

or optometrist's report to the medical examiner at the time of the annual medical examination; and (3) that each individual provide a copy of the annual medical certification to the employer for retention in the driver's qualification file and retain a copy of the certification on his/her person while driving for presentation to a duly authorized Federal, State, or local enforcement official. Each exemption will be valid for two years unless rescinded earlier by FMCSA. The exemption will be rescinded if: (1) The person fails to comply with the terms and conditions of the exemption; (2) the exemption has resulted in a lower level of safety than was maintained before it was granted; or (3) continuation of the exemption would not be consistent with the goals and objectives of 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315.

Basis for Renewing Exemptions

Under 49 U.S.C. 31315(b)(1), an exemption may be granted for no longer than two years from its approval date and may be renewed upon application for additional two year periods. In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315, each of the 15 applicants has satisfied the entry conditions for obtaining an exemption from the vision requirements (63 FR 30285; 63 FR 54519; 63 FR 196; 64 FR 54948; 65 FR 159; 67 FR 67234; 69 FR 62741; 71 FR 62147; 65 FR 20245; 65 FR 57230; 67 FR 57266; 65 FR 33406; 65 FR 57234; 65 FR 66293; 67 FR 67234; 67 FR 46016; 67 FR 57267; 69 FR 53493; 69 FR 62742; 71 FR 62148; 71 FR 6826; 71 FR 19602; 71 FR 32183; 71 FR 41310). Each of these 15 applicants has requested renewal of the exemption and has submitted evidence showing that the vision in the better eye continues to meet the standard specified at 49 CFR 391.41(b)(10) and that the vision impairment is stable. In addition, a review of each record of safety while driving with the respective vision deficiencies over the past two years indicates each applicant continues to meet the vision exemption standards. These factors provide an adequate basis for predicting each driver's ability to continue to drive safely in interstate commerce. Therefore, FMCSA concludes that extending the exemption for each renewal applicant for a period of two years is likely to achieve a level of safety equal to that existing without the exemption.

Request for Comments

FMCSA will review comments received at any time concerning a particular driver's safety record and determine if the continuation of the exemption is consistent with the

requirements at 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315. However, FMCSA requests that interested parties with specific data concerning the safety records of these drivers submit comments by November 10, 2008.

FMCSA believes that the requirements for a renewal of an exemption under 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315 can be satisfied by initially granting the renewal and then requesting and evaluating, if needed, subsequent comments submitted by interested parties. As indicated above, the Agency previously published notices of final disposition announcing its decision to exempt these 15 individuals from the vision requirement in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(10). The final decision to grant an exemption to each of these individuals was based on the merits of each case and only after careful consideration of the comments received to its notices of applications. The notices of applications stated in detail the qualifications, experience, and medical condition of each applicant for an exemption from the vision requirements. That information is available by consulting the above cited **Federal Register** publications.

Interested parties or organizations possessing information that would otherwise show that any, or all of these drivers, are not currently achieving the statutory level of safety should immediately notify FMCSA.

The Agency will evaluate any adverse evidence submitted and, if safety is being compromised or if continuation of the exemption would not be consistent with the goals and objectives of 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315, FMCSA will take immediate steps to revoke the exemption of a driver.

Issued on: October 2, 2008.

Larry W. Minor,

Associate Administrator for Policy and Program Development.

[FR Doc. E8-24104 Filed 10-9-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-EX-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Transit Administration

Paul S. Sarbanes Transit in Parks Program, Formerly Alternative Transportation in Parks and Public Lands Program

AGENCY: Federal Transit Administration (FTA), DOT.

ACTION: Announcement of project selections.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) Federal Transit

Administration (FTA) announces the selection of projects to be funded under Fiscal Year (FY) 2008 appropriations for the Paul S. Sarbanes Transit in Parks program (formally the Alternative Transportation in Parks and Public Lands (ATPPL)) program, authorized by Section 3021 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act—A Legacy for Users of 2005 (SAFETEA-LU) and codified in 49 U.S.C. 5320. The Paul S. Sarbanes Transit in Parks program funds capital and planning expenses for alternative transportation systems in parks and public lands. Federal land management agencies and State, tribal and local governments acting with the consent of a Federal land management agency are eligible recipients.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Award recipients who are State, local, or tribal entities may contact the appropriate FTA Regional Administrator (See Appendix A) for grant-specific issues. Award Recipients who are a specific unit of the following Federal land management agencies should work with the contact listed below at their headquarters office to coordinate the availability of funds to that unit.

