

# **CALL FOR PROJECTS**

## **Georgia Department of Transportation Section 5311(f) Intercity Bus ARRA Funds**

### **Introduction**

The Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) is pleased to announce a Call for Projects for the Section 5311(f) funds on a competitive basis for transit projects that develop and support intercity bus transportation in rural areas of the state. These funds are allocated to GDOT from the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009. Using a specific evaluation criterion, project applications are ranked by a committee comprised of Department staff.

Intercity Bus Service is defined as:

- Regularly scheduled bus service to more distant points
- Available to the general public
- Making limited stops
- Operating on fixed routes
- Connecting two or more urban areas not in close proximity
- Capacity for transporting baggage
- Provide meaningful connections and reasonable layover times
- Excludes air, water, rail transportation, charter-tour, and commuter service

Eligible sub recipients include:

- Public governmental agencies
- Private for profit organizations
- Private non-profit organizations
- Tribal Governments

Eligible projects must serve the general public in rural areas. Projects that primarily serve elderly persons and persons with disabilities, but that do not restrict service to other members of the public, are considered available to the general public if they are marketed as public transit services. Service may not be restricted to elderly or persons with disabilities.

Under this call for projects, the Department has \$3.85 Million to program for 5311(f) eligible projects. For this solicitation the Department is seeking applications for intercity buses and a heavy emphasis on infrastructure development.

The Department is requesting applications for infrastructure investments that meet the following criteria:

- Provide infrastructure for Intercity Bus Service. To include:
  - Bus Shelter
  - Bus benches
  - Signage
  - Technology (i.e. transit related ITS systems such as AVL or smart cards)
  - Equipment (communication equipment, computer hardware and software)
  - Terminal construction
  - Layover facilities

Terminal construction can be part of a multimodal facility that will base other modes such as regional or commuter bus and/or rail service. Applications must demonstrate the costs for construction are going towards providing new or improved facilities for intercity bus services.

Other criteria for selection include:

- Project is already included in the MPO TIP or STIP in a nonurbanized area
- Project has NEPA completed or will be completed in 60 days
- Terminal Construction for LEED designed facilities

### **Submittal Requirements**

The deadline for this *Call for Projects (attached spreadsheet)* is *on or before 1:00 p.m. on Monday, May 4, 2009*. Because of the urgency associated with implementing the ARRA stimulus program, this is a **strict** deadline. Please submit your list of projects to Steve Kish at [skish@dot.ga.gov](mailto:skish@dot.ga.gov), (404) 631-1237. Projects submitted in response to the Call for Projects selected to participate during this round of funding will be notified no later than **Monday, May 11, 2009**. Upon notification, these applicants should be ready to submit a full GDOT grant application, including all budgets and appendix items, no later than **1:00pm, Friday, May 29, 2009**. GDOT's Section 5311 (f) Administrative Guide is attached for information.

### **Additional Guidelines for Section 5311(f) Funds**

All projects must conform to FTA guidelines which can be accessed for Intercity Bus in Chapter VIII of the FTA Circular located at the following link:  
[http://www.fta.dot.gov/documents/FTA\\_C\\_9040.1F.pdf](http://www.fta.dot.gov/documents/FTA_C_9040.1F.pdf).