

PTAC Discussion #2; 2007-07 PTD Discretionary Grant Program Direction and Calendar

07-09 Discretionary Investment Calendar *(As endorsed August 06)*

August 06	Discussion of policy and timeline with PTAC.	
September 06	Endorsement of policy and timeline Endorsement of Business Plan	PTAC PTAC
October 06	Endorsement of Discretionary Grant Packet Present Business Report to OTC Endorsement of biennial investment program Endorsement of Process for discretionary program OTC Identifies process for Innovation PTD Release Discretionary Application Packet PTD conducts application workshops for participants	PTAC OTC OTC OTC OTC PTD PTD
January 31, 2007	Project applications due	
March 07	Project Selection Committee meets to select projects. Adoption of Transportation Priorities for 2007-09 funding allocation. Release recommended list of projects and programs funded with available revenues. Develop grant agreements	PTAC PTAC PTD PTD
April 2007	PTAC endorsement and Public Involvement	PTAC
May 2007	Endorse Business Plan Distribute grants for signatures	OTC PTD

July 2007	Agreements for July 1 projects in place.	PTD
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2007-09 State Direction for Discretionary Program

The 2007-09 program continues many features of the 2005-07 program. In addition, with TEA-LU and OTC support there will be significant new opportunities and guidance.

- Local coordinated planning is mandatory before projects are developed.
- “Innovations” and “New Freedom” categories of projects are added to activities eligible for funding.
- Jobs Access Reverse Commute funds will be awarded competitively through the state program instead of through federal earmarks.
- Local priorities as reflected in Locally Coordinated Transportation Plan and local project review are valued as indicator for all projects
- Scoring grid, criteria for each category of project is used appropriate to the category.

To address these added features the discretionary applications will be solicited as usual and then will be sorted into like groupings for priority funding. Priorities remain essentially intact for the continued categories with one exception; the OTC has emphasized a priority for seeking innovation.

Priority determination of projects will use the following principles and method:

Categories for high priority investment are reviewed in separate process with other like projects, and with the criteria appropriate to their purpose:

- Replacement Vehicles/Preventive Maintenance
- Innovation Projects
- Vanpool
- Intercity Bus
- Mass Transit Vehicle replacement
- Preservation of operations
- All other locally requested projects (Planning, New freedom, JARC, facilities, other enhancements)

The review process will continue to use staff technical evaluation to determine preservation awards and use staff technical review plus committee review and discussion for other categories of awards. More detail about process is below:

Staff will determine award for these preservation categories (confirmed by PTAC):

- **Rural and Special Needs Replacement Vehicles/Preventive Maintenance.** Preservation of current service through vehicle replacements, preventive maintenance and continued effective operations is a high value for the program. Staff determines award based on criteria.
- **Mass Transit Vehicle Replacement.** Preservation of current system through replacement of vehicles used in urban fixed route service. Staff determines award based on criteria.
- **Preservation Operations.** Preservation of current service through continued effective operations is a high value for the program. Selection of operations preservation projects (continued operations at current levels) is completed by staff technical selection. There is a recommendation to committee for the total amount of funding to place on this activity. Staff determines award. **Committee determines level of investment to category.**

Committee Plus+ (with staff pre-screen and notes) will determine award for:

- **Innovation Projects.** Projects that emphasize innovation that test or will improve service delivery, community mobility and access, increasing efficiencies, effectiveness, through applied technology, practice, are a high value for the program in 2008 and 2009. **New OTC initiative.**
- **Vanpool Projects.** Projects that use start up resources to begin a sustainable vanpool program. ODOT initiative shows high return on investments made. **New Division initiative.**
- **Intercity Bus.** Projects that support rural intercity connections will be encouraged in this program.
- **Other enhancements projects.** Local Projects requesting Planning, New freedom, JARC, facilities, other enhancements will be reviewed based on Locally Coordinated Transportation Plan and program criteria.

