



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Transit
Administration**

Administrator

1200 New Jersey Ave., S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

AUG 21 2007

Dear Colleague:

This week we will be publishing a *Federal Register Notice* outlining how the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) will allocate Fiscal Year (FY) 2007 Bus and Bus Facilities, New Starts, and Alternatives Analysis discretionary funding. The Notice will indicate that we are allocating all available FY 2007 Bus and Bus Facilities discretionary funds (\$438 million) to support the U.S. Department of Transportation's (U.S. DOT) Urban Partnership Congestion Initiative. These funds will be strategically invested in our nation's most congested areas, but the impact of these investments will be felt across the country.

The Department's Congestion Initiative provides a unique opportunity to supply substantial amounts of funding to jump start innovative and comprehensive approaches to congestion reduction. As Secretary Mary E. Peters noted, each of the Urban Partner communities has "committed to fighting congestion now. Our commitment was to allocate the Federal contribution in a lump sum, not in bits and pieces over several years – an approach meant to get these projects off the drawing board and into action." FTA is proud to be a part of this strategic investment approach that will increase mobility, provide critical congestion relief and showcase new solutions to combat the congestion that is choking our nation's highways.

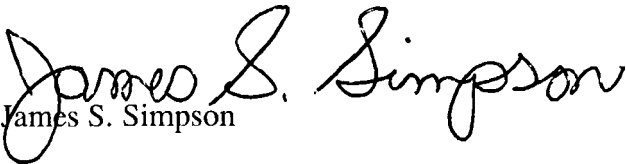
Transit plays a central role in each of the Urban Partnership programs. In fact, transit ridership is expected to grow as congestion pricing provides incentives for transportation system users to seek alternative travel options. These investments support President Bush's comprehensive plan to improve our energy security by reducing America's gasoline consumption by 20 percent in the next 10 years. In addition, these arrangements also can provide for significant new ongoing streams of revenue to support transit, well in excess of the amounts being invested. Recently, Mr. Michael Replogle, Transportation Director for the Environmental Defense Fund, said "Congestion pricing can speed commutes, cut gridlock, generate new revenue for innovative transit, help clean the air and address climate change. We salute the U.S. DOT for supporting innovation in America's cities. These agreements show how cities can use incentives to get the most out of their transportation infrastructure."

That being said, we are also very appreciative of all of our grantees that applied for funds under both of the Bus Funding Notices of Availability. We recognize that many transit agencies spent considerable time and energy preparing their applications for funding. However, the applications which we received for Urban Partnerships afforded us the opportunity to accelerate a set of unique transit projects that will explore new ways of providing congestion relief and we are not alone in recognizing this unique opportunity.

We are joined in this effort by the Federal Highway Administration and the Research and Innovative Technology Administration, for a total Departmental investment of \$850 million.

I want to again thank each of you for the important role you play in providing public transportation alternatives in each of your communities day in and day out. Clearly, our important work together couldn't be accomplished without your extraordinary leadership. The FTA and U.S. DOT are excited about these new approaches to congestion mitigation through the deployment of these Urban Partnership Agreements and we hope that you will support us, as we continue thinking outside of the box, to address the transportation issues facing our great country.

Sincerely,


James S. Simpson

Enclosure

Table 1

FY 2007 Discretionary Bus and Bus Facilities Projects

State	Project ID	Project Location and Description	Allocation
CA	D2007-BUSP-001	San Diego - SWOOP	\$15,000,000
CA	D2007-BUSP-002	San Francisco - Urban Partnership Agreement	\$58,000,000
FL	D2007-BUSP-003	Miami - Urban Partnership Agreement	\$19,500,000
MN	D2007-BUSP-004	Minneapolis - Urban Partnership Agreement	\$85,900,000
MN	D2007-BUSP-005	I-35 W Bridge - Emergency Response	\$5,000,000
NY	D2007-BUSP-006	New York City - Urban Partnership Agreement	\$213,600,000
WA	D2007-BUSP-007	Seattle - Urban Partnership Agreement	\$41,000,000
Total Allocation.....			\$438,000,000

Table 2

FY 2007 Discretionary Alternatives Analysis Projects

State	Project ID	City	Grantee	Allocation
AZ	D2007-ALTA-001	Phoenix	City of Phoenix , RPTA, METRO, MAG	\$993,600
CA	D2007-ALTA-002	Los Angeles	Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority	\$2,000,000
CA	D2007-ALTA-003	Oakland	Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District	\$350,000
CA	D2007-ALTA-004	San Jose	Valley Transit Authority	\$480,000
CO	D2007-ALTA-005	Denver	Regional Transportation District	\$600,000
FL	D2007-ALTA-006	Hillsborough County	Hillsborough Area Regional Transit	\$93,600
FL	D2007-ALTA-007	Hillsborough County	Hillsborough Area Regional Transit	\$69,335
FL	D2007-ALTA-008	Orlando	City of Orlando	\$240,000
FL	D2007-ALTA-009	Sarasota	Sarasota County Area Transit	\$194,405
GA	D2007-ALTA-010	Atlanta	Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority	\$260,800
IA	D2007-ALTA-011	Ames	Ames Transit Agency (CyRide)	\$160,000
IL	D2007-ALTA-012	Chicago	Pace Suburban Bus	\$280,000
MA	D2007-ALTA-013	Boston	Massachusetts Bay Transit Authority	\$830,000
MO	D2007-ALTA-014	Kansas City	Kansas City Area Transportation Authority	\$201,600
MO	D2007-ALTA-015	Kansas City	Kansas City Area Transportation Authority	\$120,000
NY	D2007-ALTA-016	New York	New York State Metropolitan Transportation Authority	\$2,000,000
OH	D2007-ALTA-017	Columbus	Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Council	\$400,000
OK	D2007-ALTA-018	Tulsa	Metropolitan Tulsa Transportation Authority	\$137,600
OR	D2007-ALTA-019	Lane County	Lane Transit District	\$300,000
OR	D2007-ALTA-020	Portland	Metro	\$100,000
SC	D2007-ALTA-021	Charleston	Berkeley-Charleston-Dorchester COG	\$360,000
TN	D2007-ALTA-022	Memphis	Memphis Area Transit Authority	\$200,000
TX	D2007-ALTA-023	Dallas	Dallas Area Rapid Transit	\$318,500
TX	D2007-ALTA-024	Dallas	North Central Texas Council of Governments	\$784,000
WA	D2007-ALTA-025	Kitsap County	Kitsap Transit	\$326,560
WI	D2007-ALTA-026	Madison	City of Madison	\$200,000
Total Allocation.....			\$12,000,000	

Table 3

FY 2007 Discretionary New Starts Projects

State	Project ID	Project Location and Description	Allocation
CA	D2007-NWST-030	Oakland Airport Connector (Public-Private Partnership Pilot Program)	\$24,999,999
CO	D2007-NWST-008	Denver Southeast Corridor (T-Rex)	\$27,224,274
IL	D2007-NWST-011	Chicago Ravenswood	\$36,274,211
MO	D2007-NWST-028	Kansas City Troost Corridor BRT	\$6,260,000
OR	D2007-NWST-029	Springfield-Pioneer Parkway EmX	\$14,800,000
TX	D2007-NWST-027	Dallas North Central	\$9,259,540
Total Allocation.....			\$118,818,024

Note: \$112.7 Million is reserved for New York City as part of their Urban Partnership Agreement