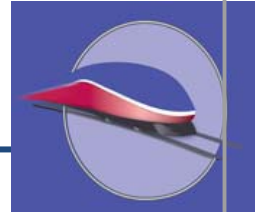


Preapplication for HSIPR Program

OMB No. 2130-0583



Preapplication instructions:

- For each question, enter the appropriate information in the designated gray box; keep text answers brief.
- For a multi-State project/program, States are encouraged to identify a lead applicant.
- Please submit one preapplication for each individual project, planning study, or corridor service program.
- Answers provided in this form **will not be used for evaluation or selection purposes.**
- Applicants should complete and submit this form electronically to: HSIPR@dot.gov.

A. Who are you?

(1) Select applicant type, as defined in Appendix 1.1 of the HSIPR Guidance (*Check the appropriate box from the list*):

State

Amtrak

If one of the following, please append appropriate documentation as described in Section 4.3.1 of the HSIPR Guidance:

Group of States

Interstate Compacts

Public Agency established by one or more States

Amtrak in cooperation with a State or States

(2) Name of lead State or organization applying: Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs

(3) Name(s) of additional States and/or organizations applying in this group (*if applicable*):

(4) Application point of contact (POC):

J. Brian Atkins

POC title:

Division Director, Office Of Water Resources

Street address:

401 Adams Avenue, Suite 434

City:

Montgomery

State:

AL

Zip code:

36103

Telephone number:

334-242-5497

Fax: 334-242-0776

Email: Brian.Atkins@adeca.alabama.gov

What is your project?

(5) Project/program name: Intercity Passenger Rail

(6) Describe the project or program; if a program has multiple phases please describe each and how they fit together; if the project or program relates to another HSIPR application describe the linkage (*less than 1000 characters*):
The project is provide intercity passenger rail by providing a ridership study of an existing 275 mile corridor that once was used by Amtrak to run what was called the Gulf Breeze route from Birmingham, Alabama to Mobile, Alabama.

(7) Location information

(A) Describe the location of the proposed project/program (attach map if available) (*less than 250 characters*): The location of the proposed project is a 275 mile corridor from Birmingham, to Montgomery, to Mobile, Alabama (see attached map). The locations served would be Birmingham, Montgomery, and Mobile, and smaller cities and towns between the major destinations listed. An estimated 2 million population resides in or near the 275 mile corridor.

(B) Which high-speed rail and/or intercity passenger rail route(s) benefit from this project? Identify endpoints, major locations served, and name of current route (if applicable) (*less than 250 characters*): A connection with the existing Amtrak Crescent Route from Birmingham and a connection with the high-speed Gulf Coast corridor and or Sunset Limited Route would benefit from this project. Major locations and end points served include: Birmingham area, Montgomery area and Mobile area. The route has an old name of Gulf Breeze Route.

(C) State(s) in which the project/program investment is/are located: Alabama

(D) State(s) in which the benefiting service(s) is/are located: Alabama

(8) Project/program type:

(A) Types of capital investments contemplated (*Check all that apply*):

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Structures (bridges, tunnels, etc.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Rolling Stock Refurbishments |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Track-Rehabilitation | <input type="checkbox"/> Rolling Stock Acquisitions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Track-New Construction | <input type="checkbox"/> Stations, Terminals |
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Rights-of-Way | <input type="checkbox"/> Support Facilities (Yards, Shops, etc.) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Major Interlockings | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade Crossing Improvements |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications, Signaling, Control | <input type="checkbox"/> Electric Traction |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (<i>Please describe</i>): Ridership Study | |

(B) Describe the types of proposed improvements (e.g., new passing tracks, interlocking reconfigurations, station improvements, equipment acquisitions, etc.) (*less than 500 characters*): Ridership Study

(C) Service attributes (*Check all that apply*):

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Additional Frequencies on Existing Route | <input type="checkbox"/> Improved On-Time-Performance on Existing Route |
|---|---|

- New Service Increased Average Speeds/Shorter Trip Times
 Other (Please describe): Service for previous 275 mile Gulf Breeze Route

(9) Project/program milestones (mm/yyyy):

Construction start date: 10/2009 Construction completion date: 03/2010 Service improvements realized: Not sure

(10) Anticipated benefits (on intercity passenger rail service(s) benefitting from project/program)

Project/Program Benefits	Before (FY 2008 levels)	After (Project completion)	Not Applicable	Not Sure
Annual passenger-miles			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Average daily round trips (weekday)			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
On-time performance (OTP) (at endpoint terminals)			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Top speed (mph)			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Average operating speed (mph) (between endpoint terminals)			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

What will your project/program cost & how will it be funded?

