

FTA

FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

Tribal Transit Program Updates from FTA



Wisconsin Tribal Transit Peer Exchange
September 2020



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration

The contents of this document do not have the force and effect of law and are not meant to bind the public in any way. This document is intended only to provide clarity to the public regarding existing requirements under the law or agency policies. Grantees and subgrantees should refer to FTA's statutes and regulations for applicable subject matter (i.e. Tribal Transportation Self-Governance Program) requirements.

<https://transit.dot.gov>

FTA's 5311 Tribal Transit Program

- Eligible Recipients: Federally Recognized Tribes
- Eligible Activities:
 - **Capital** Acquisition, Construction, and Improvement of public transit infrastructure, facilities, and equipment
 - **Operating** Costs directly related to systems operations, including fuel, driver & dispatcher salaries and benefits, service agreements
 - **Planning** Developing transit plans and programs, pre-development studies, evaluations, and data exchange
 - **Administrative** Salaries and benefits, insurance and facilities overhead (Indirect Costs funded at BIA approved rate)

FTA

FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

5311 Tribal Transit Program

- FY20: Formula Funds (\$32M) Apportioned to 129 Tribes/Tribal Agencies with Existing Transit Service
 - The CARES Act for COVID-19 Response provided additional \$30M for use after 1/20/20
 - No Local Match Required
- Discretionary Funds (\$5M) to be awarded competitively
 - 10% Local Match required for capital and operating projects (No local match required for Planning projects)

5311 Tribal Transit Program

- Funds through the Tribal Transit Program are available for the Fiscal Year allocated plus two years. (FY2020 funds lapse in September, 2022. The CARES Act funds do not lapse.)
- The formula funding amount allocated to a Tribe is based on Vehicle Revenue Miles (VRM) reported to the National Transit Database (NTD) over a two year period. Additional formula funding can be allocated to Tribes with very high VRM and/or significant low-income populations in Tribal areas.

Other FTA programs...

- State Pass-Through...
 - 5310 Enhanced Mobility Program for Seniors and Persons with Disabilities (+innovative projects)
 - 5311 Rural Public Transportation Formula Program
 - RTAP
 - STBG Flex Funds (FHWA)
- 5339 Bus and Bus Facilities Competitive Program
- Major Capital Programs/BUILD Grants
 - Contact FTA to discuss projects well ahead of grant deadlines, procurement, incurring costs, etc.

R.O.U.T.E.S. Initiative

- ROUTES is a USDOT initiative to provide rural transportation project sponsors with pertinent and easy-to-use information about USDOT's infrastructure programs, to help overcome resource challenges that can be an impediment to competitive applications:
<https://www.transportation.gov/rural>
- Up to date funding opportunities across USDOT
- [ROUTES Applicant Toolkit](#): Maximize success in your competitive applications
- News, resources, events, Info-desk, and email listserv

Other News and Updates

- FTA Coronavirus/CARES Act Updates:
<https://www.transit.dot.gov/coronavirus>
 - CDC Resources for Transit Employees
 - Listening sessions and discussion forum
 - Up to date FAQ
- FY19 5311 Tribal Transit Competitive Program:
 - The **Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Tribe** received \$39,614 to build a new bus storage garage that will allow them to store 4 buses indoors at a convenient location.

News and Updates

- FY20 USDOT BUILD Discretionary Program
 - The **Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa** was just awarded **\$5.8 million** for its Transportation Renewal Project, which will construct a new multi-purpose transportation center with storage and maintenance bays and office space.
 - The grant will also help with the purchase of two additional buses for Miskwaabekong Transit, which will expand transit capacity.



Sec. Elaine Chao  @SecElaine... · Sep 16 
Big news for America's infrastructure! @USDOT is announcing \$1 billion in BUILD grants that will repair, rebuild, and revitalize transportation systems across America!

