

Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program Application Review Status

Background: The 5310 Program provides funds for projects that serve the special transportation needs of seniors and individuals with disabilities beyond traditional public transportation services and Americans with Disabilities Act complementary paratransit services. This program funds projects such as human service agency vehicles, related equipment and mobility management. Other non-capital project types are also eligible.

Available Funding: As per MAP 21, 5310 funding is allocated to the two urbanized areas in the CDTC planning area as follows: \$ 1,617,238* for Albany-Schenectady-Troy and \$384,215* for the Saratoga Springs urbanized area. (* FFY 13, 14 and the amount estimated for FFY 2015).

Applications Received: Applications were due June 8, 2015 and seven (7) were submitted. As shown in Table 1, six (6) are from human service agencies, one (1) is from CDTA. Five (5) are for vehicle replacement projects, one (1) is for a vehicle replacement/expansion project and one (1) is for mobility management (CDTA travel trainers). Six (6) applications are for the Albany-Schenectady-Troy urbanized area and one (1) is within the Saratoga Springs urbanized area.

Roles and Responsibilities: NYSDOT set up the application process, in consultation with the NYS MPOs, and will administer the program both on the FTA procedures and requirements side and with sponsors of funded projects. NYSDOT established an electronic grant application and project tracking process that all applicants used.

CDTC established a rating and ranking committee that evaluated projects based on program requirements as well as priorities and requirements in the region's Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan.

CDTC's Rating and Ranking Committee includes representatives from the NYS Office for the Aging, NYS Education Department ACCESS-VR, NYSDOH Disability and Health Program, NYSDOT Region 1 Planning and CDTC staff.

While it was originally envisioned that the rating and ranking committee would have access to the electronic system to view the completed applications and enter their scores, this did not occur in a timely enough fashion to allow completion of reviews for the July 1st Planning Committee mail out. The completed applications, reviewer scorecard and instructions became available on June 18th. The committee will complete and submit their scorecards to CDTC staff on or before June 25th.

Once all the scores are received CDTC staff will compile a ranking of the projects for the Planning Committee to consider for approval at the July 1st meeting. According to NYSDOT Public Transportation Bureau and FTA staff, MPOs must submit the projects approved for inclusion on their TIPs ahead of a July 15th deadline or risk lapsing the 2013 5310 funds.