Estimated Funding for Categories:

(Biennial Planning estimates of discretionary resources for projects In Millions)

\$28	Total estimated available, all sources (<i>Estimated July 06, final estimates will be adopted in January 07</i>)
<u>- 4</u>	Mass Transit - (projects not selected, are not eligible for other categories to compete further). Funds can be spent only on replacement of fixed route general public buses.
24	Balance
<u>-7</u>	Estimated for rural and special needs fleet replacements based upon prior cycle – all funded if qualified; the actual amount could be more or less than estimate.
17	Balance – <i>From this balance up to \$4 million will be spent on innovative projects.</i>
<u>-1</u>	Vanpool no more than \$1 million (vanpool projects not selected are not eligible to complete further in other categories)
16	Estimated Balance
<u>-2.4</u>	Intercity no more than \$2.4 million (those not selected, are not eligible for other categories.)
13.6	Balance of funds available for public transit activities. Will be adjusted by January 07 estimate.

Discretionary resources are estimated from funds made available annually to Public Transit Division for various public transportation goals. Funds are combined in one application cycle as the best opportunity for matching resources to the needs of local partners and state goals for a network of efficient and effective services. Each cycle also includes balances of prior cycle funds not expended that can be carried forward. 2007-09 discretionary cycle may receive additional resources through this accounting in the January 07 estimate.

Innovations Projects are projects that try new ways to solve public transit problems, provide additional mobility, and adapt technology to provide efficiencies, test ideas and pilot new practices.

FY 2007-2009 FUNDING SOURCES– PTD DISCRETIONARY PROGRAM (<i>Planning Estimates</i>)							
PROGRAM activities	5311 (rural) \$3.4M	5304 (planning) (\$300,000) Rural & E&D	5310 (E&D capital) (\$3.0M)	*STP (capital various) \$17M	STF (E&D) \$3.5M	**5316 (JARC) \$1.2M	***5317 (New Freedom) \$706,000
Planning		X	Admin.	15% of funds	Admin	X	X
Capital *			X (E&D Purchased. Service)	X est. \$7M (E&D & rural GP veh. pres. & PM)	X	X	X
Capital vehicle spares/expansion (Rural/E&D only)	X		X	X \$3M (5310/5311)	X	X	X
General Public (Planning, capital, Ops)	X		X	X	X	X	X
Vanpool	X		X	X \$1M		X	X
Administration	X				X	X	X
Innovations	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Mobility Management	X					X	X
Rural Intercity 5311(f)	X \$2.4						
Special Projects PTD	X	X (reserve for OPTP?)	X	X	X	X	X
Operations (JARC, New Freedom, Preservation and expansion)	X		X \$3M (Purch. Svc. & Pilot)		X	X	X
Facilities	X		X	X	X		
Mass Transit				X \$4M			

***STP Funds**

Surface Transportation Program (STP) Transfer funds are federal funds formulated from FHWA to ODOT/OTC that can be used with state discretion to make various transportation system capital improvements through flexing to FTA programs. They can also directly fund certain vanpool activities. To fulfill planned objectives the OTC chooses to transfer funds to support public transit goals. At this time the estimate for STP transfers in 2008 and 2009 is:

- \$10 million targeted for rural and special needs capital needs - vehicles, preventive maintenance, facility needs, passenger shelters, dispatch and other equipment.
- \$1 million contributed by regions from the amount of funds they may use to provide additional improvements in ODOT regions 2 and 4. The first innovative Vanpool project was funded from this source in 2005.
- \$4 million for urban fixed route vehicles replacements. These funds help urban systems maintain vehicle standards although this is a small percent of the total needed for keeping the urban fleet up to standard.
- \$2 million for innovative/improvements projects. Open to all proposals for trying and testing new ways to offer mobility solutions and improvements. This source may fund Transportation Options projects, and Transit categories. Open to public and non profit entities proposals.

**** JARC Funds.** Jobs Access Reverse Commute program. FTA Funds that may be used to support transportation solutions providing low income individuals access to employment.

***** New Freedom Funds.** FTA Funds that may be used to provide new public transportation activities and services beyond the requirements of the Americans with Disability Act of 1990.

In January 07 a final determination of resources is estimated. The estimate may increase by any balance of funds not used from previous cycles that is identified for discretionary use.