

HIRTA PUBLIC TRANSIT

IPTA Legislative Meeting March 22, 2023



Iowa Public Transit Association Today's Topics

- Public Transit Team Introductions
- Low Vehicle Usage Policy Enforcement
- Advanced Disposition Policy Exception
- Updated PTMS Policy
- PTAC Membership Terms
- FY 2024 STA and FTA Projections
- Consolidated Transit Funding and PTIG Applications deadline: June 1
- Bus Shortfall Funding Contracts
- Low-No Emissions Grants and Contracts Update
- 2022 and 2023 Compliance Reviews
- 2023 Passenger Transportation Summit May 24
- FY 2023 5339(b/c) Applications



- Iowa Public Transit Association
 Public Transit Team Introductions
- Tammy Nicholson, Modal Transportation Bureau Director
- Kristin Haar, Public Transit Director
- Brent Paulsen, Transit Programs Manager
- Travis Estep, Grants Manager
- Becky Law, Transit Programs Administrator
- Emma Simmons, Transit Planner/Statewide Mobility Manager
- Amy Colwell, Administrative Support
- Vacant, Transit Programs Administrator
- Vacant, Compliance and Training Specialist (to be filled April 14, 2023)



Iowa Public Transit Association Low Vehicle Usage Policy Enforcement

PTMS Policy on Low Vehicle Usage, summarized

- Vehicles that have not met their useful life and have accumulated less than an average of 10,000 miles per one-year period; <u>or</u>
- Vehicles that have met their useful life and have accumulated less than an average of 3,000 miles per year over a two-year period
- If no justification is provided or the provided justification is not considered acceptable :
 - 12 age points will be removed from the vehicle for every year in which the minimum mileage was not accumulated.
 - In addition, for every four low-mileage vehicles without acceptable justification, one, otherwise justified, eligible vehicle will be dropped out of the current year's PTMS selections, beginning from the top of the priorities list.

Complete policy found at:

https://iowadot.gov/transit/policies/PTMSPolicies.pdf



Low Vehicle Usage Policy Enforcement, continued

In FY22, Iowa transit agencies had 230 vehicles, 13.5% of the statewide fleet, with under 3,000 miles.

The Iowa DOT will continue to waive the low mileage restrictions for the FY23 and FY24 PTMS lists.

The Low Vehicle Usage Policy will again be in effect starting with the FY25 PTMS list (i.e. Spring 2024).



Advanced Disposition Policy Exception

Historically, the Iowa DOT has not allowed vehicles to be disposed of prior to receipt of its replacement.

• Disposing of a vehicle before a replacement vehicle is received indicates the transit agency is able to provide service without that vehicle and perhaps the replacement is not needed.

With the extreme delays being experienced in the delivery of replacement public transit vehicles and the difficulty in finding, and expense of, replacement parts to keep aging vehicles on the road...

- Iowa DOT will *temporarily* allow transit agencies to dispose of vehicles having met their useful life and under contract for replacement prior to receipt of the replacement vehicle.
- Transit agencies are responsible for ensuring no delivery of public transit services will be impacted by the disposal of a vehicle prior to arrival of its replacement.



Iowa Public Transit Association Advanced Disposition Policy Exception, continued

Effective from March 22, 2023 – June 30, 2024, the Iowa DOT will waive the Advanced Disposition policy.

In order to take advantage of this waiver to policy, transit agencies should submit an Advanced Disposition request through BlackCat.



Updated PTMS Policy

Several urban fixed route systems have expressed concern over the changes made to the Public Transit Management System (PTMS) point calculation formula in 2018.

In 2018, the age and mileage thresholds used in the PTMS formula were changed, intending to correct for vehicles which previously had positive PTMS points but had not reached the federal useful life standard. Those vehicles were mistakenly put on replacement lists for federal discretionary grant applications.

The 2018 change to the PTMS policy, however, forced vehicles to reach much higher mileage thresholds before being added to Iowa DOT's vehicle replacement funding list even though they were technically eligible under federal useful life guidance.

Therefore, the Iowa DOT will be updating the PTMS Mileage and Age Thresholds used in calculating PTMS points.



