# U.S. Department of Transportation

# Federal Transit Administration

# Paul S. Sarbanes Transit in Parks Program (Transit in the Parks Program)

**Implementation Project - Proposal for Fiscal Year 2011 Funds**

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| **BASIC PROJECT INFORMATION** | | | | | | |
| Project Name (Please provide a 1-2 sentence description of the project): | | | | | | |
| Proposed Funding Recipient: | | | | | | |
| Public land unit(s) involved: | | | | Location of Project  City:  County:  State:  Congressional District: | | |
| Federal Land Management Agency managing the above unit(s):  Bureau of Land Management  Bureau of Reclamation  Fish and Wildlife Service  Forest Service  National Park Service  Other (e.g. Federal Trust) Describe: | | | | Type of Implementation Project:  (Planning projects, please use the alternate form)  Bus  Vehicle replacement  Tram/Trolley  Boat/Ferry/Dock  Rail  Non-motorized (e.g., bicycling/pedestrian trail)  Other (e.g., Intermodal facility, ITS) Describe: | | |
| Proposal is for a new alternative transportation system where none currently exists.  Proposal is for an expansion or enhancement of an existing alternative transportation system.  Proposal is for rehabilitation of or replacement of vehicles or facilities for an existing alternative transportation system. | | | | | | |
| Transit in Parks Program Funding Requested during FY 2011  $ | | | | **Total** Capital Cost of Project at Completion (All sources)  $ | | |
| Were you awarded Transit in Parks Program funds for this project in the past?  Yes  No  If answer “Yes,” please provide amount awarded: $ | | | | | | |
| Do you plan to request additional Transit in Parks Program funds in future years?  Yes  No  **(Note: If you wish to compete for future Transit in Parks Program fiscal year funds you must reapply).**  If answer “Yes,” please specify Transit in Parks Program proposed funding levels for out years below: | | | | | | |
| FY 2012 $ | | FY 2013 $ | | | FY 2014 $ | |
| **FY 2011** Funding from sources other than Transit in Parks Program funds?  Yes  No  If answer “Yes,” please specify funding levels per source below: | | | | | | |
| State $ | Local $ | | Federal (other than Transit in Parks Program) $ | | | Private sources $ |

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| **CONTACT PERSON** | |
| Name: | Phone: |
| Position: | E-mail: |
| Address: | |

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| **OTHER PROJECT SPONSORS (in addition to funding recipient)** |
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| **REQUIREMENTS** |
| If a State, Tribal, or local government entity is proposing the project, the applicant has contacted the manager of the Federal land unit(s) and has the consent of the Federal land management agency or agencies affected.  The project is consistent with the metropolitan and statewide planning process.  The project is consistent with agency plans.  If this is an implementation project, all reasonable alternatives, including a non-construction option, were analyzed before proposing this project. |

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| **Basic Project Data** | |
| Number of Visitors (Annual): | Daily Number of Visitors (Peak season): |
| Average Number of Vehicles per Day at Peak Visitation: | |
| Current Road Level of Service at Peak Visitation:  (Please consult guidance where available on determining this variable. You may use observational accounts or pictures to provide an assessment of this datum for FY 2011 proposals). | |
| What time of the year does your land unit experience Peak Visitation?  Spring  Summer  Fall  Winter | |
| Current Carrying Capacity of Existing Roads:       (vehicles/day) | |
| What percent of that capacity is the site operating at during peak periods?       % | |
| Current parking shortages during peak visitation: | |
| Current Number of Persons who use the alternative transportation system (if one already exists) at peak visitation:       (average number of visitors/daily at peak) | |
| Estimated Annual Number of Persons who will use the alternative transportation system at project completion:       (anticipated number of riders or users/annually) | |
| Is there an anticipated reduction in auto collisions with large animals with this project?  Yes  No If “Yes,” please provide anticipated reduction:       collisions/year | |

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| **Basic Project Data (Continued)** |
| Is there an anticipated increase in porous surface with this project?  Yes  No  If “Yes,” please provide anticipated area of increase:       square feet |
| Is there an anticipated increase in wildlife habitat connectivity?  Yes  No  If “Yes,” how many acres would be connected by the project? |
| Is there an anticipated increase in air clarity measures (e.g., visitors’ visual experience) for the land unit as a result of this project?  Yes  No  If “Yes,” please explain: |
| Is there an anticipated reduction of visual impact of parking and roads on visitor experience?  Yes  No  If “Yes,” please explain: |
| Is there an anticipated reduction of visual or noise impacts of transportation facilities on visitor experience?  Yes  No |

