



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



Program Goals

The Federal Transit Administration's (FTA's) Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program (Section 5310) provides funding for transportation for people with disabilities and older adults who have difficulty using public transit or need improved access to it. The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, (COG) as the administrative agent for the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB), is the designated recipient for this program for the Washington DC-VA-MD Urbanized Area. The program provides approximately \$8 million per year in matching grants for non-profit organizations, local governments, transit agencies and private for-profit providers through matching grant funds for capital and operating expenses, for:

- Public transportation projects planned, designed, and carried out to meet the special needs of older adults and individuals with disabilities when public transportation is insufficient, inappropriate, or unavailable;
- Public transportation projects that exceed the requirements of the ADA;
- Public transportation projects that improve access to fixed-route service and decrease reliance on paratransit; and
- Alternatives to public transit that assist seniors and individuals with disabilities with transportation.

The Coordinated Plan

As the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) charged with coordinating transportation planning and funding for the National Capital region, the TPB has developed a Coordinated Human Service Transportation Plan. The Coordinated Plan identifies the unmet transportation needs of people with disabilities and older adults, lists priority projects for addressing the unmet needs, and outlines the competitive selection process for the Enhanced Mobility Program. Every two years, the TPB issues a solicitation for grant applications. Past projects include many of those priorities: travel training, wheelchair accessible taxis, vehicle acquisition for non-profit organizations serving clients with developmental disabilities, and volunteer driver programs.

Competitive Selection Process

Enhanced Mobility projects were selected competitively by an independent selection committee from national and local organizations representing aging, disability, transit and human service transportation, using selection criteria identified in the Coordinated Plan.

*109 PROJECTS FUNDED,
TOTALING ALMOST \$44 MILLION*

2023 Solicitation – Projects Funded

In December 2023, the TPB approved 21 projects to receive approximately \$8.4 million in federal and local matching grant funds under Enhanced Mobility.

Boat People SOS: Road to Independence through Saving and Education (RISE)

Mobility Management services for the transportation component of RISE–Road to Independence through Savings and Education, which aims to improve mobility for Vietnamese seniors and individuals with disabilities through travel training, individualized transportation planning, a mass media campaign, dissemination of a language-specific transportation guidebook, and partnerships for referrals.

Total Project	\$250,000
Federal	\$200,000
Match	\$50,000

Capitol Hill Village: Passport to Independence: DC Villages’ Ambassadors to Mobility

Continuation of a Mobility Management program, in close coordination with other DC Villages, which builds on past successes of improving and increasing door-to-door transportation services, providing mobility counseling and travel training, increasing transportation stakeholders’ awareness of the needs of older adults and people with disabilities, and increasing engagement with alternative.

Total Project	\$869,081.25
Federal	\$695,265
Match	\$173,816.25

Chinese Culture and Community Service Center: CCACC Adult Day Healthcare Center Transportation Services

Procurement of 4 buses to replace existing vehicles that have met useful life. Vehicles will be used to provide transportation to and from adult day programming, medical appointments, shopping, recreational trips, socialization, and government offices.

Total Project	\$527,638.75
Federal	\$422,111
Match	\$105,527.75

City of Hyattsville: Hyattsville Mobility Options Initiative

Optimize Hyattsville’s shared-ride transportation service for medical appointments, grocery shopping, and recreational activities, while partnering with Hyattsville Aging in Place to enhance volunteer transport for older adults and individuals with disabilities. Also, procure additional vehicle to address supply issues.

Total Project	\$200,000
Federal	\$100,000
Match	\$100,000

Community Support Services: Enhanced Transportation Alternatives for Community Access for People with Severe Developmental Disabilities

Maintain transportation services for individuals with intensive needs due to developmental disabilities through a partnership with ParaMed Medical Transportation, Inc. Procure 4 minivans that will be utilized to enhance community-based services that require specialized transportation.

Total Project	\$284,617.50
Federal	\$277,694
Match	\$56,923.50

DATA 2024 Volunteer Driver and Travel Training Program to Assist Seniors, Veterans, and Individuals with Disabilities

Continuation and expansion of a mobility management project that expands the availability of transportation services to under-served populations of seniors, Veterans, and individuals with disabilities by recruiting bilingual Spanish-speaking volunteers and drivers in partnership with existing transportation and providing travel training and information about mobility options in Spanish.

