



GREATER MINNESOTA TRANSIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tori Nill | Office Director

Office of Transit and Active Transportation

January 28, 2020



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Agenda

Time	Topic
10:00-10:15	Welcome & Introductions
10:15-10:30	Review of TAC scope and Past Decisions
10:30-11:00	Report Out: 2019 Program Solicitation Process and Results <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operating, New Service, Vehicle Replacement, Facilities and Capital >\$5,000
11:00-11:45	Discussion: What went well and where can we improve?
11:45-12:15	Lunch
12:15-12:30	Marketing and Technology Update
12:30-1:30	Moving Forward: Where do we go from here? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Budget targets, Options for 2021 solicitation, Other
1:30-1:45	2020 Legislation
1:45-2:00	Process Check

Today's Objectives

- Review completed solicitation process and results with a focus on making improvements.
- Set a path forward for future solicitation to be conducted in 2020
 - Vehicle Replacement
 - Facilities and Capital Investments > \$5,000
- Review budget targets and local share



Public Transit Solicitation Review

Mark Nelson

State and Federal Funding: 2020-2023

2019 Projected State and Federal Funds Available: **\$ 482.5M** (excluding 5307)

State Fiscal Year	Available Grantable State Funds			Available Grantable Federal Funds				
	Transit General Fund	GMTA Fund (Transit MVST)	GMTA FY Balance (current FY revenue + prev FY unspent funds - current FY est. expenditures)	Section 5311 - Rural Transit Assistance	Section 5339 - Capital Bus and Bus Facilities	Flexible FHWA STP (Surface Transportation Program)	Direct Approp. to Small Urbans - Section 5307	Total Federal Transit Funds
19								
20	\$16,749,000	\$73,000,000		\$13,706,760	\$3,500,000	\$8,000,000	\$8,839,000	\$34,045,760
21	\$16,749,000	\$77,000,000		\$13,980,895	\$3,500,000	\$8,000,000	\$8,839,000	\$34,319,895
22	\$16,749,000	\$80,000,000		\$14,260,513	\$3,500,000	\$8,000,000	\$8,839,000	\$34,599,513
23	\$16,749,000	\$83,000,000		\$14,545,723	\$3,500,000	\$8,000,000	\$8,839,000	\$34,884,723
	\$66,996,000	\$313,000,000		\$56,493,892	\$14,000,000	\$32,000,000	\$35,356,000	\$151,287,892

What it would look like

	Operations		Vehicles		Facilities		New Services		Marketing & Technology	
2020	\$	TBD	\$	TBD	\$	TBD	\$	TBD	\$	TBD
2021	\$	TBD	\$	TBD	\$	TBD	\$	TBD	\$	TBD
2022	\$	TBD	\$	TBD	\$	TBD	\$	TBD	\$	TBD
2023	\$	TBD	\$	TBD	\$	TBD	\$	TBD	\$	TBD

Budget Targets

	Operations	Vehicles	Facilities/ Large Cap	New Services*	RTCC	Marketing and Technology
2020	\$ 92.07M	\$ 8.00M	\$ 5.00M	\$ 3.50M	\$.50M	\$ 3.00M
2021	\$ 95.14M	\$ 9.00M	\$ 5.00M	\$ 3.50M	\$.50M	\$ 2.00M
2022	\$ 99.03M	\$ 9.00M	\$ 6.00M	\$ 3.50M	\$.50M	\$ 2.00M
2023	\$ 102.32M	\$ 9.00M	\$ 6.00M	\$ 3.50M	\$.50M	\$ 2.00M

*One time capital plus change to operational base



Solicitation Process

Noel Shughart

Operations

- Solicited for 2 year operations contract for Calendar Years 2020 and 2021
- Budget target reflects an annual increase in 3.4% plus an additional \$2M
- Opportunity to address baseline staffing shortages other needs identified in 5-Year Plans.

New Service

- Establish criteria for prioritizing investments in new service.
- Solicitation for a two year period (2020-2021)
- New service may include increase in operating budget, added facilities or vehicles, or a combination of the three.

