

2025 SOLICITATION FOR GRANT APPLICATIONS

Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities (Section 5310) Program

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TPB Technical Committee
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Purpose

- Enhanced Mobility is a program that administers federal grant funding to support the transportation of older adults and people with disabilities throughout the region.
 - Projects have included: Volunteer driver programs, travel training, mobility management, sidewalk/bus stop construction, and acquisition of wheelchair accessible vans and buses.



“Improve mobility for seniors and individuals with disabilities...by removing barriers to transportation services and expanding the transportation mobility options available.”



Background

- TPB has conducted six rounds of Enhanced Mobility solicitations since 2014
 - 113 projects awarded \$42 million
 - Prior to Enhanced Mobility, TPB facilitated 7 solicitations for FTA's Job Access – Reverse Commute (JARC) and New Freedom Programs
 - 59 projects awarded \$22 million
 - 47 projects currently active
- TPB's program was recently featured in a National Aging and Disability Transportation Center (NADTC) profile as an “innovative approach” to program implementation

nadtc SECTION 5310 PROFILE – DIRECT RECIPIENT

Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments



BEST PRACTICES

- The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) employs a range of best practices to enhance mobility and accessibility for older adults and people with disabilities. These strategies use Section 5310 and other innovative funding solutions, collaborative partnerships, and data-driven approaches to create sustainable and effective transportation programs.

- Works closely with transportation committees to develop a unified vision for regional transportation.
- Uses the coordinated plan to establish evaluation criteria for competitively awarding funds.
- Maintains a comprehensive website and hosts trainings to inform the public as well as current and potential applicants of Section 5310 funding priorities, opportunities, and selection criteria.
- Evaluates and funds a variety of projects to meet the region's needs, including vehicle expenses, operating costs and innovative services like travel training and mobility management.
- Collects data from projects to determine effectiveness; uses findings to recommend changes for future funding opportunities.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Metropolitan Washington COG is a direct recipient of FTA Section 5310 funds. The COG serves all of Washington, D.C., and 23 other jurisdictions in Maryland and Virginia. Organizations and local governments located within jurisdictions comprising the Washington—Arlington, DC—VA—MD Urbanized Area (UZA) are eligible subrecipients of Section 5310 funds.

The COG is advised by a board of directors and the National Capital Region

Transportation Planning Board (TPB). The TPB is the federally designated metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for the Washington DC metropolitan region and is staffed by COG employees. The TPB is responsible for the region's Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan, which is updated every four years. Every two years, COG/TPB conducts an open solicitation throughout the region for applications from prior Section 5310 subrecipients and potential new



Regional Coordination on Project Priorities

- Project selection is guided by the [Coordinated Human Service Transportation Plan](#)
 - Last approved by TPB in May 2023 (R11-2023)
 - Identifies strategies that help meet targeted transportation needs and priorities:
 - Mobility Management
 - Coordinated Planning Efforts
 - Travel Training
 - Door-through-door or Escorted Transportation Service
 - Increase Access to Transit Stations
 - Increase Wheelchair-Accessible Options in Taxi and Ride-Hailing Services
 - Volunteer Driver Programs
 - Tailored Transportation Service for Clients of Human Service Agencies (Vehicle Acquisition)



Awarded Projects: Seabury Resources for Aging

- Project Name: Tailored Transportation Service for Older Adults in the DC Region
- Funding: Awarded \$368,381 in capital and operating funds
- Project Details: Acquire a 15-passenger bus to expand existing fleet to total of three vehicles, enabling them to provide 1,600 more older adults with transportation services each year.



Mission

Provide personalized, affordable services and housing options to help older adults in the greater Washington, DC area live with independence and dignity.



Awarded Projects: Opportunities, Inc.

- Project Name: Travel Training for All Project
- Funding: Awarded \$375,000 in capital funds
- Project Details: Opportunities, Inc. offers travel training to 200 participants for 5 hours per month, 60 hours per year, for 2 years. Their project will train 30 new Direct Service Professionals to work one-on-one with participants.



Mission

Advocate for, empower and support full inclusion of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.



Awarded Projects: Dulles Area Transportation Assoc.

- Project Name: Volunteer Driver and Travel Training Program to Assist Seniors, Veterans and Individuals with Disabilities
- Funding: Awarded \$500,000 in capital funds
- Project Details: Expand the availability of transportation services to underserved populations, recruit and train volunteer drivers, and expand their travel training program.

Additional Case Studies

- Visit the [COG website](#) to view eight case studies on successful Enhanced Mobility projects



