

What is Flex Funding?

- Broad authority to transfer funding between Federal agencies
- Provided by Congress under the 1991 Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA)
- Can support and enable projects like:
 - Transit capital improvements
 - Access improvements to and around transit (e.g., pedestrian and bicycle access)
- Pedestrian and bicycle catchment area established in 2011 FTA Policy Statement

What are some Flex Funding Benefits?

- **Facilitate (and increase) investment of Federal-Aid Highway Program funding of transit, pedestrian, and bicycle projects and associated safety improvements**
- **Reduce costs associated with project delivery, including pre-construction design costs**
- **Accelerate project delivery**

Types of Projects Eligible to Flex Funds

- Transit capital programs such as rolling stock purchases
- Enhanced access for persons with disabilities to public transportation
- Bus shelters
- Lighting
- Historic preservation, rehabilitation, and operation of historic public transportation buildings, structures, and facilities
- Functional landscaping and streetscaping
- Complete Streets prioritization plans
- Developing plans and policies that support TOD

Eligible “associated transit improvements”:

- Pedestrian improvements located within half a mile of a transit stop or station.
- Bicycle improvements located within three miles of a transit stop or station.
- Pedestrian/bicycle improvements located outside of this “catchment” area if project sponsor can demonstrate the improvement is within the distance that people will travel by foot or bicycle to a transit stop or station.

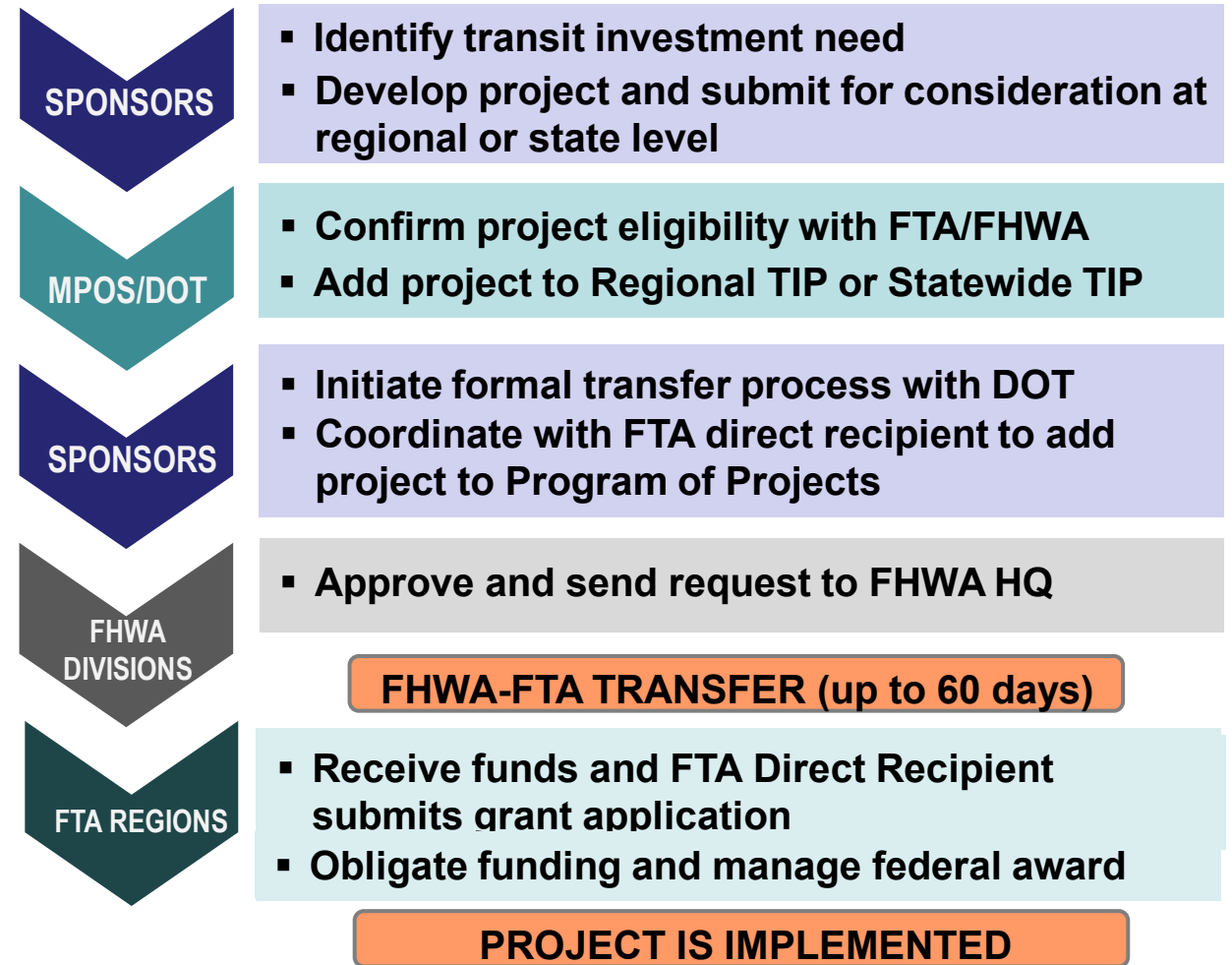
FHWA Programs Eligible to Flex to FTA

Eligible programs to be flexed to FTA	
Carbon Reduction Program	✓
Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ)	✓
Federal Lands Highways Programs	✓
Ferry Boat Program	✓
Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP)*	✓
National Highway Performance Program (NHPP)	✓
PROTECT Formula Program	✓
Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG)	✓
Transportation Alternatives (TA)	✓

*Must first be transferred to another 23 U.S.C. program that has transit eligibility before the funds may be transferred to FTA.

How Do I Start the Process to Flex Funding?

- Engage stakeholders such as transit agency, appropriate local agencies, State DOT, FHWA Division Office, and FTA Regional Office
- Once project is programmed and stakeholders are on board, follow the flow chart to request Flex Funding



Additional Information

Transportation Planning Capacity Building

planning.dot.gov/flex.aspx



Additional Questions

flexfunds@dot.gov

Contact FHWA or FTA field offices

FHWA Division Offices

<https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/about/field.cfm>

FTA Regional Offices

<https://www.transit.dot.gov/about/regional-offices/>