Total Project	\$500,000
Federal	\$400,000
Match	\$100,000

Easter Seals Serving DC|MD|VA: Adult Medical Daycare Transportation at Easterseals' Intergenerational Center in Silver Spring

Continuation of maintain free, accessible transportation services for our ADS-IGC participants, which include older adults with disabilities. These services are essential for keeping participants active and aiding them in everyday life activities.

Total Project	\$877,350
Federal	\$459,375
Match	\$417,975

ECHO: ECHO Transportation: Enhancing ECHO's Transportation for Persons with Disabilities

Procure 2 buses to replace current vehicles that have met useful life, to transport people with disabilities to ECHO's programming, including supported employment, in-house and community integration programs, and employment training assessment and training. Also, procure 1 expansion vehicle for job sites in southeastern Loudoun and southwestern Fairfax that currently cannot be supported and procure new van to replace existing one that has met useful life.

Total Project	\$695,446.50
Federal	\$449,250
Match	\$246,196.50

Fairfax County Neighborhood & Community Services: Fairfax Mobility Access Project (FXMAP)

Continuation and expansion of the Fairfax Mobility Access Project (FXMAP) which seeks to enhance awareness of transportation programs and develop training programs to teach how to use them, develop and implement new transportation options, and coordinate services.

Total Project	\$777,012.50
Federal	\$603,610.00
Match	\$173,402.50

Jewish Council for the Aging of Greater Washington, Inc: JCA ElderBus for the Most Vulnerable

Support rising operating costs, including increasing insurance premiums, fuel prices, and competitive salaries for staff and drivers, especially considering the current shortage of public and school bus drivers. Project will cover capital maintenance and 1 vehicle replacement cost for bus that has aged.

Total Project	\$814,108.75
Federal	\$470,732
Match	\$343,376.75

Jewish Council for the Aging of Greater Washington, Inc: The Network for Volunteer Driving of Greater Washington 4 (NVD4) VillageRides

Continuation and expansion of an existing volunteer driver resource center to additional parts of Northern Virginia and suburban Maryland. The program will provide guidance in program development, marketing, bulk background checks, shared ride scheduling software, training, and technical assistance to existing and new volunteer driver programs.

Total Project	\$388,631.25
Federal	\$310,545
Match	\$78,086.25

Leisure World of Maryland Corporation: Healthy Community Initiative

Procure 3 new vehicles to improve accessibility for riders using wheelchairs and to alleviate financial barriers associated with LW's mobility van fee-for-service model. Hire additional bus drivers and analyst to help with expansion of program.

Total Project	\$587,765
Federal	\$418,171
Match	\$169,594

New Horizons Supported Services, Inc: New Horizons' Supported Services Inc. Enhanced and Equitable Mobility Program

Procure 2 wheelchair accessible minivans to replace current vehicles that have met useful life, plus associated vehicle equipment and operating costs to provide transportation to community inclusion programs and state and county programming for people with developmental disabilities and older adults.

Total Project	\$290,980.50
Federal	\$220,620
Match	\$70,360.50

Opportunities, Inc.: Opportunities Inc.'s Travel Training for All Project

Continuation and expansion of travel training program for program participants who have intellectual and developmental disabilities. Also, fund training for new employees, as well as external training for two to three partnering nonprofits, which focuses on equipping participants with essential travel skills and strengthening collaboration with community partners.

Total Project	\$375,000
Federal	\$300,000
Match	\$75,000

Pozez Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia: Network for Volunteer Transportation in Northern Virginia (NV Rides)

Enhance the capacity and effectiveness of volunteer driving programs through various activities. This includes providing resources such as bulk purchasing of ride scheduling portal systems, conducting background checks, and subsidizing rides for those with unmet transportation needs. Supporting program development by assisting in the startup of new volunteer driver programs, enhancing driver training, and boosting volunteer recruitment.

Total Project	\$483,932.50
Federal	\$384,146
Match	\$99,786.50

Seabury Resources for Aging: Tailored Transportation Service for Older Adults in the DC Region

Procure 1 additional 15-passenger bus to expand fleet, allowing transportation services to an additional 1,600 older adults each year. Establish a transportation schedule and booking process to enhance accessibility and convenience for older adults, while promoting the program to raise awareness and encourage usage among this demographic. Additionally, providing biannual driver training and onboarding for volunteers.

Total Project	\$368,381.25
Federal	\$225,759
Match	\$142,622.25

University of Maryland: Safe and Reliable Paratransit for People with Disabilities at the University of Maryland

Procure 4 wheelchair-accessible vehicles to ensure safe and reliable Paratransit service for all members of the UMD community seeking transportation. By allocating funding for a consistently reliable fleet of wheelchair-accessible vehicles, will ensure that the community has access to all the university has to offer at any time of day.

