

MEMORANDUM

TO: Genessee Transportation Council Members & Alternates
FROM: Richard Perrin, Executive Director *RP*
DATE: June 12, 2013
SUBJECT: Proposed Resolution 13-60 (Selecting NYSDOT as the Designated Recipient for FTA Section 5310 Program funds apportioned to the Rochester Urbanized Area)

The Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) resulted in substantial changes to structure of federal highway and transit funding programs. One example is the changes that were made to the former Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5310 – Transportation for Elderly Persons and Persons with Disabilities and FTA Section 5317 – New Freedom Programs. MAP-21 consolidated these programs into the current FTA Section 5310 – Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program.

The purpose of the current, consolidated FTA Section 5310 Program is a combination of the former programs which is to “to enhance mobility for seniors and persons with disabilities by providing funds for programs to serve the special needs of transit-dependent populations beyond traditional public transportation services and Americans with Disabilities Act complementary paratransit services.”

In addition, MAP-21 retains the provision of the former FTA Section 5317 – New Freedom Program that apportions a share of the funding directly to urbanized areas with a population over 200,000. As a result, the amount sub-allocated for projects in the Rochester Urbanized Area will be approximately \$665,000 annually in Federal Fiscal Years 2013 and 2014.

In urbanized areas with a population above 200,000, the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is responsible for identifying a Designated Recipient to administer projects selected to receive FTA Section 5310 program funds apportioned to its respective urbanized area. The Designated Recipient is responsible for ensuring applications for the funds are properly submitted, awards to sub-recipients are derived from the locally-developed, coordinated public transit-human services transportation plan, are made based on a competitive selection process, and that sub-recipients can meet all FTA requirements.

A statewide teleconference was held on May 10 between representatives from the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT)-Main Office, NYSDOT regional offices, MPOs, and public transportation operators to review the requirements of the current FTA Section 5310 Program and discuss potential Designated Recipients. Rochester Genessee Regional Transportation Authority and Genessee Transportation Council (GTC) staffs participated in the teleconference. NYSDOT has offered to serve as the Designated Recipient for any MPOs who would like them to act in this capacity.

NYSDOT has the most direct experience in administering the former FTA Section 5310 Program and preceding versions of it over the past 30-plus years. Based on the level of effort required to administer the current FTA Section 5310 Program and the associated amount of funding to be programmed, the entity that can fulfill the obligations of the Designated Recipient in the most cost-effective manner is NYSDOT.



Pursuant to MAP-21, if NYSDOT is selected as the Designated Recipient for this region, our apportioned amount is required to be awarded to projects in the Rochester Urbanized Area (i.e., there is no risk of award of our apportioned funds to other areas of the state) that are included in our locally-developed, coordinated public transit-human services transportation plan (i.e., GTC would have primary authority with respect to project selection).

The following item is provided for your consideration:

- 1. Proposed Resolution 13-60** (Selecting NYSDOT as the Designated Recipient for FTA Section 5310 Program funds apportioned to the Rochester Urbanized Area)

NYSDOT was recommended as the preferred Designated Recipient for FTA Section 5310 Program funds by the Planning Committee at its May 23, 2013 meeting.

Recommended Action:

Approve Resolution 13-60 selecting NYSDOT as the Designated Recipient for FTA Section 5310 Program funds apportioned to the Rochester Urbanized Area.

GENESEE TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL

RESOLUTION

Resolution 13-60 Selecting NYSDOT as the Designated Recipient for FTA Section 5310 – Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program funds apportioned to the Rochester Urbanized Area

WHEREAS,

1. The Genesee Transportation Council (GTC) has been designated by the Governor of New York State as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) responsible for transportation planning for the nine-county Genesee-Finger Lakes Region, including the Rochester Transportation Management Area (TMA);
2. Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21) consolidated the former Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5310 – Transportation for Elderly Persons and Persons with Disabilities and FTA Section 5317 – New Freedom Programs. MAP-21 consolidated these programs into the current FTA Section 5310 – Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program;
3. The purpose of the FTA Section 5310 – Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program is to enhance mobility for seniors and persons with disabilities by providing funds for programs to serve the special needs of transit-dependent populations beyond traditional public transportation services and Americans with Disabilities Act complementary paratransit services;
4. MAP-21 directly apportions a share of FTA Section 5310 – Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program funds to urbanized areas with a population over 200,000, including the Rochester, New York Urbanized Area;
5. MAP-21 requires MPOs serving TMAs to select a Designated Recipient of their directly apportioned FTA Section 5310 – Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program funds;
6. The New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) has the most direct experience in administering FTA programs that address the needs of seniors and persons with disabilities via activities beyond traditional public transportation services and has been deemed to be able to fulfill the obligations of the Designated Recipient in the most cost-effective manner;
7. NYSDOT has agreed to serve as the Designated Recipient of FTA Section 5310 – Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program funds for any MPO that desires NYSDOT to act in that capacity; and

8. MAP-21 requires that the amount of FTA Section 5310 – Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program funds apportioned to an urbanized area with a population over 200,000 be awarded to projects in that urbanized area that are included in a locally-developed, coordinated public transit-human services transportation plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED

1. That GTC hereby selects NYSDOT as the Designated Recipient for FTA Section 5310 – Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program funds apportioned to the Rochester Urbanized Area;
2. That this resolution takes effect immediately; and
3. That this resolution remains in effect so long as the requirements of the FTA Section 5310 – Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program or successor programs are substantially similar or GTC determines that a change in Designated Recipient is warranted.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned duly qualified Secretary of the Genesee Transportation Council certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted at a legally convened meeting of the Genesee Transportation Council held on June 20, 2013.

Date _____

ROBERT A. TRAVER, Secretary
Genesee Transportation Council