- *Bureau of Land Management:* Linda Force, *Linda_Force@blm.gov*, 202-557-3567.

- *Fish and Wildlife Service:* Nathan Caldwell, *nathan_caldwell@fws.gov*, 703-358-2376.

- *Forest Service:* Ellen LaFayette, *elafayette@fs.fed.us*, 703-605-4509.

- *National Park Service:* Kevin Percival, *Kevin_Percival@nps.gov*, 303-969-2429.

Any other Federal land management agency, as specified by 49 U.S.C. 5320(b)(2), should contact Henrika Buchanan-Smith at (202) 366-2053 for instructions regarding receiving funds. For general information about the Paul S. Sarbanes Transit in Parks program, please contact Scott Faulk, Office of Program Management, Federal Transit Administration, at (202) 366-2053.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A total of \$25,000,000 was appropriated for FTA's Paul S. Sarbanes Transit in Parks program in Fiscal Year (FY) 2008, and \$807,660 in FY 2007 funds remain available for allocation. Of this amount, \$1,250,000 has been reserved for oversight, planning, research, and technical assistance leaving \$24,557,660 available for project awards. A total of 84 applicants requested \$55.2 million in funding under the program, which was more than twice the amount available for projects. FTA, Department of the

Interior (DOI), and land management agencies' representatives evaluated the project proposals based on the criteria defined in 49 U.S.C. 5320(g)(2) and detailed in the Notice of Funding Availability published on December 13, 2007.

The 52 projects selected for funding in FY 2008 are shown on Table 1 and represent a diverse set of capital and planning projects across the country, ranging from bus purchases to installation of Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS).

Applying for Funds

Recipients who are State or local government entities will be required to apply for Paul S. Sarbanes Transit in Parks program funds electronically through FTA's electronic grant award and management system, TEAM. The content of these grant applications must reflect the approved proposal. (**Note:** Applications for the Paul S. Sarbanes Transit in Parks program do not require Department of Labor Certification.) Upon grant award, payments to grantees will be made by electronic transfer to the grantee's financial institution through the Electronic Clearing House Operation (ECHO) system. Staff in FTA's Regional offices is available to assist applicants.

Recipients who are Federal land management agencies will be required to enter into an interagency agreement with FTA. FTA will administer one interagency agreement with each Federal land management agency receiving funding through the program for all of that agency's projects. Individual units of Federal land management agencies should work with the contact at their headquarters office listed above to coordinate the availability of funds to that unit.

Program Requirements

Section 5320 requires funding recipients to meet certain requirements. Requirements that reflect existing statutory and regulatory provisions can be found in the document "Alternative

Transportation in Parks and Public Lands Program: Requirements for Recipients" available at <http://www.fta.dot.gov/atppl>. These requirements are incorporated into the grant agreements and inter-agency agreements used to fund the selected projects.

Pre-Award Authority

Pre-award authority allows an agency that will receive a grant or interagency agreement to incur certain project costs prior to receipt of the grant or interagency agreement and retain eligibility of the costs for subsequent reimbursement after the grant or agreement is approved. The recipient assumes all risk and is responsible for ensuring that all conditions are met to retain eligibility, including compliance with federal requirements such as the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), SAFETEA-LU planning requirements, and provisions established in the grant contract or Interagency Agreement. This automatic pre-award spending authority, when triggered, permits a grantee to incur costs on an eligible transit capital or planning project without prejudice to possible future Federal participation in the cost of the project or projects. Under the authority provided in 49 U.S.C. 5320(h), FTA is extending pre-award authority for FY 2008 ATTPPL projects effective as of October 10, 2008 when the projects were publicly announced.

The conditions under which pre-award authority may be utilized are specified below:

- a. Pre-award authority is not a legal or implied commitment that the project(s) will be approved for FTA assistance or that FTA will obligate Federal funds. Furthermore, it is not a legal or implied commitment that all items undertaken by the applicant will be eligible for inclusion in the project(s).
- b. All FTA statutory, procedural, and contractual requirements must be met.
- c. No action will be taken by the grantee that prejudices the legal and administrative findings that the Federal

Transit Administrator must make in order to approve a project.

d. Local funds expended pursuant to this pre-award authority will be eligible for reimbursement if FTA later makes a grant or interagency agreement for the project(s). Local funds expended by the grantee prior to October 10, 2008 will not be eligible for credit toward local match or reimbursement. Furthermore, the expenditure of local funds on activities such as land acquisition, demolition, or construction, prior to the completion of the NEPA process, would compromise FTA's ability to comply with Federal environmental laws and may render the project ineligible for FTA funding.

e. When a grant for the project is subsequently awarded, the Financial Status Report, in TEAM-Web, must indicate the use of pre-award authority, and the pre-award item in the project information section of TEAM should be marked "yes."

