

A photograph taken from the driver's perspective inside a car, showing hands on the steering wheel. The car is on a multi-lane highway with other vehicles in the distance. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a warm, golden glow across the scene. The sky is clear with a few wispy clouds.

Transit Updates

IOWA | DOT

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Iowa DOT Public Transit Team

Year in Review

- ✓ Two new Transit Program Administrators (Laura and Matt)
- ✓ \$17.8 Million FTA Low-No Emissions Discretionary Grant Award
- ✓ FTA ECHO Review (no findings)
- ✓ GTFS Procurement, contract signed
- ✓ National Transit Database reporting for 30 providers
- ✓ State Management Review responses, SMR on-site training (SMR scheduled August 27-29, 2024)
- ✓ On-going preliminary planning and NEPA requirements work with FTA on four facility projects

Iowa DOT Public Transit Team Year in Review

- ✓ On-going participation in planning meetings for one streetcar and two light-rail potential projects
- ✓ Two Transit Manager Handbook Trainings
- ✓ Passenger Transportation Summit, May 8
- ✓ Began reviewing TPA processes for consistency and possible streamlining to make staff more available

Iowa DOT Public Transit Team

Year in Review

- ✓ Conferences/training:
 - 2023 Biennial FTA State and Tribal Programs and Transit Partnerships Conference
 - Midwest Transit Conference
 - AASHTO Transit Management Committee Winter Meeting
 - 5th National RTAP Conference
 - APTA Mobility Conference
 - NTI Procurement I Training
 - National RTAP Review Board Meeting
 - FTA Triennial Review Workshop

FY2023 Public Transit Ridership and Miles

- Regional: 2,197,017 Rides and 10,893,408 Revenue Miles
- Urban: 15,144,455 Rides and 14,229,899 Revenue Miles
- TOTAL: 17,341,472 Rides and 25,123,307 Revenue Miles

In total, rides increased by 2,235,357 from FY 2022 and Revenue Miles increased by 123,192. Most of the increased rides were on urban fixed route systems where the mileage doesn't need to increase in order to increase ridership.

STA Withholding Increase

As announced during the Iowa DOT's presentation at the IPTA's Legislative Meeting in March, the State Transit Assistance Special Project withholding amount will increase to \$600,000 starting in FY2025 (July 2024)

This increase will allow more funding for large urban training fellowships, special projects, and continued funding for GTFS, iowarideshare.org, and our low-no emission vehicle consultant group.

STA Withholding Increase - Breakdown

- \$228,100 to Statewide Projects (IPTA Training Contract, Low-No Grant Consultant, iowarideshare.org, and statewide fixed route GTFS)
- \$175,000 for large urban fellowships
- \$196,900 for STA Special Projects

FTA Grants Update

Recently approved by FTA

- FFY23/SFY24 5310 FTA approved 5/20/2024

Transmitted Ready for Review by FTA (these grants have been submitted over the past several months and are awaiting action by FTA)

- SFY25 IRXB - CMAQ funding
- FFY23 Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) Urban Vehicles
- FFY23 Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) Regional Vehicles
- FFY22 Bus and Bus Facilities Formula (Urban/Rural) Shortfall 5339
- FFY22 CMAQ Urban - shortfall
- FFY22 CMAQ Rural – shortfall
- DART Transit Shelters TAP
- Flex Funds from MAPA
- ICAAP Projects

FTA Grants Update, continued...

In Progress (Close to submittal)

- FFY 2023 Public Transit Program (Vehicle Replacements) Amendment Handout CMAQ
- FY2023 STP Flex Funding Grant

Next Up

- FFY 2023 Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities Discretionary Award 5339
- FFY 2022 Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities Discretionary Award 5339
- FFY 2022 Bus Replacement Discretionary Award 5339

Iowa DOT is awaiting action by FTA on 10 grants in TrAMS

2024 Compliance Reviews

Transit Agency	Date
R2 Transit System	7/25/24
R9 RBT	7/22/24
R12 WIT	5/20/24
R14 SIT	9/18/24
R16 SEIBUS	5/23/24
Burlington Urban Service	5/24/24
Mason City Transit	7/24/24
Cedar Rapids Transit	9/5/24
Coralville Transit System	TBD
Sioux City Transit System	TBD

Upcoming Transit Manager Handbook Training

Thursday, November 7th, Noon – 5:00 p.m. & Friday, November 8th, 8:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Iowa DOT's Materials East/West Conference Room in Ames

Register by sending an email to Jamie.Wingert@iowadot.us

Fellowships are available to assist with mileage and hotel costs. Due to Amy Colwell, Amy.Colwell@iowadot.us two weeks before the first day of the training.