Capital Costs

(11) Total anticipated project/program capital cost (in millions of dollars)(Note: preapplication estimates will not be binding):
Not sure, estimate of \$300,000-\$500,000

(12) Will your project/program proposal include matching funds?

(A) Yes If yes, as what percentage of total costs? 50%

No

(B) Proposed source(s) of capital matching funds (*Please check all that apply*):

State

Local

Private

Other (*Please specify*):

N/A

Not sure

Working with MPO and local governments along the corridor and private agencies in securing matching funds.

(13) If an in-kind match is expected, provide a brief description of the asset (*less than 100 characters*). Staff time spent on Gulf Breeze Ridership Study.

Operating Costs

(14) Is the project/program expected to result in an additional annual cost of operations for the benefitting service?

Yes No Not sure

(A) If additional operating funding is required, what would be the source? (*Select the appropriate option by clicking the gray box to activate the dropdown menu*):

Annual State appropriations If other is selected, please specify: Local government and private funds.

(B) What is the status of providing that funding? (*Select the appropriate option by clicking the gray box to activate the dropdown menu*):

Discussions underway If other is selected, please specify:

D. What preparation have you done?

(15) Please indicate the status of planning, engineering and environmental studies/documentation supporting your program or project. (Although applicants are asked to respond to all items, note that not all are required for all tracks.)

	No study exists	If no study exists, are you applying for HSIPR funds to complete study?	Study underway	Study completed? (year)	Not applicable
Corridor Service Planning Studies/Documents (for the intercity passenger rail service benefitting from project or program)					
Purpose & Need/Rationale	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Service/Operating Plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Prioritized Capital Plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ridership/Revenue Forecast	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Operating Cost Forecast	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tier 1 Programmatic (or “service”) NEPA (Identify document from dropdown menu)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)					
Assessment of Benefits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Project Planning Studies/Documents (if application is for program (multiple projects), multiple boxes may be checked)					
Preliminary Engineering (PE)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tier 2 (project-level) NEPA (Identify document from dropdown menu)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)					
Detailed Capital Cost Estimates	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Assessment of Benefits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
General Planning Studies/Documents					
Project Management Plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Financial Plan (capital & operating – sources/uses)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

(16) Is the project(s) included in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)? Yes No Not sure

(17) Is the project/program included in a Performance Improvement Plan for the host railroad? Yes No Not sure

(A) Who are your partners & what are their commitments?

- (18) **Right-of-Way Owner(s).** Provide the status of agreements with railroad(s) that own the right-of-way. (If appropriate, “owner(s)” may also include operator(s) under trackage rights or lease agreements.) (If more than two railroads, please include additional information in question 24.)

Railroad owner 1 (Name):	Not sure, would be determined in ridership and feasibility study
Status of railroad owner 1 (Click on the appropriate option from the dropdown menu shaded in gray):	No host railroad involved
Railroad owner 2 (Name):	Not sure, would be determined in ridership and feasibility study
Status of railroad owner 2 (Click on the appropriate option from the dropdown menu shaded in gray):	No host railroad involved

- (19) **Intercity Passenger Rail Operator.** If applicable, provide the status of agreements with partner that will operate the benefiting high-speed rail/intercity passenger rail services (e.g., Amtrak). (Click on the appropriate option from the dropdown menu shaded in gray):

No operating partner involved

- (20) **Benefits to Types of Rail Service.** What share of the project/program benefits will accrue to other non-intercity passenger railroad service types (e.g., commuter or freight)? (Click on the appropriate option from the dropdown menu shaded in gray): None

If benefits to non-intercity passenger rail services are foreseen, are cost-sharing agreements in place with the beneficiary organization(s)? Yes No N/A Not sure

(B) Which track is the best fit for your project/program?

- (21) Anticipated HSIPR funding track (Click on the appropriate option from the dropdown menu shaded in gray):

Unsure (Please explain below)

If unsure, please explain: Not sure, but assume possibly tracks 2 or 3 since service operated in the corridor 14 years ago.

- (22) Anticipated application filing date (Check the appropriate box):

2009 – first round

Subsequent round(s). (Note: Funding for subsequent rounds is not guaranteed.)

(C) What help do you need?