Reporting Requirements

All recipients must submit quarterly reports to FTA containing the following information:

- (1) Narrative description of project(s); and,
- (2) discussion of all budget and schedule changes.

The headquarters office for each federal land management agency should collect a quarterly report for each of the projects delineated in the interagency agreement and then send these reports (preferably by e-mail) to Scott Faulk, FTA, scott.faulk@dot.gov; 1200 New Jersey Avenue, Washington, DC 20590. Examples can be found on the program Web site at <http://www.fta.dot.gov/atppl>. State and local governments will send this information to FTA for projects that are funded through grants to State and local governments rather than through the interagency agreement. The quarterly reports are due to FTA on the dates noted below:

Quarter	Covering	Due date
1st Quarter Report	October 1–December 31	January 31
2nd Quarter Report	January 1–March 31	April 30.
3rd Quarter Report	April 1–June 30	July 31.
4th Quarter Report	July 1–September 31	October 31.

In order to allow FTA to compute aggregate program performance measures as required by the President's Management Agenda, FTA requests that all recipients of funding for capital projects under the Paul S. Sarbanes

Transit in Parks program submit the following information annually:

- Annual visitation to the land unit;
- Annual number of persons who use the alternative transportation system (ridership/usage);

- An estimate of the number of vehicle trips mitigated based on alternative transportation system usage and the typical number of passengers per vehicle;
- Cost per passenger; and,

- A note of any special services offered for those systems with higher costs per passenger but more amenities.

State and local government entities should submit this information as part of their fourth quarter report through FTA's TEAM grants management system. Federal land management agencies should also send this information as part of their fourth quarter report. Examples can be found on the program Web site at <http://www.fta.dot.gov/atppl>.

Oversight

Recipients of FY 2008 Paul S. Sarbanes Transit in Parks program funds will be required to certify that they will comply with all applicable Federal and FTA programmatic requirements. FTA direct grantees will complete this certification as part of the annual Certification and Assurances package, and Federal Land Management Agency recipients will complete the certification by signing the interagency agreement. This certification is the basis for oversight reviews conducted by FTA.

The Secretary of Transportation and FTA have elected not to apply the triennial review requirements of 49 U.S.C. 5307(h)(2) to Paul S. Sarbanes Transit in Parks program recipients that are other Federal agencies. Instead, working with the existing oversight systems at the Federal Land Management Agencies, FTA will perform periodic reviews of specific projects funded by the Paul S. Sarbanes Transit in Parks program. These reviews will ensure that projects meet the basic statutory, administrative, and regulatory requirements as stipulated by this notice and the certification. To the extent possible, these reviews will be coordinated with other reviews of the

project. FTA direct grantees of Paul S. Sarbanes Transit in Parks program funds (State, local and tribal government entities) will be subject to all applicable triennial, State management, civil rights, and other reviews.

Issued in Washington, DC, this 6th day of October, 2008.

James S. Simpson,
Administrator.

Appendix A—FTA Regional Offices

Region I

Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont. Richard Doyle, FTA Regional Administrator, Kendall Square, 55 Broadway, Suite 920, Cambridge, MA 02142-1093, (617) 494-2055.

Region II

New Jersey, and New York. Brigid Hynes-Cherín, FTA Regional Administrator, One Bowling Green, Room 429, New York, NY 10004-1415, (212) 668-2170.

Region III

Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia. Letitia Thompson, FTA Regional Administrator, 1760 Market Street, Suite 500, Philadelphia, PA 19103-4124, (215) 656-7100.

Region IV

Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virgin Islands. Yvette Taylor, FTA Regional Administrator, 230 Peachtree St., NW., Suite 800, Atlanta, GA 30303, (404) 865-5600.

Region V

Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin.

Marisol Simon, FTA Regional Administrator, 200 West Adams Street, Suite 320, Chicago, IL 60606-5232, (312) 353-2789.

Region VI

Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas. Robert Patrick, FTA Regional Administrator, 819 Taylor Street, Room 8A36, Ft. Worth, TX 76102, (817) 978-0550.

Region VII

Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska. Mokhtee Ahmad, FTA Regional Administrator, 901 Locust Street, Suite 404, Kansas City, MO 64106, (816) 329-3920.