**Executive Summary**

**Please provide an executive summary that is no more than one page in length. This should introduce the public land unit and/or applicant, summarize the need for the proposed alternative transportation project, highlight the findings of previous planning studies, provide a description of the proposed project, and include any other information essential to the application.**

**Project Description**

**Please provide a detailed description of the proposed activities that would be funded with a Transit in Parks grant in no more than two pages. You may attach additional maps or illustrations that do not count towards the page limit.**

**Transit in Parks Implementation Evaluation Criteria**

This form is for implementation (capital) projects only. If you are requesting planning funds, please use the planning project proposal template. For additional space, please delete this table and the detailed instructions from your response.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Criteria** | **Points** | **Weight** |
| 1. Demonstration of Need |  | 25% |
| 1. Visitor mobility & experience | (1-5) |
| 1. Environmental condition as result of existing transportation system | (1-5) |
| 2. Visitor Mobility & Experience Benefits of Project |  | 25% |
| 1. Reduced traffic congestion | (1-5) |
| 1. Enhanced visitor mobility, accessibility, and safety | (1-5) |
| 1. Improved visitor education, recreation, and health benefits | (1-5) |
| 3. Environmental Benefits of Project |  | 25% |
| 1. Protection of sensitive natural, cultural, and historical resources | (1-5) |
| 1. Reduced pollution | (1-5) |
| 4. Operational Efficiency and Financial Sustainability of Alternatives |  | 25% |
| 1. Effectiveness in meeting management goals | (1-5) |
| 1. Financial plan and cost effectiveness | (1-5) |
| c. Cost effectiveness | (1-5) |
| d. Partnerships and funding from other sources | (1-5) |

**Project Justification**

**Your responses to these questions must total no more than eight pages.**

**Implementation Evaluation Factors:**

**1. Demonstration of Need**

1. **Visitor mobility and experience:** Describe the site’s current and/or anticipated transportation problem or opportunity for improvement.You should include information on issues such as traffic congestion, traffic delays, parking shortages, difficulty in accessing destinations, safety issues, lack of access for persons with disabilities, lack of access for individuals with lower incomes or without cars, and visitor frustration.Please cite reports, plans, studies, and other documentation to support your description.

**b. Environmental condition as a result of the existing transportation system:** Describe the site’s current or anticipated problem or opportunity for improvement of the environment or resource protection. You should include information on current or anticipated problems such as air pollution, noise pollution, run-off, water quality, harm to vegetation and wildlife, and other impacts or stressors on natural, scenic, cultural and/or historic resources caused by the existing transportation system. Please cite documentation in agency plans, studies, reports and other documentation that will help to support your description.

1. **Visitor Mobility & Experience Benefits**
2. **Reduced traffic congestion:** Describe *how* this project will mitigate the impact of traffic congestion or enhance current visitor travel conditions. In order to respond to this question, please include (where applicable) a description of how this project will:
   * Reduce the average number of daily motorized vehicle trips and parking demand during peak visitation. (This can be estimated based on the anticipated alternative transportation system usage at completion and the typical number of passengers per vehicle); *and*
   * Decrease or mitigate time lost to traffic delays.

**b. Enhanced visitor mobility, accessibility, and safety:** Describe *how* this project will improve visitor mobility, access and safety. In order to respond to this question, please include (where applicable) a description of:

* Benefits that the project would have in easing visitor travel to destinations and decreasing visitor inconvenience;
* Improved access for persons with disabilities;
* Improved access for individuals with lower incomes or without cars;
* Anticipated impacts on vehicle accident rates or property loss;
* Anticipated impacts on visitor safety in cases of catastrophic events, such as forest fires; *and*
* The number of visitors per year that will benefit.

**c. Visitor education, recreation and health benefits:** Describe *how* the project will enhance visitor experience, such as through improved access to recreational facilities, educational programs, and/or provide public health benefits (such as through active transportation and recreation) and social benefits. How many visitors per year will experience these benefits?

**3. Environmental Benefits**

1. **Protection of natural, cultural, and historic resources:** Describe *how* this project will improve the protection of natural, cultural, historic, and/or scenic resources. Please provide as much information as possible about *anticipated outcomes of the project*, such as:

* Managing visitation in accordance with defined “carrying capacity” goals of the land unit;
* Maintaining ecosystem function, ecosystem restoration, disturbed land restoration, or re-vegetation efforts;
* Improving habitat connectivity;
* Preserving archeological resources, historical resources, viewshed or watershed;
* Reducing auto-large animal collision rates or other protection benefits where applicable.

