

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009

Rail and Transit Funding
March 18, 2009

Rail and Transit Funding Overview

- ❑ Federal Transit Funding:
 - \$8.4 billion nationwide for:
 - Transit capital
 - Fixed guideway infrastructure
 - Capital investment grants
 - Virginia total: approximately \$116 million

- ❑ Federal Rail Funding:
 - \$9.3 billion nationwide for:
 - High speed rail
 - Amtrak
 - Virginia total: competitive nationwide grants

- ❑ Supplemental Discretionary Funding:
 - \$1.5 billion nationwide for:
 - Projects of national or regional significance
 - Highways, transit, passenger/freight rail and ports
 - Virginia total: competitive nationwide grants

Federal Transit Capital

❑ \$6.9 billion nationwide

- Federal timeline:
 - Within 21 days: funds apportioned
 - Within 180 days: half of funds must be obligated
 - Any remaining funds not obligated within one year withdrawn
 - Funding available through September 30, 2010
- Energy-related investments:
 - \$100M in discretionary grants to transit agencies for capital investments that assist in reducing energy consumption or greenhouse emissions of transit systems
 - Priority based on total energy savings per project, and projected energy savings as a percent of total transit system energy usage
- Federal share up to 100%

Virginia's Federal Transit Capital Funds

- Large Urban Transit Capital: (Sections 5340 and 5307)
 - Washington, DC-VA-MD: \$214,637,589
 - » PRTC: \$3.86 million
 - » VRE: \$9.78 million
 - » WMATA Virginia portion: approx. \$50.58 million
 - Hampton Roads: \$25,355,487
 - » HRT: \$24.1 million
 - » Williamsburg Area Transit Authority: \$1.2 million
 - Richmond: \$13,837,772
 - » Greater Richmond Transit Company

- Rural/Small Urban Transit Capital: (Sections 5311, 5307 and 5340)
 - Virginia allocation: \$30.5 million
 - Rural: \$18,555,163
 - Small Urban: \$11,993,189

 - CTB allocates individual grants

Fixed Guideway Transit

❑ \$750 million nationwide

- For fixed guideway transit, such as Metrorail and Light Rail
- Same features and timeline as transit capital funds

❑ Virginia's Fixed Guideway Transit Funds

- Washington, DC-VA-MD (Metrorail): \$17,749,826
 - Metrorail Virginia share: approximately \$4.88 million
- Hampton Roads (Light Rail): \$437,148
 - Hampton Roads Transit

Transit Capital Investment Grants

- ❑ \$750 million nationwide
 - For FTA New Starts and Small Starts projects
 - Federal timeline
 - Funding available through September 30, 2010
 - Priority: projects that are currently in construction or able to obligate funds within 150 days of enactment
 - Dulles Metrorail
 - Norfolk Light Rail

Federal Rail Funding

Federal High Speed and Intercity Rail

□ \$8 billion nationwide

- How does FRA define High Speed Rail? (March 2009)
 - High Speed Ground Transportation Act of 1965 and follow-on legislation defines it as a family of transportation options that address long-term passenger transport needs in heavily populated corridors.
 - Self-guided intercity passenger ground transportation that is time-competitive with air and/or autos on a door-to-door basis for trips in the approximate range of 100 to 500 miles.
 - This is a market-based, not a speed-based definition: it recognizes that the opportunities and requirements for high speed rail differ markedly among different pairs of cities.
 - Technologies range from upgrades to existing rail lines to entirely new rail lines exclusively devoted to 150-250 mph trains. Amtrak has 150 mph train service known as “Acela” in the Boston-Washington NE Corridor.
- Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act (Oct. 2008)
 - The term high speed rail means intercity passenger rail service that is reasonably expected to reach speeds of at least 110 mph.

Federal High Speed and Intercity Rail

- Federal timeline:
 - Within 60 days: Secretary submits strategic plan to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees (by April 18)
 - Within 120 days: Secretary issues interim guidance to applicants covering grant terms, conditions and procedures (by June 19)
 - Funding available through September 30, 2012

- Priority:
 - Projects that support development of intercity high speed rail service

- Language suggests that three funding categories will be available:
 - High speed rail
 - Intercity rail
 - Congestion related projects

- Federal share up to 100%

Virginia's High Speed Rail and Intercity Funding

- ❑ FRA will issue guidance on high speed rail funding by June 19
- ❑ Projects will likely be considered based on their ability to significantly advance regional high speed rail initiatives
- ❑ DRPT has begun to identify projects through the Rail Resource Allocation Plan that could qualify for high speed rail funding.
- ❑ Projects are likely to include construction of improvements required to increase rail capacity, service reliability and operating speeds
- ❑ With our demonstrated commitment to investing in high speed rail improvements, Virginia is well positioned to compete for federal high speed rail funding
- ❑ CTB will be provided regular updates as more information becomes available

Federal Amtrak Funding

- ❑ \$1.3 billion nationwide, administered by Amtrak
 - Federal timeline:
 - Within 30 days: funds awarded to Amtrak
 - Within two years: projects completed
 - Funding available through September 30, 2010
 - Priority:
 - For repair, rehabilitation or upgrade of assets or infrastructure
 - For capital projects that expand passenger rail capacity, including rehabilitation of rolling stock
 - Funds cannot be used to subsidize operating losses
 - \$450M for capital security grants
 - No more than 60% of funds for non-security activities can be used for capital projects in the Northeast Corridor
 - DRPT is developing recommendations for potential Virginia projects

Supplemental Discretionary Funding

- Supplemental Discretionary Funding- \$1.5 billion nationwide
 - Federal timeline:
 - Within 90 days: criteria published
 - Within 180 days: applications submitted
 - Projects selected within 1 year of enactment
 - Priority:
 - For projects of national or regional significance
 - Must be completed within 3 years of enactment
 - Eligible projects include but not limited to highways, transit, passenger/freight rail and port infrastructure
 - Focus on projects that require additional federal share to complete funding package
 - Grants not less than \$20M and not greater than \$300M, not more than 20% to a single state

Summary of Key Rail/Transit Dates

- ❑ **March 19:** Amtrak funds awarded
- ❑ **April 15-16:** DRPT presents recommended rural and small urban transit projects to CTB
- ❑ **April 18:** Strategic plan for high speed and intercity rail issued
- ❑ **May 18:** Criteria issued for Supplementary Discretionary Grants for a National Surface Transportation System
- ❑ **June 19:** Guidance issued on high speed and intercity rail grant terms
- ❑ **July 1:** Transit applications due to FTA
- ❑ **August 16:** Applications due for supplemental Discretionary Grants for a National Surface Transportation System
- ❑ **March 5, 2010:** FTA withdraws any remaining unobligated funds
- ❑ **Sept. 30, 2010:** Any unobligated funds revert to US Treasury



www.drpt.virginia.gov

drptpr@drpt.virginia.gov

804-786-4440