9

Iowa Public Transit Association

Updated PTMS Policy, continued

Current Standard, enacted 2018

Vehicle Type	Threshold			
Sedan	4 yrs. (48 mos.)/100,000 miles			
Station Wagon				
Std. Vans/Non-ADA Minivans				
Conversion & ADA Minivans				
LD buses	5 yrs. (60 mos.)/150,000 miles			
MD buses	7 yrs. (84 mos.)/200,000 miles			
HD buses < 35'	10 yrs. (120 mos.)/350,000 miles			
HD buses 35' or more	12 yrs. (144 mos.)/500,000 miles			

Federal Useful Life Standards

Recommended Standard, to be effective Spring 2024 for use in FY25 PTMS list

PTMS Mileage/Age Thresholds

Vehicle Type	Threshold
Sedan	4 yrs. (48 mos.)/100,000 miles
Station Wagon	
Std. Vans/Non-ADA Minivans	
Conversion & ADA Minivans	
LD buses	4 yrs. (48 mos.)/120,000 miles
MD buses	7 yrs. (84 mos.)/200,000 miles
HD buses < 35'	10 yrs. (120 mos.)/300,000 miles
HD buses 35' or more	12 yrs. (144 mos.)/350,000 miles



Updated PTMS Policy, continued

This updated PTMS process will add-in a check to ensure a vehicle has met its federal useful life prior to placing it in a federal funding grant application.

The updated PTMS process will be in effect in Spring 2024 for use in the FY2025 PTMS list. The reason for not enacting this updated policy immediately is due to the need for BlackCat to re-program the PTMS formula in the software and the timing of the 2023 FTA bus and bus facility discretionary grant application deadline of April 13, 2023.

The updated PTMS Policy will be placed on the Iowa DOT Public Transit website at <u>https://iowadot.gov/transit/Policy-regulation-and-legislation/Policies</u>.

Mileage Score		(Accumulated Mileage – PTMS Mileage Threshold) ÷ 3,500*	
+	=	+	
Age Score		Actual Months Owned – PTMS Age Threshold (Months)	
*2 FOO is used to give a point for every 2 FOO miles of convice above the federal weeful life threshold			

*3,500 is used to give a point for every 3,500 miles of service above the federal useful life threshold



Updated PTMS Policy, continued – Sample Calculations

Case 1: 40' HD Bus, 10 years (120 months) old, 550,000 miles <u>2021 PTMS Policy</u> Mileage score: (550,000 - 500,000)/3,500 = 14.2857 Age score: 120 months - 144 months = -24 PTMS Score: -24 + 14.2857 = -9.7143 Not eligible for replacement <u>2023 Proposed PTMS Policy</u> Mileage score: (550,000 - 350,000)/3,500 = 57.1429 Age score: 120 months - 144 months = -24

PTMS Score: -24 + 57.1429 = 33.1429 Eligible for replacement both federal and state

Case 2: LD Bus, 4 years (48 months) old, 125,000 miles 2021 PTMS Policy Mileage score: (125,000 miles – 150,000 miles)/3,500 = -7.1429 Age score: 48 months – 60 months = -12 PTMS Score: -12 + -7.1429 = -19.1429 Not eligible for replacement 2023 Proposed PTMS Policy Mileage Score: (125,000 - 120,000)/3,500 = 1.4286 Age Score: 48 months – 48 months = 0 PTMS Score: 0 + 1.4286 = 1.4286 Has positive PTMS points, but not eligible for federal replacement



PTAC Membership Terms

The Public Transit Advisory Committee (PTAC) is a group appointed and assembled by the Iowa DOT to guide the Iowa DOT in making policy decisions on matters relating to public transit. The PTAC meets quarterly on the first Thursday of February, May, August, and November.

Members serve a term of three years and no more than four terms. Terms run on a fiscal year basis.





PTAC Members, as of March 2023:

- Dennis Hart, Superintendent (in 3rd term, expiring 2025) Clinton Municipal Transit Administration (MTA) Representing: Small urban systems <50,000 population
- VACANT *formerly Elizabeth Presutti, DART* Representing: Large urban systems < 200,000 population
- Barb Neal, Director of Transit (in 2nd term, expiring 2025) Ames Transit Agency (CyRide) Representing: Large urban systems 50,000 to >200,000 population
- Hugh Lively, Executive Director (in 3rd term, expiring 2023) Regional Transit Authority (RIDES) Representing: Rural transit systems
- Randy Zobrist, Executive Director (4th term expired 2022) River Bend Transit Representing: Rural transit systems





PTAC Membership Terms, continued

Iowa DOT needs to fill the vacant large urban system (over 200,000 population) member seat and a rural transit system seat due to Randy Zobrist having served four-plus terms. Hugh Lively is interested and is able to continue to serve on the PTAC representing rural transit systems, with a fourth term starting July 2023.

Nominations will be solicited from like-type transit agencies and the IPTA Board for all three positions. The new members will start their terms on July 1, 2023.

