DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Transit Administration (FTA)

Announcement of Fiscal Year 2022 and FY2023 All Stations Accessibility Program Project Selections

Date: December 19, 2022.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT) Federal Transit Administration (FTA) announces the allocation of a total of \$686,000,000 to projects under the All Stations Accessibility Program (ASAP) and provides administrative guidance on project implementation.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Successful applicants should contact the appropriate FTA Regional Office for information regarding applying for the funds or program-specific information. A list of Regional Offices can be found at www.transit.dot.gov/. Unsuccessful applicants may contact Kevin Osborn, Office of Program Management at (202) 366-7519, email: kevin.osborn@dot.gov within 30 days of this announcement to arrange a proposal debriefing. A TDD is available at 1-800-877-8339 (TDD/FIRS).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Division J of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (enacted as the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, Pub. L. 117-58) authorizes FTA to award grants for public transportation rail station accessibility projects, for "legacy" stations, through a competitive process, as described in the notice. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law appropriated \$350,000,000 for FY 2022 grants.

On July 26, 2022, FTA announced a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) (87 FR 45147) making available \$343 million in FY 2022 ASAP funding after the administrative oversight and the Office of Inspector General takedown of \$7,000,000. Consistent with the NOFO, which stated that FTA

"may award additional funding that is made available to the program prior to the announcement of project selections," FTA is electing to add FY 2023 funding authorized in Division J of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. These funds will help finance capital projects to upgrade the accessibility of legacy rail fixed guideway public transportation systems (e.g., subway, commuter rail, light rail) for persons with disabilities, including those who use wheelchairs, by increasing the number of existing stations or facilities, such as outdoor light-rail boarding and alighting areas, that are fully accessible.

In response to the NOFO, FTA received 18 eligible project proposals requesting approximately \$905 million in ASAP funding. Project proposals were evaluated based on each applicant's responsiveness to the program evaluation criteria outlined in the NOFO.

Based on the criteria in the NOFO, FTA is funding 15 projects, as shown in Table 1, for a total of \$686,000,000. Recipients selected for competitive funding are required to work with their FTA Regional Office to submit a grant application in FTA's Transit Award Management System (TrAMS) for the projects identified in the attached table to quickly obligate funds. Grant applications must include only eligible activities applied for in the original project application. Funds must be used consistent with the competitive proposal and for the eligible capital purposes described in the NOFO.

Any project, whether allocated the total requested amount or an amount less than the total requested amount, must be implemented in such a way as to result in a rail station(s) for which all passenger-use publicly accessible areas in the station(s) or facilities for passenger use meet or exceed the standards for new construction under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12131 *et seq.*) as incorporated into Appendix A of 49 CFR part 37. A discretionary project identification number has been assigned to each project for tracking purposes and must be used in the TrAMS application.

Selected projects are eligible to incur costs under pre-award authority no earlier than the date projects were publicly announced. Pre-award authority does not guarantee that project expenses incurred prior to the award of a grant will be eligible for reimbursement, as eligibility for reimbursement is contingent upon other requirements, such as planning and environmental requirements, having been met. For more about FTA's policy on pre-award authority, please see the current FTA Apportionments, Allocations, and Program Information at https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/apportionments. Post-award reporting requirements include submission of Federal Financial Reports and Milestone Progress Reports in TrAMS (see FTA Circular 5010.1E). Recipients must comply with all applicable Federal statutes, regulations, executive orders, FTA circulars, and other Federal requirements in carrying out the project supported by the FTA grant. FTA emphasizes that recipients must follow all third-party procurement requirements set forth in Federal public transportation law (49 U.S.C. 5325(a)) and described in the FTA Third Party Contracting Guidance Circular (FTA Circular 4220.1). Funds allocated in this announcement must be obligated in a grant by September 30, 2026.

