Enhancing Mobility Innovation
Competitive Funding Opportunity Webinar

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Office of Mobility Innovation
Federal Transit Administration
OPENING REMARKS

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Enhancing Mobility Innovation

FTA MOBILITY RESEARCH
FTA’s Mobility Innovation Research

Support a vision for carefree mobility for all – a safe, reliable, equitable and accessible mobility ecosystem that supports complete trips for all travelers, everywhere

Our research efforts seek to:

• Foster innovative transit technologies, practices and solutions
• Support research of national significance, advances the state of the practice
• Leverage private sector innovation
• Ensure all travelers, communities can benefit
Snapshot of FTA’s Mobility Innovation Programs

Foundational Research, Metrics Development, Evaluations, Stakeholder Engagement, Knowledge Transfer, Technical Assistance
ENHANCING MOBILITY INNOVATION
COMPETITIVE FUNDING OPPORTUNITY
Enhancing Mobility Innovation NOFO

- Notice of Funding Opportunity published November 12, 2021

- $2 million total available in 2 project areas:
  - concept development and/or demonstration projects ($1M)
  - software development projects ($1M)

- Minimum of $250,000 and maximum of $1,000,000 per project
FTA Seeks Innovative Projects

- Traveler-focused
- Supports innovations that meet **evolving mobility needs**
- Advances **equitable** and **climate-smart** transportation
- Contributes to knowledge of **national significance**
- Improves **public transportation** service
- Advances the vision of **carefree mobility for all**
Concept Development and/or Demonstration Projects

• $1 million funding available

• Projects that improve mobility and enhance the rider experience with a focus on innovative service delivery models, creative financing, novel partnerships, and integrated payment solutions

• Projects can be for concepts development and/or demonstrations of innovative mobility ideas
Software Development Projects

• $1 million funding available

• *Projects that support the development of software solutions that facilitate integrated demand-response public transportation that dispatches transit vehicles through riders’ mobile devices or other means*

• Seek software products that are interoperable, support open standards, and can be shared with other transit providers
Eligible Applicants

Expanded eligibility for lead applicant:
• Providers of public transportation
• State or local government entities
• Private for-profit organizations
• Not-for-profit organizations
• Other organizations such as research consortia, and institutions of higher education

Partnering encouraged:
• Applicants may identify one or more project partners with a substantial interest and involvement in the project
Eligible Activities

Eligible activities may include, but not limited to:

**Concepts Development and/or Demonstration Projects:**
- project planning activities
- equipment and services
- modeling climate and equity impacts of innovation
- stakeholder engagement and outreach

**Software Development Projects:**
- Determining user needs
- defining system requirements
- development, validation and verification
- pilot implementation
Example of Potential Projects

- Data tools to enable climate smart choices
- New models to enhance mobility in underserved communities
- Payment Integration to enhance mobility management
- AI tools to personalize mobility
- Novel partnerships
Project Structure

- 20% local cost-share minimum
- Project partners can be specified when applying
- FTA will award Cooperative Agreements to lead applicant
- Evaluation and data collection
- Projects structured on cost reimbursable basis
- Project implementation timeline not prescribed
- FTA Research Circular 6100.1E will help guide project implementation
Technical Evaluation Criteria

1. Demonstration of Innovation
2. Demonstration of Benefits
3. Planning and Partnerships
4. Local Financial Commitment
5. Project Implementation Strategy
6. Technical, Legal, and Financial Capacity
Review and Selection Process

• Technical evaluation review teams made up of Federal staff will evaluate proposals based on the published evaluation criteria identified in the NOFO and provide technical recommendations to leadership

• FTA may also consider the extent to which applications:
  • provides air quality benefits and/or
  • benefits environmental justice (EJ) populations
  • promotes racial equity and the removal of barriers to opportunity

• FTA may also consider geographic diversity, diversity in recipient type/size, and cap the amount a single applicant may receive
Enhancing Mobility Innovation Funding Opportunity

- See FTA’s website for more information on the Enhancing Mobility Innovation program:
  
  https://www.transit.dot.gov/research-innovation/enhancing-mobility-innovation

- FAQs will be posted to Enhancing Mobility Innovation program page

- Submission deadline is **January 11, 2022**
Enhancing Mobility Innovation

APPLYING FOR FTA GRANT OPPORTUNITIES AT GRANTS.GOV
FTA Notice of Funding Opportunity

FTA website:  https://www.transit.dot.gov/
Funding Opportunity Notices:  https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grants/notices
FTA Notice of Funding Opportunity

FTA NOFO Page contains:

- Summary Description
  - Application requirements
  - Eligibility
- Supplemental Form
- Links to Grants.gov
- Links to Program Information
- Other references and links

[Link to Grants.gov]

FTA NOFO provides hyperlinks to Grants.gov opportunity notice, related documents, and application package.

https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grants/notices
NOTE: Anyone can download the application package from Grants.gov. However, only “authorized organizational representatives” can submit applications in Grants.gov.
The “Attachment Form” shown below is included in the SF-424 Grant Application Package in Grants.gov.

Please attach the FTA Supplemental Form to the Attachment Form shown below when submitting in Grants.gov.

CAUTION: Do not use “Supplemental Form” from prior years or create your own form. Please use the file provided on the FTA website.
Grants.gov – Applicants

https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants.html
Applicant – Organization Registration

Organizations must register in Grants.gov in order to submit applications.
Workspace in Grants.gov

Get Started on Your Workspace Application

Workspace is the standard way for organizations or individuals to apply for federal grants in Grants.gov. Workspace allows a grant team to simultaneously access and edit different forms within an application. Plus, the forms can be filled out online or offline—your choice.

Grants.gov Workspace also allows applicants and organizations to tailor their application workflow. Here are three approaches that applicants can take when completing a Workspace application:

**Basic**
- Best for organizations with 1-2 registered Grants.gov users
- Application forms are downloaded and emailed to collaborators before being uploaded back to the workspace

**Intermediate**
- Best for organizations with 3-5 registered Grants.gov users
- Applicant teams are typically comprised of an AOR who submits, as well as a Workspace Owner who oversees form completion

**Advanced**
- Best for organizations with more than 5 registered Grants.gov users, such as consultants
- Workspace Owners can manage form access
- Workspace Owners can create subforms

Using Custom Roles in Workspace

Organizations are also able to create custom roles and assign these roles to the users affiliated with the organization.

LEARN MORE >
Web Addresses

FTA Funding Opportunities:
  • [https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grants/notices](https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grants/notices)

Grants.gov:

Contact Grants.gov Support Center to get help with Grants.gov issues:
  **GRANTS.GOV Applicant Support**
  1-800-518-4726
  support@grants.gov
Questions

Please submit your questions using the Q&A button below