Wanted PTAC Members



FY 2024 STA and FTA Projections

On March 7, 2023, the FY 2024 State Transit Assistance (STA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funding projections were sent to Iowa's transit managers. The projections for FY 2024 used a hybrid approach:

- FY 2019 statistics were used for calculation of the FTA 5310 and 5311 funding, consistent with how FTA calculated the overall funding targets
- FY 2022 statistics were used to calculate the STA projections, consistent with Iowa Administrative Code Chapter 761-920 "State Transit Assistance"
 - A waiver to this chapter's requirement of using most recent available year's statistics was issued for FYs 2022 and 2023 funding. Because a consensus on requesting that waiver for FY 2024 was not likely, IPTA did not seek a waiver for the FY 2024 STA funding



FY 2024 STA and FTA Projections, continued

As noted in the March 7, 2023, email, this is the last year for use of the FY 2019 statistics in the funding formulas. For FY 2025, the FY 2023 statistics will be used.

In the STA formula, the factors are rides, revenue miles, and locally determined income. In the FTA formula, only rides and revenue miles are used in the calculation. Therefore, if your system's FY 2023 services and/or locally determined income are much reduced from those provided in FY 2019, there may be some difficult budget decisions ahead for FY 2025.

Please take this next year to discuss with your transit board funding opportunities and options for your transit system's services.



Consolidated Transit Funding and PTIG Applications Deadline

With the delay in releasing the FY 2024 STA and FTA projections this year and transit agencies needing time to post notice of their consolidated funding application public meetings for 30 days, the Iowa DOT has extended the deadline for submitting Consolidated Transit Funding applications and Public Transit Infrastructure Grant (PTIG) applications. **The deadline is now June 1, 2023.**

The applications can be found on BlackCat.

FYI – The FY 2024 PTIG amount will be finalized with the passage of the state budget bills by the Iowa Legislature and Governor. At this time, \$1.5 Million is expected for FY 2024, but could change by the time the budget bill is finalized.



Iowa Public Transit Association Bus Shortfall Funding Contracts

As you may recall, in January 2023, the Iowa Transportation Commission approved providing shortfall funding from a combination of funding underruns in open FTA grants and unobligated CMAQ and Section 5339 formula dollars. These funds will go to open replacement vehicle contracts where the contract amount was not sufficient to cover the federal portion of higher vehicle prices.

This shortfall funding will be provided to 24 transit systems for 189 vehicles.



Bus Shortfall Funding Contracts, continued

At this time, Iowa DOT is piecing together the puzzle of open grants to amend in the vehicles needing shortfall funding. Once these grants are approved by FTA, Iowa DOT will issue amended contracts to the transit agencies to include the extra funds required. Your patience is appreciated as we work through this complex process.





Low-No Emissions Grants and Contracts Update

The Iowa DOT is working with CALSTART to finalize the contract for their work on Iowa DOT's FY2021 Low-No Emissions Grant projects. This should be complete soon.

Through this contract, CALSTART will assist Iowa DOT in writing a procurement for low-no emissions vehicles, specifically for models contained in the FTA 5339 low-no grant Iowa received from FTA. This procurement is expected to be similar to one CALSTART created for the Michigan DOT.

This contract will also be the template for the contract with CALSTART to assist with Iowa DOT's FY2022 low-no emissions projects.



2022 and 2023 Compliance Reviews

Due to a busy schedule and vacant Compliance and Training Specialist position, a majority of the scheduled 2022 Compliance Reviews were not accomplished during that calendar year.

Therefore, with a new Compliance and Training Specialist on board after April 14, the following compliance reviews will occur in 2023:

Region 4*	Region 5*	Fort Dodge*	Region 10*		
Region 15*	Ottumwa*	Region 13*	Region 11		
Region 6	Region 7	Region 3	Muscatine		
Region 8	Clinton	CAMBUS*	lowa City*		
Ames*	Dubuque	Waterloo			
*Denotes review due in 2022.					



2023 Passenger Transportation Summit – May 24

Tentative Agenda

- Age Friendly Transit
- Passenger Panel Video
- Driver Recruitment



• Public Transit...It's More Than Just a Fixed Route!

Request for Panel Participants

- Passengers
- Transit Managers

Location

• FFA Enrichment Center, DMACC Campus, Ankeny, IA

*Registration link: <u>https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2023-iowa-</u> passenger-transportation-summit-tickets-560683578677



FY 2023 5339(b/c) Applications

<u>Low-No:</u> Weekly meetings with CALSTART and GMA to go over information gathered from the transit agencies and work on the supplemental form.

- Participating agencies: River Bend Transit, SWITA, Muscatine, HIRTA, Southern Iowa Trolley, Clinton, and Coralville
- # of Vehicles: 16
- # of Facilities: 3

<u>Buses and Bus Facilities</u>: Currently working on the supplemental form. Will work on more specifics once the PTMS bus replacement list is finalized.

Deadline to submit both applications: April 13, 2023



Questions?

Iowa DOT Public Transit Team 515-233-7870 https://iowadot.gov/transit

Thanks!

HILLING

1013101 1013101

1.4.4

10