Mission

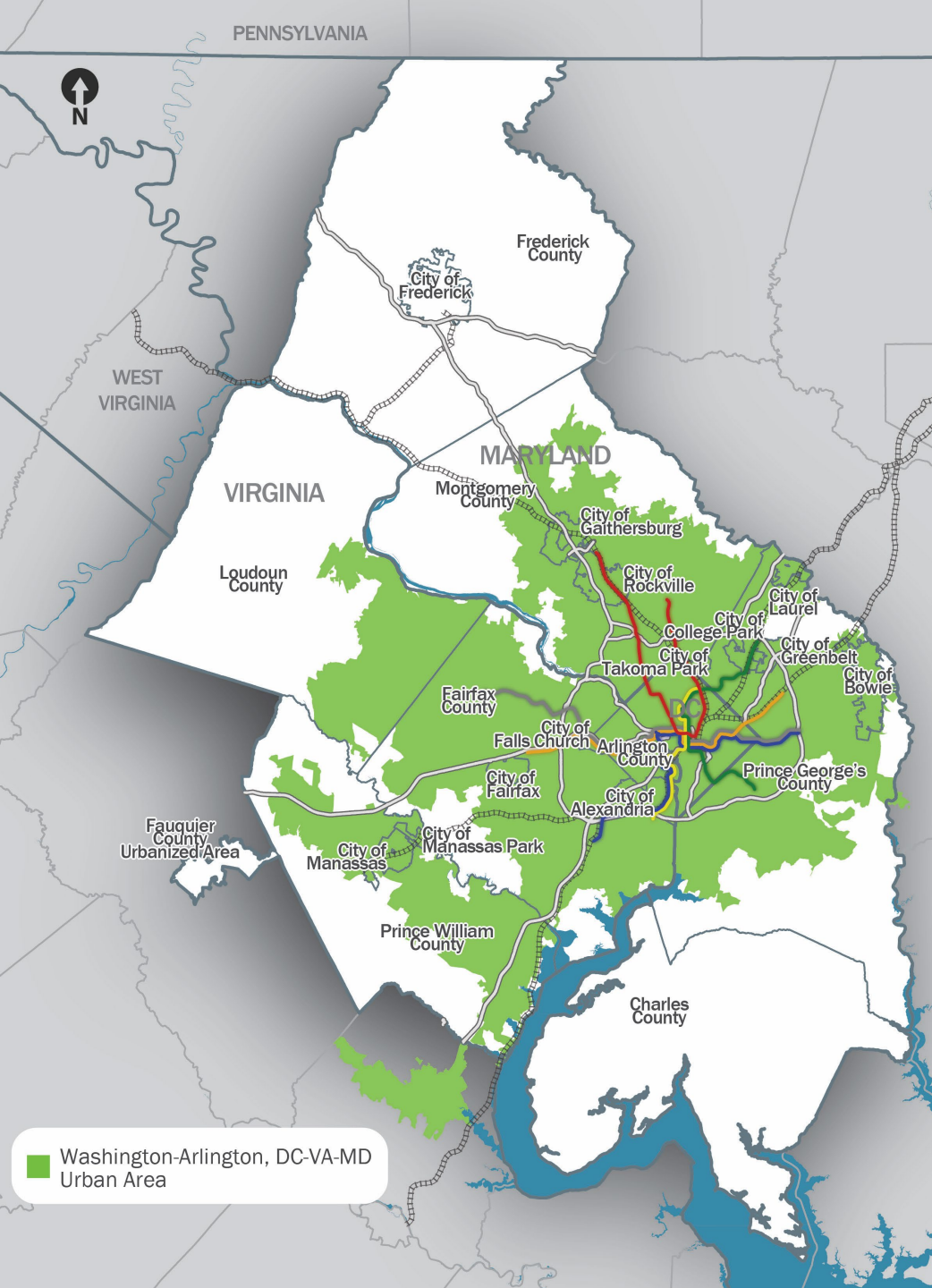
Improve mobility for older adults, veterans, and persons with disabilities while working with local businesses to offer sustainable commuting options.



2025 Project Solicitation and Selection



National Capital Region
Transportation Planning Board



Eligible Service Area

- Projects must benefit populations with the Washington, DC-VA-MD Urbanized Area

Who can apply?

- Non-profit agencies, private providers, transit agencies, and local governments

What type of projects?

- Capital and operating grants that improve transportation for people with disabilities and older adults

Other Requirements

- Matching funds must be identified in application
 - Operating: **50%**
 - Capital and Mobility Management: **20%**

Upcoming Solicitation Details

- Pre-Application Conferences:
July 2025
- Solicitation dates:
August 1 – September 30, 2025
- Funding:
Approximately \$10 million



Upcoming Solicitation Details



Mandatory Pre-Application Conferences:

VIRGINIA: American Physical Therapy Association (APTA)
3030 Potomac Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22305

Monday, July 14, 2025
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA: Metropolitan Washington Council
of Governments (MWCOC)

777 North Capitol St. NE, Ste. 300, Washington, DC 20002
Wednesday, July 30, 2025
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

VIRTUAL OPTION AVAILABLE

MARYLAND: TBA



Application Process: Online System

- Application process and required documentation is extensive and comprehensive
 - Foundant system used for application process as well as reporting
 - Required documentation include SAM.gov ID, financial statements, project assurances, etc.

SAM.gov Unique Entity ID

Everyone

Please provide your SAM.gov unique entity ID. If you do not have a SAM.gov unique entity ID at this time you can leave this section blank. If your application is approved for funding you will need to have a SAM.gov unique entity ID in order to receive FTA funds.

Example

1606N020Q02

How to obtain a SAM.gov unique entity ID



Project Selection

- Selection Committee of local representatives and national experts; chaired by a TPB member
- Established by the Coordinated Human Service Transportation Plan
- Schedule:
 - **TPB action to approve by Dec. 2025**



Project Selection

Selection Criteria include six categories:

- Coordination among agencies
- Responsiveness to Coordinated Plan (includes scoring for priority projects)
- Capacity to manage an FTA grant
- Project feasibility
- Regional need
- Customer focus



Learn More and Help Spread the Word

1. For more information:
mwcog.org/enhancedmobility
2. Help TPB staff promote the grant opportunity
3. Engage TPB members to help spread the word



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