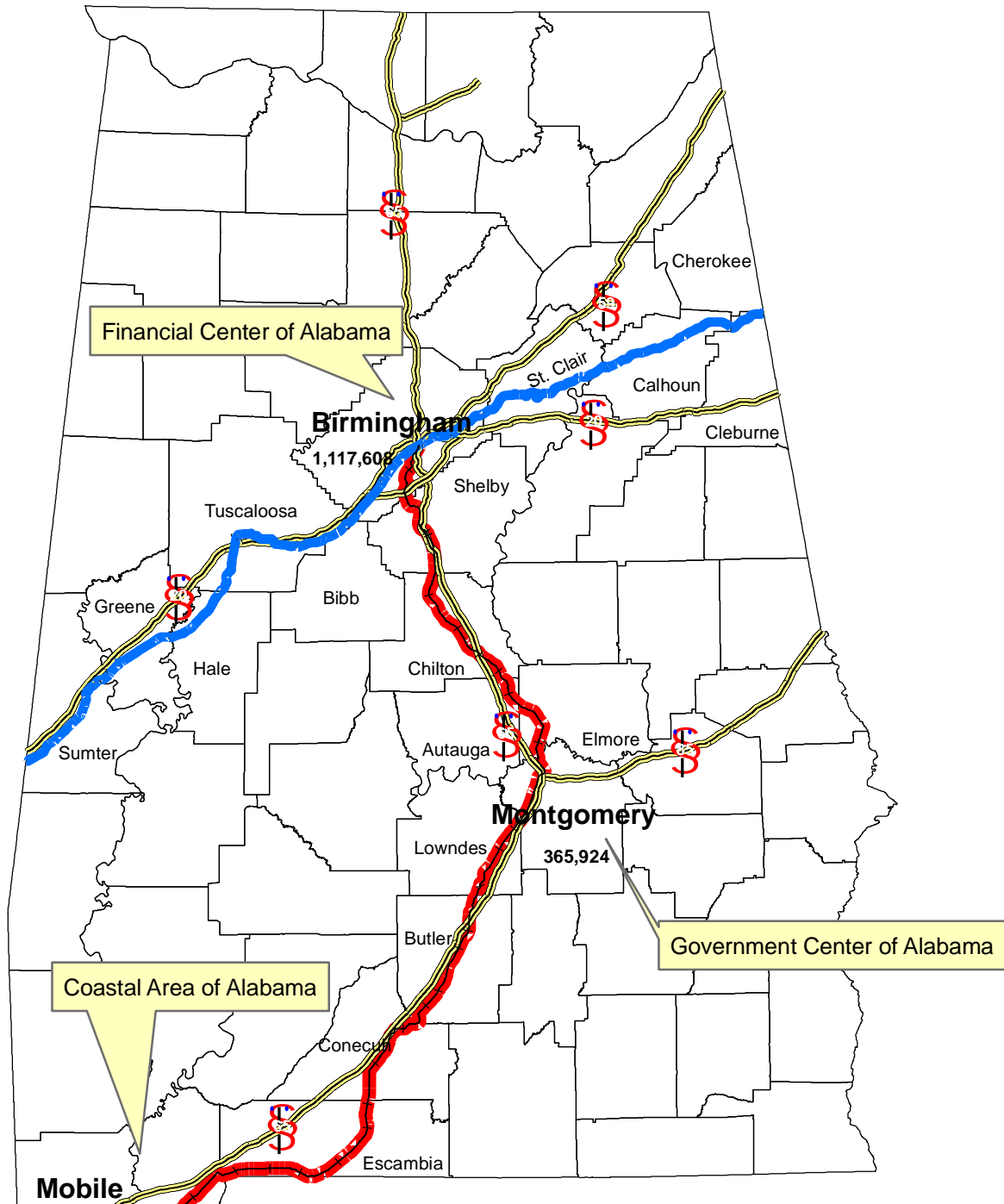
- (23) Describe any areas in which you could use technical assistance, best practices, advice or support from others (*less than 500 characters*): Ridership and Feasibility study assistance for the 275 mile corridor from Birmingham to Montgomery to Mobile Alabama.

(D) Additional information (optional)

- (24) Please provide any additional information, comments, or clarifications. This section is optional.

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Proposed Project Location Map of Proposed Gulf Breeze Ridership Study Location



Proposed Corridor is 275 Miles in Length

Legend

- Existing Amtrak Crescent Route/Future High-Speed Rail Corridor
- Alabama Interstate Highways
- Proposed Gulf Breeze Route Ridership Study Location
- Alabama Counties & Metropolitan Area Population