Vehicle Replacement

- Replacement of vehicles at the end of service life
- Establish a four year program of projects through a solicitation. Identify vehicles for replacement through 2023 but continue to procure through annual contracts.
- **Require a 10% local share for vehicle replacement**
- Replacement value of vehicles beyond maximum year is decreased \$24M in 2019 to \$15M at the end of four year period

Facilities and Capital > \$5,000

- Includes all new buildings and capital renovation to existing buildings
- Include all capital investments that are greater than \$5,000
- Establish a four year program of projects through a competitive solicitation
- At \$5M and \$6M per year, increase level of investment in facilities by approximately 40%

Operating Budget Decision Making Process

Transit Project Manager Review Transit project managers (TPM's) conducted an in-depth review for their respective systems. TPM's provided comments and recommendations to the Operating Grant Review Committee

Operating Grant Review Committee The review committee considered the comments and recommendations provided by the TPM's

Final Review and Approval by OTAT Director The comments and recommendations of the TPM's and the Review Committee were presented to the OTAT Director for consideration. Final awards were set by the Director.

Facilities/Major Capital Decision Making Process

Application: Systems completed the application form for each funding request.

Review Committee: Each service proposal was scored based on the published scoring criteria by a OTAT staff Review Committee comprised of staff from the Planning and Programming Units and OTAT's Facilities Coordinator.

Project Ranking: The proposals were ranked based on scores.

Final Review and Approval by OTAT Director The rankings and comments and recommendations of the review committee were presented to the OTAT Director for consideration. Final awards were set by the Director.

New Service/Vehicles Decision Making Process

Application: Systems completed the application form for each funding request.

Review Committee: Each service proposal was scored based on the published scoring criteria by a OTAT staff review committee from the Planning and Programming Units.

Project Ranking: The proposals were ranked based on scores.

Final Review and Approval by OTAT Director The rankings and comments and recommendations of the review committee were presented to the OTAT Director for consideration. Final awards were set by the Director.

Replacement Vehicles

Asset Management : All vehicles in statewide fleet were scored according the published scoring criteria by the OTAT Data unit.

System Notification: Systems received a list of eligible vehicles and made request for replacement.

Vehicle Ranking: Requested vehicle replacements were ranked by the OTAT Data Unit based on score.

Final Review and Approval by OTAT Director The rankings were presented to the OTAT Director for consideration. Final awards were set by the Director.



2020-2023 Solicitation Results

Michael Johnson

2020-2021 Project Awards

2020 Capital and Large Facilities Awards

	Projects Total	Local Funds	State Funds	Federal Funds
Small Urban Transit	\$7,372,500	\$1,474,500	\$0	\$5,898,000
Rural Transit	\$866,600	\$173,320	\$693,280	\$0
All	\$7,879,100	\$1,647,820	\$693,280	\$5,898,000

2020-2021 Project Awards

2020 Vehicle Replacement Awards

	Projects Total	Local Funds	State Funds	Federal Funds
Small Urban Transit	\$4,660,976	\$629,500	\$629,500	\$3,401,976
Rural Transit	\$4,373,000	\$437,300	\$437,300	\$3,498,400
All	\$9,033,976	\$1,066,800	\$1,066,800	\$6,900,376

2020-2021 Project Awards

2020-2021 New Service Awards

	Projects Total	Local Funds	Federal Funds	State Funds
Small Urban Paratransit	\$364,000	\$63,070	\$0	\$300,930
Small Urban Fixed Route	\$3,799,000	\$759,880	\$0	\$3,039,120
Rural Transit	\$3,842,000	\$618,309	\$490,283	\$2,731,602
All	\$8,005,000	\$1,441,259	\$490,283	\$6,071,652

Budget Targets / Actual Awards

	Operations	Vehicles	Facilities/ Large Cap	New Services*
2020	\$ 92.07M	\$ 8.00M	\$ 5.00M	\$ 3.50M
2021	\$ 95.14M	\$ 9.00M	\$ 5.00M	\$ 3.50M
Targets	\$ 187.21M	\$ 8.00M	\$ 5.00M	\$ 7.00M

	Operations	Vehicles	Facilities/ Large Cap	New Services
Awards	\$ 199.69M	\$ 7.97M	\$ 4.11 M	\$ 6.72M



OTAT Staff Observations and Group Exercise

Megan Neeck

OTAT Observations from 2020 Solicitation & Applications

1. Focus more on what questions are asked within the Application form for scoring criteria.
2. Documentation and information sent to OTAT via email is not sustainable long term for an efficient process.
3. Help systems with methodology/analysis tools to help estimate budget and ridership numbers for New Service and other funding categories.