Other News and Updates

- New Tribal Resources website:
<https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/tribal-entities>
- New Federal Funds Braiding Guide:
<https://www.transit.dot.gov/coordinating-council-access-and-mobility>
- Transit Asset Management Reporting tool:
<https://www.transit.dot.gov/TAM/Tribes/TribalReporting>

Tribal Transportation Self-Governance Program: 23 USC §207

- **New Webpage for updates:**
<https://www.transportation.gov/self-governance>
- The Tribal Transportation Self-Governance Program is a voluntary program that will allow Tribes to negotiate a compact and funding agreement with USDOT
 - A compact is a government-to-government agreement that is in effect in perpetuity.
 - A funding agreement is in effect for one year.
- The specific terms of a compact and funding agreement will vary from tribe-to-tribe through an individual negotiation process.

Tribal Transportation Self-Governance Program (TTSGP)

- When a Tribe chooses to participate in TTSGP, funding allocations received from the USDOT will be subject to the terms of the Tribal self-governance statute and regulation (23 USC part 207), and the Tribe's compact and funding agreement.
- NEPA, Buy America, and 2 CFR Part 200 ("Cross-Cutting Regulations") will still apply to all FTA funds
- Other FTA regulations, policies, and oversight may be subject to the negotiation
- TTSGP becomes active 10/1/20. * ([Register for Webinar 2-3:30](#))
- Email: ttsqp@dot.gov

Technical Assistance and Training



NationalRTAP.org
888-589-6821



NC4MM.org
866-846-6400



NADTC.org
866-983-3222



NTIOnline.com
848-932-1700



NEW: National Center for Applied Transit Technology

N-CATT.org

Bus Shelter Project Example

- Forest County Potawatomi Community

Health & Wellness Bus Stop

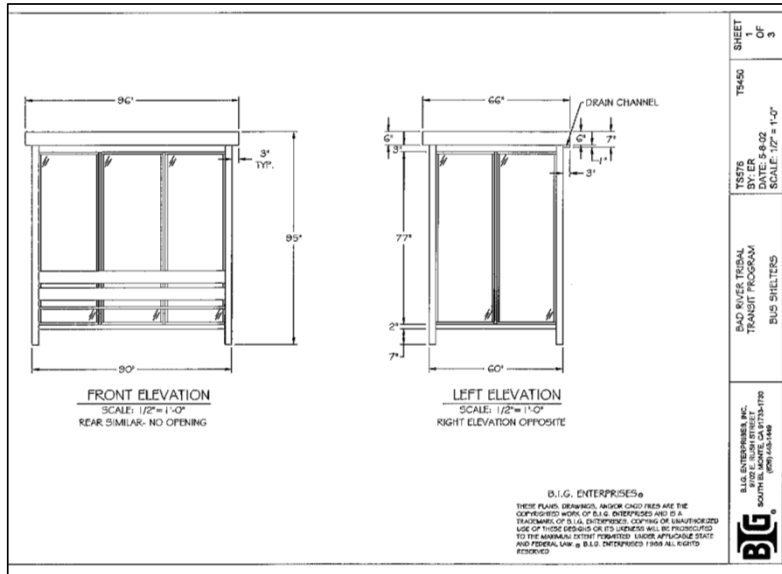


14

FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

Bus Shelter Project Example

- Bad River Transit



Bus Shelter Examples (discussion)

- “Toolkit for the Assessment of Bus Stop Accessibility and Safety” <https://www.nadtc.org/wp-content/uploads/NADTC-Toolkit-for-the-Assessment-of-Bus-Stop-Accessibility.pdf>
- Transit Cooperative Research Program (TCRP) Report “Guidelines for the Location and Design of Bus Stops”:
https://nacto.org/docs/usdg/tcrp_report_19.pdf

FTA Contacts:

Evan Gross (WI)

Email: Evan.Gross@dot.gov

Phone: 312-886-1619

Matt Lange (MN)

Email: Matthew.Lange@dot.gov

Phone: 312-353-4118

Angelica Salgado (MI)

Email: Angelica.Salgado@dot.gov

Phone: 312-886-1621



<https://www.transit.dot.gov/about/regional-offices/region-5>



Federal Transit
Administration
www.fta.dot.gov