

FY 2008 Section 5310 Preliminary Program of Projects TXDOT Waco District (District 09)

Section 5310 Program

Background

The Federal Transit Administration makes capital Section 5310 grants to the state of Texas to help provide mass transportation service that is planned, designed, and carried out to meet the special needs of elderly individuals and individuals with disabilities throughout the state.

Funds are allocated to the 25 TxDOT districts based on a formula that includes elderly and disabled population information from the latest census figures available. For Fiscal Year 2008, the Waco District anticipates an award in the amount of \$243,623.

Local stakeholder forums or committees plan and design the service for their local community and existing rural and/or urban transit service providers operate the service as designed by the committees. The Section 5310 funds are awarded directly to the rural and/or transit operator and those operators may use the funds for eligible capital expenses.

Funding

These grants are typically used to purchase vans and/or ancillary equipment such as radios. Eligible capital expenses include but are not limited to vehicles, communication equipment, vehicle shelters, wheelchair lifts and restraints, preventive maintenance service or parts and purchase of service from other transportation vendors.

Federal funds may be used for up to (but no more than) 80 percent of the cost of the eligible capital expenditures. The remaining 20 percent (or greater) portion of the capital purchase must be made with local funds (funds not generated by Federal grants).

FY 2008 Section 5310 Preliminary Program of Projects
TXDOT Waco District (District 09)
Anticipated Award Amount: \$243,623

The TxDOT Waco District is planning to fund the following transportation projects with Fiscal Year 2008 Section 5310 elderly and disabled funds:

Hill Country Transit District (the HOP)

Hill Country Transit District (HCTD) operates the HOP, a regional public transit system in a nine-county area in Central Texas since the 1960s. The transit service serves a large rural area, and the service includes two Urban Divisions, Temple and Killeen.

HCTD has requested \$102,400 for two (2) Type III ULSD buses.

The estimated cost of a vehicle of this type is \$64,000

The Section 5310 grant can pay for a maximum of 80% of the capital purchase.

Total cost of 2 vehicles: $\$64,000 * 2 = \$128,000$

Maximum Federal Amount: $\$128,000 * .80 = \$102,400$

HCTD is to receive \$500 for Preventive Maintenance

The Preventive Maintenance line item allows for any dollars not utilized in the vehicle purchase an opportunity to be transferred into this line item for expenditure.

HCTD has indicated a significant need for these vehicles.



Example of Type III vehicles:

ULSD = Ultra Low Sulfur Diesel

FTA estimated useful life: 5+ years

Wheelchair Accessibility: Lift

Typical Wheelchair Capacity: 3

Typical Passenger Capacity: 9-15

Heart of Texas Rural Transit District (HOTRTD)

The Heart of Texas Rural Transit District (HOTRTD) contracts with transit providers in six-county area to meet the needs of rural transportation riders in its area.

HOTRTD has requested \$91,200 for Purchase of Service

Purchase of Service is a unique capital expense that occurs when an agency purchases transportation from another transportation provider. Typically operational expenses (the actual expenses of providing service) have a maximum Federal ratio of 50%. However, the Purchase of Service categorization is a unique capital expense that extends the maximum Federal ratio to 80%.

Because HOTRTD contracts with transit providers the Purchase of Service categorization basically allows them to perform “operational” expenses with the higher federal ratio.

HOTRTD has also indicated significant need for additional vehicles but will purchase these vehicles with another Federal grant. The result is an excellent manipulation of grant funding that allows for a maximum of Federal funds with the lowest possible requirement of local match.

Waco Transit

Waco Transit services include a fixed route bus service within the urbanized area around Waco, the Baylor University Shuttle (BUS), and a Para Transit van service for individuals with special transportation needs.

***Waco Transit is to received \$49,523 for Preventive Maintenance**

The primary purpose of these funds is to assist in ramping Waco Transit up for its role as a regional maintenance center and to assist with a plan to rebuild wheelchair lifts in their existing fleet.

Waco Transit has not received ANY 5310 funds for the past few years.

Any interested citizen may attend a public meeting being held to consider the following projects. This Meeting will be held on Friday, September 28th at 10:00 AM as part of the Regional Transportation Coordination Committee meeting. This meeting will be held at the Heart of Texas Council of Governments (HOTCOG) located at 1514 New Road, Waco TX 76715. Other comments will be received covering the social, economic and environmental effects of the proposed projects by delivering a written statement to the TXDOT Waco district office at 100 South Loop Drive, Waco, TX 76704 on or before September 27, 2007.