beyond traditional public transportation services and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) complementary paratransit services. Consolidates New Freedom eligible projects. | Bicycle improvements that provide access to an eligible public transportation facility and meet the needs of the elderly and individuals with disabilities | Bicycle projects receive an 80% federal share. |
| Formula Grants for Rural Areas | 5311 | Formula | States, Indian tribes, State DOTs for local rural transit providers, including private non-profits. Subrecipients: State or local government authorities, nonprofit organizations, operators of public transportation | This program provides capital, planning, and operating assistance to states to support public transportation in rural areas with populations less than 50,000, where many residents often rely on public transit to reach their destinations. | Bicycle routes to transit, bike racks, shelters and equipment for public transportation vehicles | Bicycle projects receive a 90% federal share. |
| TOD Planning Pilot Grants | 20005(b) of MAP-21 | Discretionary | State and local government agencies | Provides funding to advance planning efforts that support transit-oriented development (TOD) associated with new fixed-guideway and core capacity improvement projects | Projects that facilitate multimodal connectivity and accessibility or Increase access to transit hubs for pedestrian and bicycle traffic | Bicycle projects receive a 90% federal share. |