Total Project	\$313,812.50
Federal	\$251,050
Match	\$62,762.50

The Arc of Prince George's County: Transportation for Senior Citizens and People with Disabilities

Procure 2 additional vehicles to enhance the ability to provide specialized transportation to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Specialized transportation will enable them to access activities, potential employment, community socials, and volunteering within their communities.

Total Project	\$297,893.25
Federal	\$197,310
Match	\$100,583.25

The Arc of Prince George's County: Wheels to Wellness

Partner with the PGC Health Department to help fill the transportation gap withing PGC and provide transportation for older adults and individuals with disabilities get to medical appointments and/or treatment and improve their health. By procuring 2 minivans equipped with wheelchair lifts, which will provide a targeted 1,600 one-way trips to approximately 160 older adults and individuals with disabilities.

Total Project	\$500,772.25
Federal	\$297,983
Match	\$202,789.25

The Arc of Greater Prince William/INSIGHT, Inc: Acquisition of Vehicles and Operation Support

Procure 1 replacement vehicle to help with continuation and expansion of mobile transport program. These new vehicles will be used to transport adults to and from employment, mobile work training, adult day support programs, medical appointments, volunteer activities, and community recreation events.

Total Project	\$143,607.50
Federal	\$114,886
Match	\$28,721.50

The Arc of Northern Virginia: Growing Independence: Fostering Inclusion by Expanding Community Access through Mobility Independence

Continuation and expansion of an existing train the travel trainer program using new app "Arc2Independence", a specialized software program that provides step-by-step instructions to support adults and students with intellectual disabilities in independent travel on bus and/or rail.. And partnership with other community organizations host in-person practice workshops for travel lessons and assist participants in receiving government issued IDs and reduced fare cards.

Total Project	\$1,024,861.25
Federal	\$819,889
Match	\$204,972.25

2021 Solicitation – Projects Funded

<u>Grantee</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>FTA Amount</u>	<u>Total Project</u>
Dulles Area Transportation Association (DATA)	DATA 2022 Volunteer Driver Recruitment Program for Seniors and Veterans with Disabilities	VA	\$271,787	\$339,734
Fairfax County – Neighborhood and Community Services	Fairfax Mobility Access Project (FXMAP)	VA	\$537,080	\$694,601
Boat People SOS	Road to Independence through Savings and Education-Transportation (RISE-TRANS)	VA	\$120,000	\$150,000
Jewish Council for the Aging	The Network for Volunteer Driving of Greater Washington 3 (NVD 3)	MD	\$371,779	\$467,346
Capitol Hill Village	Passport to Independence: DC Villages' Ambassadors to Mobility	DC	\$539,964	\$674,955
Coach Transportation Inc., DBA Koach	Koach Enhanced Mobility & Centralized WAV Dispatch	MD	\$208,836	\$417,672
Arc of Northern Virginia	Achieving Independence: Expanding the Scope of Mobility in the Washington Metropolitan Region	VA	\$693,194	\$866,492
Chinese Culture and Community Service Center	Enhanced alternative transportation options for individuals with developmental disabilities	MD	\$220,822	\$277,108
Community Support Services	Continuation of expanded transportation options for individuals with developmental disabilities	MD	\$299,967	\$374,959

Easterseals	Adult Medical Day Transportation Services at Easterseals' Silver Spring Inter-Generational Center	MD	\$244,444	\$395,204
ECHO	2021 Enhanced Mobility Program	VA	\$267,680	\$427,088
New Horizons Supported Services, Inc.	Enhancing Mobility and Increasing Inclusion for Disabled Adults through Tailored Transportation	MD	\$190,941	\$313,048
Opportunities, Inc.	Travel Training Program for Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities	MD	\$120,000	\$150,000
Regency Taxi	Enhanced Mobility Through Accessible Vehicles Project 4 – 2021	MD	\$359,268	\$449,086
The Arc of Prince George's County	Community Learning Services (CLS) 3	MD	\$163,999	\$293,385
The Arc of Greater Prince William	Acquisition of Vehicles	VA	\$342,830	\$524,778
Transit Group, Inc	Rides to Health Service	MD	\$100,000	\$200,000
Yellow Transportation	WAV Vehicle Replacement and Service Enhancement	DC	\$308,823	\$439,075

Contact Tyler Thompson at tthompson@mwccog.org or 202-962-3200 with any questions about the projects.