FY2024 5339(b/c) Applications

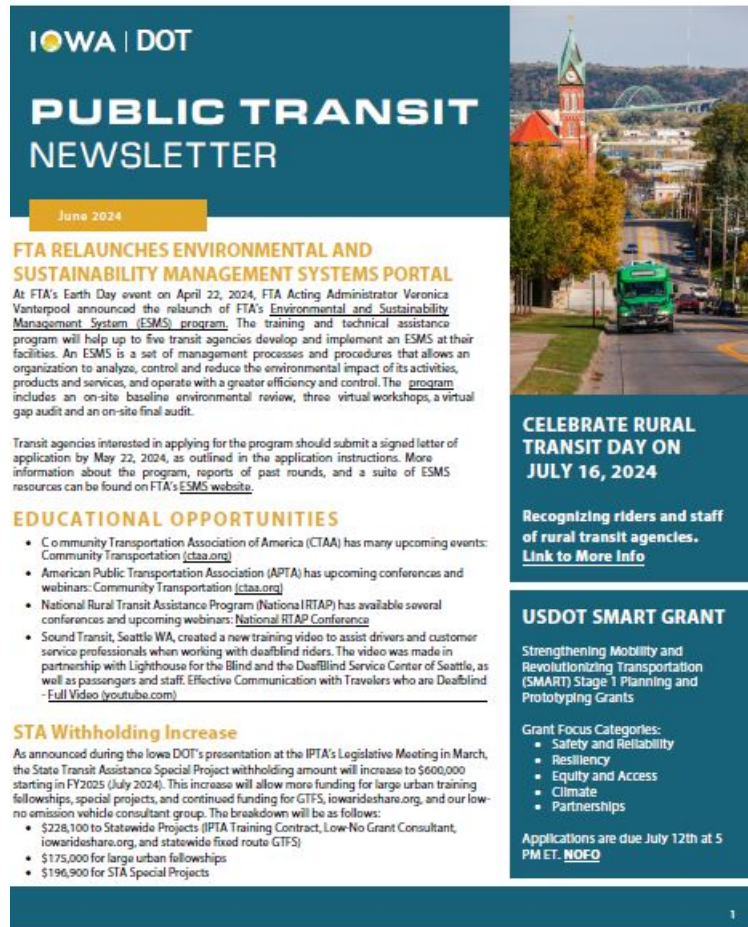
- Low-No: Federal Request of \$32.1 million
 - 4 applicants, 3 facilities, 10 vehicles
 - Cedar Rapids Transit – 5 hybrid vehicles = \$4,674,717
 - Sioux City Transit – transit facility, 1 electric vehicle = \$12,805,898
 - MuscaBus – transit facility, 2 electric vehicles = \$1,116,839
 - SWITA – transit facility, 2 electric vehicles = \$13,459,681
- Bus and Bus Facilities: Federal Request of \$36.9 million
 - 133 replacement vehicles

NTD S&S-60 Form

- National Transit Database (NTD) reporting now requires more detail on Physical Assaults on Transit Workers, Non-Physical Assaults on Transit Workers, and Other Reportable Safety and Security Data.
- The additional detail includes where the assaults occurred, and the type of transit worker affected.
- This information will be collected from the small urban and regional public transit systems (those agencies for whom Iowa DOT reports to NTD) with the yearend reviews.

Public Transit Newsletter

- The Public Transit section at the Iowa DOT releases a quarterly newsletter
- Would this be something the MPO/RPA's would be interested in receiving?



The image shows a preview of the Iowa DOT Public Transit Newsletter for June 2024. The cover features the Iowa DOT logo and a photograph of a green bus on a city street. The newsletter content includes sections on environmental and sustainability management systems, rural transit day, educational opportunities, and smart grants.

IOWA | DOT
PUBLIC TRANSIT NEWSLETTER
June 2024

FTA RELAUNCHES ENVIRONMENTAL AND SUSTAINABILITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS PORTAL
At FTA's Earth Day event on April 22, 2024, FTA Acting Administrator Veronica Vanterpool announced the relaunch of FTA's Environmental and Sustainability Management System (ESMS) program. The training and technical assistance program will help up to five transit agencies develop and implement an ESMS at their facilities. An ESMS is a set of management processes and procedures that allows an organization to analyze, control and reduce the environmental impact of its activities, products and services, and operate with a greater efficiency and control. The program includes an on-site baseline environmental review, three virtual workshops, a virtual gap audit and an on-site final audit.

Transit agencies interested in applying for the program should submit a signed letter of application by May 22, 2024, as outlined in the application instructions. More information about the program, reports of past rounds, and a suite of ESMS resources can be found on FTA's ESMS website.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

- Community Transportation Association of America (CTAA) has many upcoming events: Community Transportation (ctaa.org)
- American Public Transportation Association (APTA) has upcoming conferences and webinars: Community Transportation (ctaa.org)
- National Rural Transit Assistance Program (Nations RTAP) has available several conferences and upcoming webinars: National RTAP Conference
- Sound Transit, Seattle WA, created a new training video to assist drivers and customer service professionals when working with deafblind riders. The video was made in partnership with Lighthouse for the Blind and the Deafblind Service Center of Seattle, as well as passengers and staff. Effective Communication with Travelers who are Deafblind - Full Video (youtube.com)

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CELEBRATE RURAL TRANSIT DAY ON JULY 16, 2024
Recognizing riders and staff of rural transit agencies.
[Link to More Info](#)

USDOT SMART GRANT
Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART) Stage 1 Planning and Prototyping Grants

Grant Focus Categories:

- Safety and Reliability
- Resiliency
- Equity and Access
- Climate
- Partnerships

Applications are due July 12th at 5 PM ET. **NOFO**

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Questions?

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<https://iowadot.gov/transit>