Region VIII

Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming. Terry Rosapep, FTA Regional Administrator, 12300 West Dakota, Suite 310, Lakewood, CO 80228-2583, (720) 963-3300.

Region IX

American Samoa, Arizona, California, Guam, Hawaii, Nevada, and the Northern Mariana Islands. Leslie Rogers, FTA Regional Administrator, 201 Mission Street, Room 1650, San Francisco, CA 94105-1839, (415) 744-3133.

Region X

Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington. Richard F. Krochalis, FTA Regional Administrator, Jackson Federal Building, 915 Second Avenue, Suite 3142, Seattle, WA 98174-1002, (206) 220-7954.

BILLING CODE 4910-57-P

FY 2008 Paul S. Sarbanes Transit in Parks Program Project Selection					
<u>Project Name</u>	<u>Land Unit</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Funding Recipient</u>
Eyak Alternative Transportation Planning Grant	Chugach Nat'l Forest	FS/NPS	\$400,000	AK	Native Village of Eyak (TEAM Number: D2008-ATPL-001)
Lake Mary Road Bicycle Facility Project	Coconino National Forest	FS	\$855,685	AZ	City of Flagstaff (TEAM Number: D2008-ATPL-002)
Wickenburg Community Trails System	Hassayampa Field Office	BLM	\$96,950	AZ	BLM
Lease Shuttle Buses for the Giant Forest Shuttle System in Sequoia National Park	Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks	NPS	\$230,000	CA	NPS
Tahoe City Transit Center	USFS - LTBMU	FS	\$3,000,000	CA	Placer County (TEAM Number: D2008-ATPL-003)
Lease Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System (YARTS) Vehicles	Yosemite National Park	NPS	\$272,520	CA	Yosemite Area Rapid Transit System (TEAM Number: D2008-ATPL-004)
Implement a Fee Parking System to Fund Shuttle and Transit Access	Golden Gate National Recreation Area	NPS	\$360,000	CA	NPS
Second Year of Reds Meadow Transportation Shuttle Reimbursement for Bus Leasing	Inyo National Forest	FS	\$105,000	CA	USFS
San Joaquin Valley/Sequoia National Park Gateway Shuttle Link	Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks	NPS	\$250,000	CA	NPS
Design Accessible Bus Stops and Multi-Use Link to Transit at Muir Beach	Muir Woods National Monument of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area	NPS	\$155,000	CA	NPS
Purchase New Tram Vehicles for Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias	Yosemite National Park	NPS	\$1,600,000	CA	NPS
Prepare an EIS	Golden Gate National Recreation Area	NPS	\$490,000	CA	NPS
Feasibility Study for Developing an ATS at Whitney Portal	Inyo National Forest and BLM	FS	\$200,000	CA	USFS
Conduct Planning and Complete Engineering Study to improve	East Santa Cruz Island and Channel Islands	NPS	\$380,000	CA	NPS

Access to Santa Cruz Island	National Park				
Comprehensive Transportation Study and Development of a Multi-Agency Master Transportation Plan for Eastern Sierra	Inyo National Forest, Devils Postpile National Monument, Yosemite Nat'l Park	FS	\$350,000	CA	USFS
Establish Park Transportation Improvement Plan	Yosemite National Park	NPS	\$500,000	CA	NPS
San Diego Bay NWR Salt Ponds Transportation Feasibility Study	San Diego Bay Nat'l Refuge	FWS	\$45,000	CA	FWS
PresidiGo Shuttle Service Bus Purchase	Presidio of San Francisco	Presidio Trust	\$840,000	CA	Presidio Trust (TEAM Number: D2008-ATPL-005)
Feasibility and Cost Analysis for the Development of Multi-Use Trails	Rocky Mountain National Park	NPS	\$60,000	CO	NPS
Rocky Mountain National Park and Primary Access NEPA	Rocky Mountain National Park	NPS	\$200,000	CO	NPS
The Timucuan Boat and Kingsley Tram Tour	Timucuan Preserve	NPS	\$557,520	FL	City of Jacksonville (TEAM Number: D2008-ATPL-006)
NPS Visitor Center and Union Station Bikeway Intermodal Transportation Connector Design	NPS BLAC, NPS Blackstone River Bikeway National Recreation Trail	NPS	\$290,000	MA	NPS
Multi-Modal Transportation Infrastructure Improvement Project	Lowell National Historical Park (LOWE)	NPS	\$465,000	MA	NPS
Alternative Transportation CNG Bus - Lowell Park Transportation System	Lowell National Historical Park	NPS	\$220,000	MA	NPS
Study Integrated Bicycle Plan for Cape Cod	Cape Cod National Seashore	NPS	\$250,000	MA	NPS
Study of Cape Cod ITS	Cape Cod National Seashore	NPS	\$250,000	MA	NPS
Plan to develop Adams Landing Transportation Hub	Adams National Historical Park, Squantum Point Park	NPS	\$250,000	MA	NPS
Rehabilitate/Construct Pedestrian/Bike Trails	Assateague Island National Seashore	NPS	\$38,200	MD	NPS