Group Discussion

1. Discuss questions amongst your table group
2. Put thoughts on post-it notes
3. Stick post-it ideas to the correct Funding category

Funding Categories:

Operating – **Blue**

New Service – **Pink**

Vehicle Replacement – **Orange**

Facilities & Capital > \$5000 – **Yellow**



Group Discussion

Questions for TAC Group:

- How did the process add/take away value to your Transit System?
- How did the timeline effect your Transit System?
- Do you think that the process was more transparent and fair?
- Was the new Application form simplified to help apply for projects?



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Technology and Marketing

Melinda & Mark

Statewide Transit Technology Plan

- **Technology Goals and Objectives**
 - *Consultant works with MnDOT and partners to develop future goals and funding priorities for technology across Minnesota*
- **Technology Standards**
 - *Develop a model of standards for technology needed for systems relating to agency size and organizational structure.*
 - *Hold a half day meeting to review findings and show ideas for future technology direction*
- **Technology Analysis & Systems Growth Plan**
 - *Work with systems to build a technology plan system efficiency and transit growth*
- **Minnesota Rural Public Transit Technology Plan**
 - *The culmination will be written as the Statewide Technology Plan*

Statewide Technology Plan Stages

- **Technology Maturity Assessment**
 - *Review current technologies in use and 5 year plans for future goals*
- **Technology Trends and Opportunities**
 - *Review overall current trends and future opportunities for technology*
- **Industry Peer Review**
 - *Review other systems, nation wide, to compare transit system size, capacity, organizational structures in relation to current Minnesota systems.*

Rural Transit Marketing Pilot

Origins of Rural Transit Marketing Pilot

- Five Year Transit System Plans identified many marketing needs for Minnesota rural transit providers
- This pilot is a first attempt to assist some of our rural systems with marketing and outreach
- Piloting with several systems in a region to keep manageable in size, but allow systems to identify and benefit from shared resources
- Intended to assist the initial participating systems while informing MnDOT's future efforts in transit marketing

Overview of Rural Transit Marketing Pilot

- Seven participating systems in southwest Minnesota
 1. Brown County
 2. Minnesota River Valley Transit
 3. Prairieland Transit
 4. Prairie Lakes Transit
 5. United Community Action Partnership
 6. Vine Faith in Action
 7. Watonwan County
- Working with pre-qualified marketing consultant
 - Jill C Brown
 - Will work with each system to develop and implement unique targeted marketing plans

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1. Interviews and Research

(Jan-March 2020)

Conduct stakeholder interviews to determine unique needs of each system

- 45 days-stakeholder interviews completed
- 75 days-summary report of findings presented

2. Plan Development

(March-May 2020)

Unique marketing plans developed by each system to:

1. Set goals and objectives
 2. Identify target markets
 3. Select marketing strategies
 4. Provide cost estimates for chosen strategies
- 105 days-consultant provides detailed outline for each plan to MnDOT and respective transit system
 - 150 days-final marketing plan delivered

3. Plan Implementation

(June-October 2020)

Final four months of the pilot is to implement as many identified strategies as the budget and timeline allows.

- Media buys
- Graphic design and printing
- Website design
- Re-Branding
- Execution of a social media marketing strategy
- Purchase of marketing materials
- Conducting market surveys
- Participation in community outreach opportunities
- Other subcontracted and purchased services to increase awareness of transit system



Moving Forward

OTAT Program Unit

State and Federal Funding: 2020-2023

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State Funding Updates 2020-2023

State Fiscal Year	2019 GMTA Fund (Transit MVST)	2020 GMTA Fund (Transit MVST)
20	\$73,000,000	\$71,000,000
21	\$77,000,000	\$73,000,000
22	\$80,000,000	\$77,000,000
23	\$83,000,000	\$82,000,000
Total	\$313,000,000	\$303,000,000

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Original Budget Targets

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2020 Legislation

- The Governors' bonding proposal included \$10 million in GO bonds for the Greater Minnesota Transit Capital Program

2020 Solicitations

~~Operations~~

~~New Service~~

Facilities/Capital over \$5,000: Solicit for years 2024 and 2025.

Vehicle Replacement: Update vehicle mileage and maintenance costs and rescore/rerank.

Questions

- **Facilities/Capital over \$5,000:** Projects included for years 2021-2023 were identified as *preliminary*. How do we want to consider these moving forward?
- **Vehicle Replacement:** 20% of the score for vehicle replacement is based on maintenance costs. Should this continue?
- **Vehicle Replacement:** Do we continue to maintain 10% Local Match or move to 15%?

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PROCESS CHECK



Thank you again!

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