

Federally Funded Innovation Projects

The Federal Transit Administration is supporting communities in creating innovative transportation project through three comprehensive initiatives:

1. **Rides to Wellness Demonstration and Innovative Coordinated Access and Mobility Grants** (“Rides 2 Wellness” 2016). The FAST Act included a competitive pilot program for innovative coordinated access and mobility to help finance innovative projects for the transportation disadvantaged that improve the coordination of transportation services and non-emergency medical transportation (NEMT) services.
2. **Mobility on Demand public transportation projects** (“MOD” 2016). The MOD Sandbox Program is part of a larger research effort at DOT that supports transit agencies and communities as they integrate new mobility tools like smart phone apps, bike- and car-sharing, and demand-responsive bus and van services. MOD projects help make transportation systems more efficient and accessible, particularly for people who lack access to a car.
3. **Innovations in Accessible Mobility Grants** (“NADTC” 2016; grants completed). The National Aging and Disability Transportation Center implemented these grants for the development of program innovations that increase accessible transportation options for older adults and people with disabilities and maximize the utilization of Section 5310 and other federal funding investments.

The following descriptions of projects or grants that fall under these programs are described below, organized by the following 11 primary areas of service:

1. Coordination of Transportation Services
2. Technology
3. Transit and TNC Partnerships
4. Travel Navigation
5. Travel Training/System Navigation
6. First/Last Mile Solutions
7. Equity
8. Collaboration Between Transit and Health Care

Coordination of Transportation Services

New Hampshire DOT (Rides 2 Wellness; FTA Region 1). Bridge to Integration Project, a technology that will bridge the gap between Medicaid-funded transportation brokers and NHDOT’s coordination software vendor system, an innovation that will be tested at three pilot sites. The sites

will test the new technology with the goal of increasing access to transportation for healthcare appointments for Medicaid recipients, older adults and people with disabilities. NH DOT, DHHS, D of Ed, Governor's Commission on Disability, NH Transit Association, Endowment For Health, United Way, Granite State Independent Living, AARP, Easter Seals, U of NH Institute on Disability, Aeronautics, NHDOT, Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission, Coordinated Transportation Solutions & Tri-County CAP.

Montachusett Regional Transit Authority, MA (Rides 2 Wellness; FTA Region 1). Implement a technology that analyzes routing and dispatching among several providers to integrate management of rides to healthcare in western Massachusetts and boost under-used fixed route and paratransit services. The software will allow paratransit and Council on Aging systems to bid on demand response, long-term and shared ride contracts so people seeking fixed route, paratransit and senior ride services can request additional rides or mix rides to maximize efficiencies. Software companies, Ashby, & Leominster Council on Aging Center.

Maryland Transit Administration (Rides 2 Well)ness; FTA Region 3. Software to coordinate and provides transportation to and from non-emergency medical appointments at no cost to the individuals. Western Maryland Health System, the Tri-State Community Health Center, the Alleghany County Health Department & the Core Service Agency.

Michigan DOT (Rides 2 Wellness; FTA Region 5). Expand a brokerage-based program currently only available in certain parts of the state to a statewide model. The coordination software records trips reserved by county in each region based on trip types, procedures and clinic visits. Local health centers will integrate the software and refer clients to the service. Partners include the Michigan Public Transit Association, MassTrans, CTAA, and area health centers.

Detroit DOT (Rides 2 Wellness; FTA Region 5). The Detroit Project focuses on scheduling software that improves efficiency and coordination between transportation and healthcare providers, as well as offer transportation to health/wellness/prevention activities such as recreation centers, parks, and farmers markets. Detroit DOT, AAA, Health & Wellness Promotion Dept, Recreation Dept, Healthy Detroit, Amor Transportation, Rhema Home Health-care, and Tiger Transit.

Flint Mass Transportation Authority, MI (Rides 2 Wellness; FTA Region 5). Develop a mobility management program, including coordinated non-emergency medical transportation, trip planning and training. The program will provide rides to wellness appointments for behavioral health patients, dialysis patients, and primary/urgent care for families, and elderly and elderly disabled patients in Flint and nearby Genesee County. Flint MTA, Valley AAA, Genesee Health System, state & local Depts of Health & Human Services, Greater Flint Health Coalition, Michigan Children's Healthcare Access Program, & Jewish Community Services

Technology

Vermont Agency of Transportation (MOD; FTA Region 1). Statewide transit trip planner that will enable flex-route, hail-a-ride, and other non-fixed-route services to be incorporated in mobility apps.