Prepare a Business Plan for Visitor Transit Implementation	Assateague Island National Seashore, Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge	NPS	\$95,000	MD	NPS
Replace Three 28 Passenger Propane Powered Transit Buses Equipped with Transit Technology	Acadia National Park	NPS	\$528,900	ME	Maine DOT (TEAM Number: D2008-ATPL-007)
Construct Bus Maintenance Facility and Island Explorer Operation Center	Acadia National Park	NPS	\$1,000,000	ME	NPS
Enhancement of Grand Island National Recreation Area Alternative Transportation System	Hiawatha National Forest	FS	\$215,000	MI	USFS
Alternative Transportation Implementation Study for Bodie Island in Cape Hatteras National Seashore	Cape Hatteras	NPS	\$100,000	NC	NPS
White Mountain Transportation	White Mountain National Forest	FS	\$150,000	NH	USFS
Alternative Fuel Tour Bus for Bosque del Apache NWR	Bosque del Apache NWR	FWS	\$126,000	NM	FWS
Alternative Transportation Planning for Public Access to Valles Caldera National Preserve	Valles Caldera National Preserve	FS	\$200,000	NM	USFS
Phased Implementation of ATS	Roosevelt-Vanderbilt National Historic Sites	NPS	\$630,000	NY	NPS
Complete Planning for the Rockaway Gateway Connector	Jamaica Bay unit of Gateway National Recreation Area	NPS	\$150,000	NY	NPS
Traveler Information System	National Parks of New York	NPS	\$250,000	NY	NPS
Alternative Transportation Feasibility Study	Fort Stanwix National Monument	NPS	\$75,000	NY	NPS
Lease Lewis and Clark Explorer Shuttle Buses	Lewis and Clark National Historical Park	NPS	\$43,000	OR	Sunset Empire Transportation District (TEAM Number: D2008-ATPL-008)
Seven Points Non-Motorized Alternative Transportation Pathway	Raystown Lake	USACE	\$854,450	PA	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (TEAM Number:

					D2008-ATPL-009)
Continuation of Partnership Prototype to Test Feasibility	Valley Forge National Historic Park	NPS	\$223,000	PA	NPS
North Moab Recreation Areas Alternative Transportation System	Arches National Park BLM Moab Field Office	BLM	\$3,000,000	UT	Grand County (TEAM Number: D2008-ATPL-010)
Mill Creek Canyon Transportation Feasibility Study	Wasatch-Cache National Forest	FS	\$220,000	UT	USFS
Provide Intelligent Information Traffic System (IITS)	Chincoteague NWR, FWS; Assateague National Seashore, NPS	FWS/NPS	\$350,000	VA	FWS
Construct Pedestrian/Bike Trail	Chincoteague NWR, FWS; Assateague National Seashore, NPS	FWS	\$600,000	VA	NPS
March-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park and Town of Woodstock Pilot Shuttle Bus Program	March-Billing-Rockefeller National Historical Park	NPS	\$215,000	VT	NPS
Lease Paradise Area Shuttle Service Vehicles at Mount Rainier	Mount Rainier National Park	NPS	\$110,900	WA	NPS
Planning Grant for Shi-Shi Trail and Beach	Shi-Shi Trail and Beach	FWS	\$123,376	WA	Makah Tribe (TEAM Number: D2008-ATPL-011)
Mt. Baker Snoqualmie National Forest Alternative Transportation Feasibility Study	Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest	FS	\$500,000	WA	USFS
North 89 Pathway	National Elk Refuge	FWS	\$2,000,000	WY	Teton County (TEAM Number: D2008-ATPL-012)
	52 Projects	Total	\$24,470,501		

FS = U.S. Forest Service

NPS = National Park Service

BLM = U.S. Bureau of Land Management

FWS = U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

USACE = U.S. Army Corps of Engineers