


Enhanced Transit Safety and Crime Prevention Initiative

FTA Funding Sources




U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration





 The Federal Transit Administration's (FTA's) largest formula program, the [Urbanized Area Formula Grants Program](#) (Section 5307) supports public transportation in urbanized areas with populations greater than 50,000. One of the Section 5307 program goals is to support public transportation by investing in crime prevention, public transportation safety and security equipment.


Section 5307 recipients may provide funding for the following types of safety and security projects:

- Planning efforts that address rider or employee safety, including public transportation safety plans and crime prevention reviews.
- Capital projects, including the construction of new facilities or the rehabilitation of existing facilities to promote increased sightlines, improved passenger queuing, etc. The purchase of vehicles with unique security features, such as driver shields, are also eligible.
- Crime prevention and security projects, including but not limited to:
 - Increased lighting in or adjacent to a public transportation system;
 - Increased camera surveillance of an area in or adjacent to a public transportation system;
 - Installing emergency telephone lines in or adjacent to a public transportation system to contact law enforcement or security personnel; and
 - Intelligent transportation systems designed to improve the safety of the transit system.
- Public transportation safety and security operating assistance projects (for urbanized areas with a population of less than 200,000) that include, but are not limited to:
 - Staff salaries for personnel exclusively involved with security;
 - Contracts for security services, including those with police departments; and
 - Any other operating projects intended to increase the safety and security of an existing or planned public transportation system, such as funding contracts or salaries of crisis intervention specialists.

 [FTA Formula Grants for Rural Areas Program](#) (Section 5311) provides formula funding to States for areas with a population of less than 50,000. Similar to Section 5307 funding, Section 5311 can fund a variety of planning, operating and capital expenses, which can be used to support the prevention of driver and passenger assaults on rural public transportation systems.

 COVID-19 supplemental funding provided through the [Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act](#), [Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act](#) and the [American Rescue Plan Act](#) may be used for operating expenses and activities that improve the safety or security of the transit system, including those in large, urbanized areas. Capital expenses for safety and security projects are eligible if all applicable requirements pertaining to furloughs are met.

 [FTA State of Good Repair Grants Program](#) (Section 5337) can also assist with funding capital security projects, including security equipment and systems. These projects must be included in a Transit Asset Management Plan.

 [FTA Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities Program](#) (Section 5339) provides capital funding for the purchase, rehabilitation, construction or lease of buses, bus facilities and bus-related equipment. This funding can be used to purchase driver-compartment shields and other equipment that improves the safety or security of passengers or employees.

FTA supports research and technology projects to advance safety. Since 2015, FTA has awarded \$40 million dollars for 27 projects through its [safety research programs](#).

Questions? Interested agencies are encouraged to visit the [FTA website](#) and contact your [FTA Regional Office](#).

The contents of this document do not have the force and effect of law and are not meant to bind the public in any way. This document is intended only to provide clarity to the public regarding existing requirements under the law or agency policies. Grantees and subgrantees should refer to the FTA statutes and regulations for applicable requirements.