TECHNICAL REVIEW AND EVALUATION SUMMARY: The FTA assessed all project proposals that were submitted under the FY 2022 All Stations Accessibility Program competition according to the following evaluation criteria. The specific metrics for each criterion were described in the July 26, 2022, NOFO:

- 1. Demonstration of Need
- 2. Demonstration of Benefits
- 3. Planning/Local Prioritization
- 4. Local Financial Commitment
- 5. Project Implementation Strategy

6. Technical, Legal, and Financial Capacity

For each project, a technical review panel assigned a rating of Highly Recommended, Recommended, or Not Recommended for each of the six criteria. The technical review panel then assigned an overall rating of Highly Recommended, Recommended, Not Recommended, or Ineligible to the project proposal.

Projects were assigned a final overall rating of Highly Recommended if they were rated Highly Recommended in at least four categories overall, with no Not Recommended ratings. Projects were assigned a final overall rating of Recommended if the projects had three or more Recommended ratings and no Not Recommended ratings. Projects were assigned a rating of Not Recommended if they received a Not Recommended rating in any criteria. A summary of the final overall ratings for all 18 eligible project proposals is shown in the table below.

Overall Project Ratings (eligible submissions):

Highly Recommended	10
Recommended	7
Not Recommended	1
Total	18

As outlined in the NOFO, FTA made the final selections based on the technical ratings as well as geographic diversity, diversity in the size of transit systems receiving funding, Administration priorities including racial equity and reducing barriers to opportunity and the creation of good-paying jobs and/or a receipt of other recent competitive awards.

As further outlined in the NOFO, in some cases, due to funding limitations, a proposal was selected for funding that received slightly less than the amount originally requested.

TABLE 1

FY 2022 ALL STATIONS ACCESSIBILITY PROJECT SELECTIONS

State	Recipient	Project ID	Project Description	Award
СТ	Connecticut Department of Transportation	D2023-ASAP- 001	Waterbury Branch Line Accessibility Improvements at Ansonia, Beacon Falls and Seymour Stations	\$29,600,000
IL	Chicago Transit Authority	D2023-ASAP- 002	All Stations Accessibility Project Blue Line: Irving Park and Belmont Stations and Pulaski Station	\$118,480,000
IL	Northeast Illinois Regional Commuter Railroad Corporation	D2023-ASAP- 003	95th Street-Chicago State University Station Accessibility Improvement	\$29,000,000
IL	Northeast Illinois Regional Commuter Railroad Corporation	D2023-ASAP- 004	59th/60th UChicago Station Accessibility Improvements	\$37,600,000
MA	Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority	D2023-ASAP- 005	Symphony Station Accessibility Improvements Project (SSAIP)	\$66,602,931
MD	Maryland Department of Transportation	D2023-ASAP- 006	Planning for Accessible Martin Airport Station (AMAS)	\$7,109,500
NJ	New Jersey Transit Corporation	D2023-ASAP- 007	Pascack Valley Station Accessibility Improvement Phase I	\$18,187,378
NJ	New Jersey Transit Corporation	D2023-ASAP- 008	Curvature Planning Study for Platform Accessibility	\$1,400,000
NJ	New Jersey Transit Corporation	D2023-ASAP- 009	Bradley Beach Station Accessibility Improvement	\$14,513,743

State	Recipient	Project ID	Project Description	Award
NY	Metropolitan Transportation Authority	D2023-ASAP- 010/D2023- ASAP-011	MTA - ADA Accessibility at Four Transit Stations in Brooklyn/Bronx	\$254,466,278
NY	Port Authority Trans-Hudson Corporation	D2023-ASAP- 012	Planning Study for ADA Compliance at PATH Train Stations in New York City	\$1,590,170
ОН	Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority	D2023-ASAP- 013	GCRTA East 79th Street Light Rail Station Reconstruction Project	\$8,000,000
PA	Port Authority of Allegheny County	D2023-ASAP- 014	Pittsburgh Regional Transit ADA System Access Program - Low Level Stations Phase 1	\$28,400,000
PA	Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority	D2023-ASAP- 015	SEPTA Subway- Elevated Lines Accessibility Improvements	\$56,050,000
WA	City of Seattle	D2023-ASAP- 016	Seattle Center Monorail Station Accessibility Improvement	\$15,000,000