Mountain Empire Older Citizens, Big Stone Gap, VA (NADTC; FTA Region 3). Mountain Empire Older Citizens will create a one call system and recruit and train passenger attendants to educate and assist riders.

Pennsylvania DOT (Rides 2 Wellness; FTA Region 3). Fund FindMyRidePA. a one-call, one-click center and real-time transportation service serving a three-county area in central Pennsylvania. Keystone Health, Family Health, Smart Transit, & rabbittransit.

Knoxville Area Transit, TN (Rides 2 Wellness; FTA Region 4). Expand its 2-1-1 call center as a single point of entry for older adults and people with disabilities to access transit to healthcare facilities in the region. Train public information staff, healthcare providers and residents on how to use KAT buses. Cherokee Health Systems, Knox County Health Department & the Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization.

Research Triangle RPTA, NC (Rides 2 Wellness; FTA Region 4). Expand GoTriangle Regional Call Center to improve coordinated transit planning and application assistance for paratransit riders who are low-income, uninsured or have mental health special needs. By co-locating paratransit mobility management services with fixed route mobility management services, the project will increase access to care. GoTriangle, GoDurham ACCESS, Durham County Cooperative Extension (Durham County ACCESS), Dept of Social Services, Alliance Behavioral Healthcare, Carolina Outreach, Duke University Health System, Lincoln Community Health Center, & Project Access of Durham County.

Rides Mass Transit District, IL (Rides 2 Wellness; FTA Region 5). Establish a "one-call" center, expand mobility management services for patients at risk of re-hospitalization, and initiate transportation coordination for patients seeking drug abuse and mental health services in southern Illinois with a high rate of mental health and substance abuse and a disproportionately low number of healthcare providers. MedTrans, Memorial Hospital of Carbondale, Marshall Browning Hospital, Franklin Hospital, Herrin Hospital, the Rural Medical Transportation Network of the SIU School of Medicine-Center for Rural Health & Social Service Development, & Rides Mass Transit District with funding from Downstate Operating Assistance Program.

Dallas Area Rapid Transit, TX (MOD; FTA Region 6). Integrates ride-sharing services into its GoPass ticketing app to solve first and last mile issues. This project will combine traveler applications to create an integrated, multimodal application that leverages ride-sharing services.

Regional Transportation Authority of Pima County, AZ (MOD; FTA Region 9). Adaptive Mobility with Reliability and Efficiency project, integrating fixed route, subscription based ride-sharing and social carpooling services into an existing data platform to provide affordable, convenient and flexible service.

Valley Metro Rail, Inc., AZ (MOD; FTA Region 9). Valley Metro Rail of Phoenix will receive funding for a smart phone mobility platform that integrates mobile ticketing and multimodal trip planning. The network will include a range of mobility providers, including ride-hailing, bike sharing, and car-sharing companies, allowing all levels of income, age and people with disabilities to have access to an integrated, connected multimodal transportation system.

San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit, CA (MOD; FTA Region 9). San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) will receive funding for an integrated carpool to transit program that will help users

find carpool matches as well as match them to their transit destinations. The project will provide a seamless way to reserve and pay for in-demand parking spaces at BART stations, allow preferential parking for carpoolers while increasing transit ridership by improving access to BART stations. The software will include ways to identify drivers with wheelchair-accessible vehicles.

Tri-County Metropolitan Transportation District, OR (MOD; FTA Region 10). Build on its existing trip planning app to incorporate shared use mobility options and more sophisticated functionality and interfaces, including data sharing for shared-use mobility providers.

Transit and TNC Partnerships

Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority, FL (MOD; FTA Region 4). The Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority will receive funding for the Paratransit Mobility on Demand Demonstration, a set of partnerships with a taxi company, a paratransit service and a car-sharing company to develop a model to provide more cost-effective on-demand door-to door paratransit service. The project will feature a central dispatch software that provides users with a selection of transportation service providers based on an estimated time of pickup, available payment types, and physical limitations.

Chicago Transit Authority, IL (MOD; FTA Region 5). CTA will receive funding for a project that will incorporate the local bike sharing company, Divvy, a 580 station bike share service, into CTA's existing transit trip planning app so users can identify the availability of bikes or docking stations near their transit stops, and pay for bike rentals.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, CA and Pierce County Public Transportation Benefit Area Corporation, WA (MOD; FTA Region 10). LA will receive funding for a two-region mobility on demand partnership with the car-sharing company, Lyft, in Los Angeles and Seattle. The project will explore the viability of first/last mile solutions for trips originating and ending at select transit stops. Pierce County's Limited Access Connections project will connect Pierce Transit local service, Sound Transit/Sounder regional service, and local ride-share companies in order to increase regional transit use. By providing first/last mile service in and between traditional zones, guaranteed rides home, and rides to park-and-ride lots, the project will extend service hours and provide access to transit for riders who have limited transit options.