1. **Reduced pollution:** Describe *how* this project would reduce and/or prevent pollution – including air pollution, water pollution, noise pollution, and visual pollution. Please include relevant scientific data and an explanation of the source of the pollution to support your responses. Please include (where applicable):

* Estimated reduction in *average vehicle miles* *traveled at peak visitation* (a measure that is an estimate of a reduction in pollutant emissions as a result of the proposed project);
* Estimated number of riders *switching from auto to transit or to non-motorized transportation (including bike, pedestrian, and/or waterborne craft)* as a result of the project (a measure of estimated reduction in fuel consumption for site patrons and improved energy efficiency aspects of transportation, including non-motorized transportation).

**4. Operational Efficiency and Financial Sustainability**

1. **Operational Efficiency:** Describe how the proposed project is the most effective solution for achieving identified strategic management goals and objectives for this site. Please cite documentation in agency plans and other reports to support your description.

1. **Feasibility and Sustainability of Proposed Project Budget and Financial Plan:** Provide the information required in the budget template below *or* attach a project budget that *at a minimum contains the items in the budget template* and extends at least 5 years. Provide a narrative, as discussed below, to elaborate on the financial plan.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **FY 2012** | **FY 2013** | **FY 2014** | **FY 2015** | **FY 2016** |
| **Revenue** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Transit in Parks Program funding (requested) |  |  |  |  |  |
| Funds from public land budget |  |  |  |  |  |
| Other federal funds |  |  |  |  |  |
| State funding |  |  |  |  |  |
| Local funding |  |  |  |  |  |
| Passenger Fares and/or transportation fees |  |  |  |  |  |
| All other dedicated sources of funding |  |  |  |  |  |
| *Total Revenue* |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Capital Costs** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Purchase of rolling stock (vehicles) |  |  |  |  |  |
| Lease of rolling stock (vehicles) |  |  |  |  |  |
| Construction (e.g., bus shelters, sidewalks, trails) |  |  |  |  |  |
| Rehabilitation |  |  |  |  |  |
| Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |  |  |  |  |  |
| *Total Capital Costs* |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Operating Costs** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Salaries |  |  |  |  |  |
| Routine Maintenance |  |  |  |  |  |
| Insurance |  |  |  |  |  |
| Fuel |  |  |  |  |  |
| Contracted services |  |  |  |  |  |
| Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |  |  |  |  |  |
| *Total Operating Costs* |  |  |  |  |  |

***Proposed budget narrative*:** In this narrative, include details such as size and number of vehicles, fuel type, terms of lease, description of facilities to be constructed, types of ITS, etc. The narrative should also describe the maintenance plan, include information on how the project will impact total operating and maintenance costs and schedule at the site, as well as information on the project’s impact on the unit’s ability to maintain other assets. Finally, for vehicle replacement projects, please list the age, mileage, and vehicle type of each vehicle that you are requesting funding to replace.

1. **Cost Effectiveness:** Provide the information requested in items 1-4 below in order to calculate the cost per person using the alternative transportation system. FTA will calculate annualized cost per passenger trip and annual fare box recovery – common transit cost effectiveness measures – based on the information that you provide. ***You must provide all information in order to fulfill these required criteria.***

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| 1. Annual cost for project operations and maintenance (including salaries, fuel, maintenance and upkeep, administrative expenses related to system, and all other operating costs): $ |
| 2. Average annual number of users or riders:       /year |
| 3. Transportation fee or fares recovered (average): $     /year |
| 4. Useful life of transportation assets:       years |
| Annual cost per passenger trip: This will be automatically calculated by FTA. |
| Annual fee/fare recovery ratio: This will be automatically calculated by FTA.      % |

If necessary, you may also provide a narrative response justifying the cost-effectiveness of the project relative to other alternatives or to no action. Projects will be evaluated based on both initial capital cost and on the ongoing annual cost of operation.

1. **Partnering, funding from other sources:** Describe any partnerships the project has with federal, state, tribal and local government agencies, gateway communities or the private sector. Please cite agreements or documentation (*including letters of dedicated financial support or confirmation of financial or in-kind contribution*) that show a high level of coordination and partnering activities. Identify all sources of additional funding, including the details of the agreements and any time-sensitive situations. If applicable, describe the economic, mobility, or other benefits for the partners or gateway community.