



Public Transit Special Notice of Funding Recommendations:

Unobligated FY27 STA Special Projects and Covid Relief Funds



Public Transit Special Notice of Funding

- In July, Iowa DOT put out a call for projects to utilize unobligated or returned State Transit Assistance Special Project funds and COVID-era relief funding available for reprogramming.
 - FY 2027 remaining set-aside State Transit Assistance for special projects (STA Special Projects)
 - **\$268,621** available carry over balance*
 - 35 designated Iowa public transit systems are eligible to apply. Iowa Public Transit Association also may apply for projects benefiting all public transit agencies.
- Higher than presented in July. A project sponsor notified Iowa DOT of project ending early, leaving a balance of \$63,999 able to be added to this total available for re-programming

Public Transit Special Notice of Funding (2)

- Remaining COVID-era relief funding from Federal Transit Administration (FTA) grants (CARES/ARPA/CRRSAA).
 - Only agencies listed in original grants eligible
 - **\$216,209** available for reprogramming

Funding Type	Eligible Agencies	Eligible Projects	Total Amount Available
5311, CRRSAA	Regional and Small Urban Systems	Operating	\$32,071
5311, ARPA	Regional and Small Urban Systems	Operating	\$120,539
5310, ARPA	Large Urban Systems (50,000-199,999 population), Regions 2 and 10	Cost of Contracted Services, Preventive Maintenance, Operating	\$63,599

STA Special Projects are extraordinary, emergency, or innovative in nature and may include but are not limited to:

1. Expanding the scope of planning, managerial, or technical expertise.
2. Increasing the public's awareness and understanding of transit.
3. Enhancing the capacity for administration consolidation and service coordination.
4. Reducing impediments to intramodal or intermodal transfers.
5. Increasing the cooperation and coordination between private and public sectors.
6. Developing, demonstrating, or refining a technical, procedural, or mechanical innovation that may be utilized by other public transit systems in Iowa.
7. Responding to an emergency situation that places an extraordinary and unforeseen strain on the resources of a public transit system.

STA Special Project Program Details:

- Grants can include projects which support transit services developed in conjunction with human service agencies or local community partners or statewide projects to improve public transit in Iowa.
- Projects are intended to assist with start-up of new services that have been identified as needs by health, employment or human service agencies or other community partners.
- Statewide projects may be used on transit marketing and projects exploring new transit technologies.
- Operating and small capital projects are eligible for funding up to a maximum of 50% state participation for two years. Vehicles and facilities are not eligible under this program.

STA Special Project Program Details (continued):

- One project per transit system at a time is allowed.
- Priority is given to projects which include a financial contribution from human service agencies or community partners.
- Round 2 applications were due July 24. Projects begin as soon as contracts can be issued. Up to two years of funding may be requested.

STA Special Project Program Details (continued 2):

- Evaluation Criteria:
 - Financial contribution from human service agency(ies) or community partners.
 - Demonstration of Need.
 - Demonstration of Benefits.
 - Demonstration of Coordinated Transportation.
 - Addressing Long Range Public Transit Needs.

FY 2027 Special Project, Round 2 Iowa DOT-sponsored Projects

Project Name	Sponsor	Total Project Cost	Requested Amount (% of Total Project Cost)	Recommended Amount (% of Total Project Cost)
HIRTA Minivan Cost-sharing	Iowa DOT	\$91,592	\$45,796 (50%)	\$45,796 (50%)

FY 2027 STA Special Project, Round 2 Competitive Applications Recommended

Project Name	Sponsor	Total Project Cost	Requested Amount (% of Total Project Cost)	Recommended Amount (% of Total Project Cost)
Eldridge & LeClaire Demand Response Service	Bettendorf Transit	\$47,302	\$23,651 (50%)	\$23,651 (50%)
MIDAS Dispatch/Maintenance Software	MIDAS Regional Transit System, Region 5	\$110,000	\$44,000 (40%)	\$44,000 (40%)
RTA MOVE (Mobility Outreach, Visibility & Education) Initiative	Delaware, Dubuque & Jackson County Regional Transit, Region 8	\$64,000	\$32,000 (50%)	\$32,000 (50%)
Emergency Funding for Operations	Southern Iowa Trolley, Region 14	\$200,000	\$100,000 (50%)	\$95,430 (47.7%)

Recommended STA Special Project Funding Summary

- Total number of projects:
 - 5
- Total amount requested:
 - \$245,447
- Funds available:
 - \$268,621
- Projects recommended for funding:
 - 5
- Recommended funding amount:
 - \$240,877
- Remaining balance:
 - \$27,744

Remaining Covid-Era Relief Funding:

- Eligible Use:
 - Operating Funding only
- Evaluation Criteria:
 - Demonstration of Immediate Need
 - Demonstration of Benefits
 - Demonstration of Coordinated Transportation
 - Addressing Long Range Public Transit Needs

COVID-Era Relief Competitive Applications Recommended, 5310 (ARPA) Project

Project Name	Sponsor	Total Project Cost	Requested Amount (% of Total Project Cost)	Recommended Amount (% of Total Project Cost)
Cost of Contracted Services (ADA Complementary Paratransit)	Iowa City Transit	\$2,813,750	\$63,599 (2.2%)	\$63,599 (2.2%)

COVID-Era Relief Competitive Applications Recommended, 5311 (CRRSAA & ARPA)

Project Name	Sponsor	Total Project Cost	Requested Amount (% of Total Project Cost)	Recommended Amount (% of Total Project Cost)
Emergency Funding for Operations	Southern Iowa Trolley, Region 14	\$152,610	\$152,610 (100%)	\$57,180 (37.5%)
Operating Stabilization: Driver Overtime and Essential Fleet Maintenance Support	EARL Public Transit, Region 1	\$45,430	\$45,430 (100%)	\$45,430 (100%)
Transit System Route Optimization and Modernization Study	Muscabus, Muscatine	\$80,000	\$80,000 (100%)	\$50,000 (62.5%)

Recommended COVID-Era Relief Project Funding Summary

- Total number of projects:
 - 5
- Total amount requested:
 - \$415,366
- Funds available:
 - \$216,209
- Projects recommended for funding:
 - 4
- Recommended funding amount:
 - \$216,209
- Remaining balance:
 - \$0

Questions?

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For more information on Iowa's public transit and intercity bus programs, visit [iowadot.gov/modes-travel/transit](https://www.iowadot.gov/modes-travel/transit)

COVID-Era Relief Competitive Applications Not Recommended, 5311 (CRRSAA & ARPA)

Project Name	Sponsor	Total Project Cost	Requested Amount (% of Total Project Cost)	Recommended Amount (% of Total Project Cost)
Recovering Rural Transit Ridership Through Mobility Coordination in Muscatine County	River Bend Transit, Region 9	\$73,727	\$73,727 (100%)	\$73,727 (100%)