

SAFETEA-LU:
New Opportunities for Transportation Integration
Understanding and Using
Federal Legislation and
Regulations: Knowledge is Power

New Partners for Smart Growth
February 8-10, 2007
Los Angeles, CA
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What Are The New Opportunities?

- **SAFETEA-LU's New and/or Changed Programs**
 - **Capital Investment Grants “New Starts/Small Starts”**
 - **(New - Small Starts) up to \$75 million**
 - **Ridership/cost estimate incentives – higher Federal match where cost and ridership estimates within 10% range of original forecasts**
 - **Cost control incentive – grantees keep portion of savings**
 - **New Criteria – reliability of ridership and cost forecasts**
 - **Alternatives Analysis funding provided under a new discretionary grant program (\$25M – 06)**

What Are The New Opportunities?

□ **New Starts**

- **Before and After” Studies required**
- **Document project characteristics, cost and ridership estimates over time**
- **FTA must report to Congress**
- **Contractor Performance Assessment Report**
 - **FTA annual report on consistency and accuracy of cost and ridership estimates**
 - **Grantees must consult CPAR in selecting contractors**

What Are The New Opportunities?

- **Public-Private Partnership Pilot Program (Penta-P) authorized in New Starts**
 - **Open to projects that:**
 - **Do not yet have an FFGA**
 - **Do not have all financing committed & available yet**
 - **Participation of private sector partner would help complete financing plan**
 - **Expression of interest (5): Georgia DOT w/ Regional Transit Authority; BART, Raleigh-Durham; Houston Metro; and Dulles Rail Corridor (VA)**
 - **Selection criteria under development**

What Are The New Opportunities?

- **Alternative Transportation in Parks and Public Lands**
 - **Administered by DOT in consultation with Secretary of the Interior**
 - **\$97M over 4 yrs.**
 - **Transportation Assistance Groups (TAGs) established**
 - **Planning or capital projects in or vicinity of federally owned parks & public lands**

What Are The New Opportunities?

- **State Infrastructure Bank Programs - Transit (New)**
 - **Increase efficiency**
 - **Leverage Federal resources**
 - **Similar to programs in 1995 NHS Act/ 1998 TEA-21 legislation**
 - **Debt issued/guaranteed by SIB must be investment grade quality**
 - **More information – contact Office of Budget & Policy (202-366-4050)**

What Are The New Opportunities?

- **Job Access and Reverse Commute**
 - **\$711M over 5 yrs.**
 - **Now formula program instead of discretionary program**
 - **Grantees selected competitively**
 - **Must be in a locally-developed human service transportation coordinated plan**

What Are The New Opportunities?

- **New Freedom Program (New)**
 - **Transportation services/facility improvements for persons with disabilities that go beyond requirements of Americans with Disabilities Act.**
 - **\$339 over 4yrs.- Formula program**
 - **Grantees selected competitively**
 - **Must be in a locally-developed human service transportation coordinated plan**

What Are The New Opportunities?

- **Center for Transit Oriented Development**
 - **\$1 million per year earmark**
 - **Supports three ongoing efforts**
 - **Develop standards for development adjacent to transit facilities**
 - **Develop guidance, performance criteria, and techniques to maximize ridership through land use planning and development**
 - **Provide technical assistance on TOD to public transportation agencies, MPOs, and others**

What Are The New Opportunities?

- **Public Transportation Participation Pilot Program (new)**

 - **Broad Agency Announcement for \$900/yr – small agreements to:**
 1. **Improve data collection analysis/access**
 2. **Support participation through development**
 3. **Techniques to improve coordination of alternatives**
 4. **Enhance coordination of transit benefits and services**
 5. **Contract with stakeholders to focus on delivery of plans and programs**
 6. **Measures and report on annual performance of systems**

What Are The New Opportunities?

- **Public Transportation on Indian Reservations**
 - **\$45M over 4 yrs. Set aside - (95 proposals this yr)**
 - **Grants directly to tribes for transit capital and planning**
 - **States continue to provide fair distribution of formula funds to Indian reservations**

What Are The New Opportunities?

- **Safety and Security**
 - **Eligibility of capital funding is expanded to include crime prevention and security activities**

- **Capital Definitions Expanded**
 - **Addition of “construction, renovation, and improvement of intercity bus and intercity rail stations and terminals”**

What Are The New Opportunities?

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- **New Starts/Small Starts**
 - **Policy Guidance on NEPA interface with New Starts –**
 - **Certification of technical methods –connection between MPO certification reviews and certification in the New Starts process**
 - **Other issues: preservation of information for before and after study, use of modal constants, analysis of uncertainties of cost and ridership estimates, project development agreements, cap New Starts funding at entry to Final Design**

What Are The New Opportunities?

- **Small Starts**
 - **Capital for New Fixed Guideway Systems/ Extension and Bus Corridor Improvements**
 - **Up to \$75 million in New Starts Funds**
 - **Total project cost must be less than \$250 million**
 - **Streamlined criteria and process**
 - **Separate funding category beginning in FY 07**
 - **Project Justification**
 - **Cost Effectiveness based on estimates at initiation of revenue service**
 - **Land Use & Local Economic Development**
 - **Local Financial Commitment**
 - **Same factors as New Starts: Local Share, Capital Finance Plan, Operating Finance Plan**

What Are The New Opportunities?

- **Human Service Transportation Coordinated Plan**
 - **Three programs: Elderly Persons and Persons with Disabilities; Job Access and Reverse Commute; and New Freedom**
 - **Must be developed through process that includes representatives of public, private, and non-profit transportation and human services providers, as well as the public**
 - **In TMAs, area-wide solicitation for applications for grants under the JARC and New Freedom made in cooperation with the appropriate MPO - competitive grants**
 - **In non-TMAs and rural areas, States and designated recipients must select grantees competitively**
 - **Project must be included in a coordinated plan beginning Oct. 1, 2006**

What Are The New Opportunities?

- **Agency Guidance and Eligibility of Joint Development (JD)**
 - **TEA-21 made joint development activities eligible for reimbursement under formula and discretionary public transportation grant programs**
 - **SAFETEA-LU adds intercity bus and rail stations and terminals to the joint development authority**
 - **Comments mostly favorable – concern about the flexibility inherent in notice**
 - **Final Federal Register Guidance issued 02/08/07**

What Are The New Opportunities?

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