

Office of
public transit



Iowa Department
of Transportation

Iowa DOT Presentation to IPTA
October 22, 2013

Today's Discussion Topics

- VTCLI update
- New Iowa DOT library additions
- Title VI Program template
- Iowa Code/Admin. Rules
- Opportunity for Comments
- DBE Good Faith Effort
- Year-End Stats
- Reminders
- LD Bus/Van Procurement
- Progress on hiring new TPA



VTCLI Update

- UNI conducted a survey of veterans transportation providers to create a database of those services:
 - 117 providers contacted
 - 84 completed survey, 23 did not provide transportation services
 - ❖ Of those 23, only 4 reported referring veterans to other organizations for transportation
 - 96% of services offered were rides to medical appointments at VA clinics and medical centers
 - ❖ Transportation for other trip purposes likely needed

VTCLI Update, continued

- 78% of providers served only one county
- Only 13% of vehicles used are wheelchair-accessible
- An average of 1,209 veterans is served by each organization annually with an average 809 rides provided annually
- 89% of drivers are volunteers
- 55% reported veterans within their service area have their transportation needs met
- 35% identified the lack wheelchair transportation as an unmet need



New Iowa DOT Library Additions

The Iowa DOT Library now includes the “Give ‘Em the Pickle” DVD viewed during the June 2013 IPTA meeting.

Coming soon to the Library... Transit and Paratransit Company (TAPTCO) training:

- Transit Operator Development Course
- Paratransit Operator Development Course
- Trainer Certification Process

To check items out from the Library, go to

<http://www.iowadot.gov/research/transitresources.htm>



Title VI Program Template

All public transit agencies must have a Title VI Program.

Five templates have been created by Iowa DOT's Civil Rights Team and OPT for use by rural and small urban systems:

- Stand alone demand response
- Fixed route
- Fixed route with demand response
- Planning agency with demand response
- Planning agency with demand response and fixed route

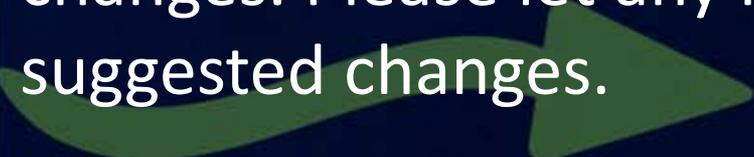
Title VI Programs due to OPT May 1, 2014.

Iowa Code/Admin Rules

OPT staff is reviewing public transit's Iowa Code – 324A and Administrative Rules:

- 910 Coordination of Public Transit Services
- 911 School Transportation Services provided by Regional Transit Systems
- 920 State Transit Assistance
- 921 Advanced allocations of STA funding
- 923 Capital Match Revolving Loan Fund
- 924 Public Transit Infrastructure Grant Program

PTAC will serve as the advisory committee on proposed changes. Please let any PTAC member know if you have suggested changes.



Opportunity for Comment

FTA has released a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on the new Public Transportation Safety Program and the new national Transit Asset Management System.

- Intended to improve the safety of the nation's public transportation systems, ensure those systems are in a state of good repair, and provide increased transparency into agencies' budgetary decision-making process.
- In accordance with MAP-21.
- Released in October 3, 2013, *Federal Register*.
- Comments must be received by January 2, 2014.



Opportunity for Comment

FTA and FHWA have jointly released proposed policy guidance that requires representation by providers of public transportation in each metropolitan planning organization that serve a transportation management area no later than October 1, 2014.

- In accordance with MAP-21.
- Released in September 30, 2013, *Federal Register*.
- Comments must be received by October 30, 2013.



Opportunity for Comment

FTA has released a Notice of Availability of Proposed Circular on Formula Grants for Rural Areas: Guidance and Application Instructions.

- 5311 Rural Area Formula Program.
- In accordance with MAP-21.
- Released in September 26, 2013, *Federal Register*.
- Comments must be received by November 25, 2013.



DBE “Good Faith Effort”

All transit agencies are reminded of their obligation to make a “good faith effort” in obtaining DBE participation in contracting.

- If a transit agency knows of a minority- or woman-owned business, please encourage the business to apply to become a DBE.
- The transit agency is then urged to document that effort, even if the business does not choose to apply or is not qualified. This documentation will assist in reporting to FTA if DBE goals are not met.

Reminder: Semiannual reports are due October 31 (for rural and small urban systems)



TransitCares

Public Transit Agencies are reminded that TransitCares, the STA-funded transportation for IowaCare clients, will end December 31, 2013.

- IowaCare will end December 31, replaced by the Iowa Health and Wellness Plan.
- More information about the Iowa Health and Wellness Plan will be presented on Wednesday by Tim Weltzin from IME.



Year-End Stats

- Much better accuracy and attention to detail this year. 1st round of reviews went much quicker than in previous years. Thank you!
 - A year-end review checklist was distributed at the June ITPA meeting. Was this helpful?
 - Common errors found: OTA/10-15 re-distribution funds not accounted for, total FTA/STA allocations did not match what was reported, NTD data not entered, NTD data included operating funds (NTD is for capital only), charter stats did not match what was reported in quarterly charter reports, and stats do not match when one transit contracts to another.
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Reminders

- Application deadlines for Consolidated Funding Applications and Intercity Bus Grants are the same day every year; May 1st and October 1st, respectively.
 - Final Reimbursements are required to be on TPA's desk within 60 days of contract close date.
 - Please refer to procurement checklist when working on a procurement.
 - Quarterly and year-end statistics are due 45 days after last day of quarter/fiscal year.
 - Replaced vehicles are required to be disposed of within 120 days of receiving the new vehicle.
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Bus/Van Procurement

- The RFP has been 99% completed and sent to a transit peer group for review approval.
- The RFP has been sent to the Office of Purchasing for editing and comments.
- There will be a pre-bid meeting in which any perspective bidders are welcome to come and ask questions about the RFP before they submit their bids. Not sure of the date yet, but I would appreciate attendance (if possible) from peer group.
- Anticipated release date 11/15/13 with bid opening of 12/15/13.



New TPA

- Interviews have been concluded and recommendation sent to OES for approval
- Hope to have an offer made later this week or next week.



Questions?

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