Travel Navigation

Vermont Agency of Transportation (Rides 2 Wellness; FTA Region 1). Train staff at Community Health Services to act as mobility managers to help individuals in the Ascutney, Windsor and St. Johnsbury regions of Vermont schedule and attend medical appointments. Modeled on a program in another region of Vermont, the mobility managers will help patients, medical providers and social service agencies identify individuals most at risk and provide alternative transportation options via local transit providers.

Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority, NY (Rides 2 Wellness; FTA Region 2). Transportation to prenatal healthcare appointments for low-income, high-risk pregnant women in Buffalo, NY. The

project provides participants with a transit pass as well as guidance on how to use the public transportation system for healthcare appointments. Catholic Health, Belmont Housing, Kaleida, United Way.

Flint Mass Transportation Authority, MI (Rides 2 Wellness; FTA Region 5). Develop a mobility management program, including coordinated non-emergency medical transportation, trip planning and training. The program will provide rides to wellness appointments for behavioral health patients, dialysis patients, and primary/urgent care for families, and elderly and elderly disabled patients in Flint and nearby Genesee County. Flint MTA, Valley AAA, Genesee Health System, state & local Departments of Health & Human Services, Greater Flint Health Coalition, Michigan Children's Healthcare Access Program, & Jewish Community Services.

Riverside County Transportation Commission, CA (Rides 2 Wellness; FTA Region 9). Blythe Wellness Express, a program that provides access to preventive healthcare for South California residents. This travel navigator/mobility management coordination project will address access to services in an underserved area and involve staff from the public transit agency, healthcare providers and community volunteers. Riverside County Transportation Commission, Palo Verde Valley Transit Agency, & the Palo Verde Valley healthcare community.

San Diego Association of Governments, CA (Rides 2 Wellness; FTA Region 9). Coordinate rides for patients, both those traveling from emergency rooms to hospitals for admission and discharged patients traveling to pharmacies, treatments or their homes. The project will apply mobility management as part of hospital discharge planning. FACT, SANDAG, Tri-City Medical Center.

Travel training/system navigation

Atlanta Regional Commission, GA (Rides 2 Wellness; FTA Region 4). Travel training, free transit passes over a six-month period, and paratransit or reduced fare enrollment assistance to at least 200 individuals to be selected from four area health centers. Atlanta MPO, AAA, Grady Memorial Hospital & Health centers, Mercy Care.

First/Last Mile Solutions

Chicago Transit Authority, IL (MOD; FTA Region 5). CTA will receive funding for a project that will incorporate the local bike sharing company, Divvy, a 580 station bike share service, into CTA's existing transit trip planning app so users can identify the availability of bikes or docking stations near their transit stops, and pay for bike rentals.

Equity

Atlanta Regional Commission, GA (Rides 2 Wellness; FTA Region 4). Travel training, free transit passes over a six-month period, and paratransit or reduced fare enrollment assistance to at least 200

individuals to be selected from four area health centers. Atlanta MPO, AAA, Grady Memorial Hospital & Health centers, Mercy Care.

Ohio DOT (Rides 2 Wellness; FTA Region 5). Mommy and Me Ride for Free program on behalf of the Hospital Council of Northwest Ohio. The project, which improves coordination and access in Lucas County by leveraging existing transportation options, will provide pregnant women and women with infants access to transportation. Using the TARPS and TARTA transit systems, women will increase their access to healthcare, leading to better birth outcomes and improved health status for both mother and baby. Toledo Area Regional Transit Authority, Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments, Toledo-Lucas County Health Department, & Ohio Equity Institutes.

Collaboration Between Transit and Health Care

Jacksonville Transportation Authority, FL (Rides 2 Wellness; FTA Region 4). Develop a software interface connecting medical scheduling programs and transit schedules to generate transit travel times and costs for healthcare receptionists and patients as they choose appointments. With the potential to link a large number of healthcare providers to mobility management nationally, the project will provide a pilot data set to prove the value of linking transportation options with medical appointments. University of Florida Health, Cambridge Systematics, Smart Transit & Health Planning Council.