

Stimulus Update

The department awarded over \$32M in Transit Stimulus funds or ARRA funds at the February Commission Meeting for fleet, facility construction and renovation, and transit technology. The next award of Transit Stimulus funds will be to the Inter-City Bus industry which is currently scheduled for April 2009.

Coordinated Call Update

At this time, scoring teams are going through the proposals submitted in the winter of 2008 for the FY 2010 funds. JARC, NF, Rural Discretionary, ICB, RTAP, and Planning funds for FY2010 are currently planned for award in May 2009.

The next call for competitive projects is planned for the summer of 2009. Get a head start by reviewing the [funding matrix](#) to determine your possible grant options. The funding matrix was designed to provide assistance choosing a funding program for your needs. To use the funding matrix, determine your category and organization then refer to the matrix funding choices available to your agency.

United We Ride Leadership Award

The Texas Regional Planning Coordination Program was one of five programs selected from across the nation to receive one of this year's United We Ride (UWR) National Leadership Awards presented by the United States Department of Transportation, Federal Transit Administration. The division submitted the program as an effective example of best practices for a State DOT in furthering the goals and objectives of the UWR program. The Texas program is being recognized for its role in promoting the comprehensive coordination of public transportation services across a broad spectrum of stakeholders in the state. The award was given in the "Statewide" category.

Last month the Public Transportation Division of the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) accepted this award in Washington, DC on behalf of the state's coordination efforts. Any recognition received by TxDOT is a reflection of the dedication and hard work by partners like you who have contributed so much to the success of this regional transportation coordination effort.

The division sincerely appreciates your commitment to improving the quality of peoples' lives by continually looking for ways to provide more efficient transportation services. We share this award with you and look forward to a continued partnership in the months and years to come. Read the [program summary](#) for more information.

Texas Institute

The Public Transportation Division encourages you to consider participating in the Texas Institute for Public Transportation Coordination to be held August 3 - 6, 2009 at the Sheraton Austin Hotel in Austin. This Institute is sponsored by the Public Transportation Division and the Community Transportation Association of America (CTAA). The event will be designed around the needs of local teams brought together for an intensive, facilitated three-day training and planning forum focusing on a specific transportation need identified in advance by each respective team.

Each team must have six to nine members and may include representatives from [lead agencies](#) in the regional transportation coordination effort, transportation providers, health and human service agencies, work force agencies, and/or other groups appropriate for each respective team's project. Participation will be limited to eight teams. View and download the [Application Instructions](#) and [Application Template](#) for more information.

Applications must be received by e-mail by the Public Transportation Division by 5 p.m. on May 22, 2009, Central Daylight Time.

The division looks forward to receiving team applications. In the meantime, contact Linda Gonzalez at lgonza5@dot.state.tx.us or (512) 374-5242 with questions on this application process.

FTA Public Transportation Participation Pilot Program

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) is soliciting research proposals for developing innovative public participation techniques in transportation planning. Funding is available to support winning proposals through the [Public Transportation Participation Pilot Program \(PTP\)](#), as authorized under the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). The PTP Program is intended to offer seed money for small innovative research projects that promote public participation in transportation planning. Projects should advance the state of the practice and be easily transferable throughout the transportation industry.

View the [Broad Agency Announcement \(BAA\)](#) which outlines the objectives of the program and procedures submitting proposals.

Proposals must be submitted through the www.grants.gov website - by May 15, 2009.