# 2007 - 2013 Job Access Reverse Commute (JARC) and New Freedom Projects

## The TPB Coordinated Plan and Project Selection

#### The Coordinated Plan

As the federally-designated Metropolitan Planning Organization charged with coordinating transportation planning and funding for the Metropolitan Washington Region, the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB) has developed a Coordinated Human Service Transportation Plan under the guidance of a Human Service Transportation Coordination Task Force. The Plan, which was updated by the TPB on December 16, 2009, identifies the unmet transportation needs of low-income workers, people with disabilities and older adults; lists priority projects for addressing those unmet needs; and specifies criteria for a federally-required competitive selection of projects under the JARC and New Freedom programs.

### **Competitive Selection Process**

Projects were selected competitively by an independent selection committee that includes members representing transportation, disability and workforce development organizations. The selection criteria approved by the TPB as part of the Coordinated Plan encourage applications that:

- Prioritize projects that address unmet needs
- Reflect the importance of coordination, innovation and replicability
- Serve a regional need and impact the greatest number of people
- Involve private sector partners

### **Program Goals**

The Federal Transit Administration's JARC and New Freedom programs provide the Washington region with approximately \$1 million per year for each program, which must be matched with local funds (50 percent for operating projects and 20 percent for capital projects), to support the program goals.

#### Job Access Reverse Commute

The goal of the JARC program is to improve access to job sites and employment-related activities for people who are transitioning from welfare to work or for others with limited incomes.

#### **New Freedom**

The New Freedom program provides funding for transportation capital and operating projects that go above and beyond what is required by the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Doorways for Women & Families Taxi Voucher Project: Funding to assist residents of shelters and transitional housing programs in Northern Virginia with taxi vouchers to attend job training, conduct job searches or reach employment locations.

Recommended	
JARC Funds	\$20,000
Required Match	\$20,000
Total Project	\$40,000

Dulles Area Transportation Association Rotating Rideshare Coordinator: Funding to continue a mobility management coordinator that serves employment sites in the Dulles corridor who provides assistance to low-income employees in forming or maintaining carpools, and who will meet with employers about the viability of forming vanpools and improving transit use, where appropriate.

Recommended	
JARC Funds	\$150,000
Required Match	\$ 37,500
Total Project	\$187,500

### **Skill Source Group Road to Employment Project:**

Funding to support the operating of a vehicle which will also be purchased with a JARC grant to provide transportation to and from job sites in Northern Virginia for low-income individuals re-entering the community after incarceration.

Recommended	
JARC Funds	\$125,127
Required Match	\$125,127
Total Project	\$250,254

Family Matters of Greater Washington Ways to Work Program: Funding to support the agency's Ways to Work Program, which works with low-income working families to help them obtain affordable car loans. The program will serve individuals in Southeast D.C. and Prince George's County with limited access to public transit that meets their reverse commute and child-care related transportation needs.

Recommended	
JARC Funds	\$224,000
Required Match	\$116,000
Total Project	\$340,000

Northern Virginia Family Service Vehicles for Change Program: Funding to continue the Vehicles for Change program, which provides donated vehicles to low-income working families for a program fee. The project operates throughout Northern Virginia and benefits families with limited access to transit.

Recommended	
JARC Funds	\$ 747,975
Required Match	\$ 287,099
Total Project	\$1,035,074

Northern Virginia Family Service Training Futures Program: Funding to support the operation of a shuttle service to the Training Futures job training site in Manassas from commuter stops within a 10-mile radius. Training Futures is a 23-week workforce development program that offers lowincome adults on-the-job training through Northern Virginia Community College.

Recommended	
JARC Funds	\$ 51,278
Required Match	\$ 51,278
Total Project	\$102,556

# 9 Projects were Recommended for Funding

Funding recommendations were made by a Selection Committee based on responsiveness to and consistency with the priorities in the Coordinated Plan.

The TPB approved these projects on June 19, 2013.

### **New Freedom Projects**

#### **City of Alexandria Pedestrian Improvements:**

Funding for the design and construction of pedestrian safety upgrades at four intersections in the City of Alexandria; the improvements will improve access for persons with disabilities, and include upgraded curb ramps, installation of pedestrian signals with count-downs and audible features, upgrading marking to high visibility crosswalks, installing curb extensions to shorten crossing distances, and installing bus stop amenities such as benches.

Recommended	
New Freedom Funds	\$320,000
Required Match	\$ 80,000
Total Project	\$400,000

Yellow Cab of Prince William County: Funding for the purchase of four wheelchair-accessible minivans to operate as accessible taxi service in Prince William County and North Stafford County.

Recommended	
New Freedom Funds	\$125,000
Required Match	\$ 31,250
Total Project	\$156,250

Liberty Transportation rollDC Pilot Project Continuation: Funding for the expansion and continuation of rollDC, the wheelchair accessible taxicab pilot project in DC. The project was originally funded with a New Freedom grant in 2008. In the two and a half years the service has been available, the company has experienced a steady increase in demand. Funding under this grant would support the purchase of three additional wheelchair-accessible minivans and provide operating funds for driver incentives, insurance and other operating costs. Match funding for this project has been committed by the D.C. Council.

Recommended	
New Freedom Funds	\$191,030
Required Match	\$ 85,753
Total Project	\$276,783

DC Office on Aging Door-through-Door
Transportation: Funding for continuation
of the Caregivers Respite Escort Service for
Transportation (CREST) program, which provides a
certified home care aide to accompany and assist
older adults who have a disability to prepare for
and to travel to and from medical appointments.

Recommended	
New Freedom Funds	\$ 91,468
Required Match	\$ 91,468
Total Project	\$182,937



# JARC and New Freedom Projects Approved from 2007 - 2012

