

ITEM 8 – Information
November 15, 2023

2023 Enhanced Mobility Grant Program

Background: The board will be briefed on the solicitation and project selection process for the Federal Transit Administration’s Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program for the Washington DC-VA-MD Urbanized Area. A grant solicitation was conducted from August 1 to September 30, 2023 and a selection committee is currently reviewing the grant applications and will be recommending projects for funding. The board will be asked to approve the recommended projects for funding and inclusion in the TIP at its December meeting.



MEMORANDUM

TO: National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board
FROM: Nicholas Ramfos, Transportation Operations Programs Director
SUBJECT: Enhanced Mobility Program Selection Update
DATE: November 9, 2023

PURPOSE

The purpose of this memorandum is to update the committee on the recent Enhanced Mobility Round 6 solicitation for approximately \$10.2 million of Federal Transit Administration grants for capital and operating projects improving transportation for people with disabilities and older adults. These grant dollars are for two-year projects with an 80% federal match for capital projects and 50% federal match for operating projects.

TPB staff have conducted 3 pre-application conferences per each state jurisdiction in the urbanized region. One was held in Silver Spring, MD on August 4, another at COG's offices in Washington DC on August 16, and the final being held in Tysons Corner, VA on August 21. In total, 58 individuals representing 45 organizations attended the three conferences held cumulatively.

The application was open between August 1 and September 30, with 27 separate organizations requesting approximately \$15.6 million from 30 applications submitted. TPB staff organized the selection process for these projects including the creation of a selection committee to score and recommend projects to the TPB.

The selection committee comprises of a member representing each state jurisdiction, a national expert, and a chair: TPB Vice Chair Christina Henderson is chairing the 2023 Enhanced Mobility Selection Committee which includes the following members: Anthony DeLorenzo serving as the District of Columbia member from DC's Department of General Services, Jess Maffey serving as the Virginia member from the Department of Rail and Public Transportation, Tanya Nichols serving as the Maryland member from the Maryland Transit Administration, and Eileen Schroff serving as the national expert from US Aging.

TPB staff held an introductory kick off meeting on October 16, 2023 for all Selection Committee members to understand the scoring criteria set out by the Coordinated Human Service Transportation Plan that sets out the competitive selection process for grant funding. The plan identifies unmet transportation needs of people with disabilities and older adults, strategies, and regional priority projects. The priority projects are also another tool that the selection committee will be scoring for to select a wider range of project scopes recommended by the Access for All Committee.

The selection committee met at COG on November 9, 2023 to discuss award recommendations which will be finalized and presented to the TPB for final review and approval in December.