

SUBTASK 5.3: TRANSIT PLANNING AND ADMINISTRATION

Objective: To perform transit planning and related administration work.

Previous Work: MPO Staff has used GIS software for various transit related projects. MPO Staff used GIS to update, maintain, and prepare digital mapping products for MATS citywide fixed bus routes and other transit related projects in the area. The current MATS fixed routes have been saved in digital format and uploaded onto the Montgomery Area Transit website (www.montgomerytransit.com).

The MPO Staff prepared and submitted FTA grants for the City of Montgomery and the Montgomery Area Transit System (MATS) for the capital and operating grant for FY-2009 and for earmarks received from the U.S. Congress. Public involvement meetings discussing the proposed grant applications were held and conducted by MPO Staff. MPO Staff has also completed work on the National Transit Database (NTD) report for MATS for report year 2008 during FY-2009. Staff also attended FTA training on procurement system review and financial management oversight.

The *Montgomery Urbanized Area Transit Development Plan (TDP) (2009-2013)* was prepared and underwent public review (adopted by the City of Montgomery on September 2008). Transportation planning staff will assist MATS in implementing the TDP

MPO Staff has also used GIS and socioeconomic data to analyze the transit system routes as part of the 2009-2013 TDP to see where future improvements needed to be focused.

MPO Staff attended Southern High Speed Rail Commission meetings and prepared a pre-application and application for Federal funding for the Gulf Breeze Amtrak route re-establishment.

Proposed Work: MPO Staff will continue to assist MATS staff with the implementation of the TDP in FY-2010. GIS software will be used as appropriate to support transit planning activities and services. MPO Staff will assist MATS Staff with managing federal transit funding and provide technical assistance and support as needed. Both hardware and software will be acquired as needed. Transit projects will also be included in the TIP and LRTP as needed.

MPO Staff will continue to prepare Federal Transit Administration (FTA) products as needed to include: capital and operating grants, National Transit Database reports and other reports and activities as needed and required. **MPO Staff will hire a consultant do a transit survey and collect passenger ridership data and other information needed for the mode choice model and transit planning purposes at an estimated total cost of \$60,000.** MPO Staff will

prepare and assist MATS staff in preparation of public involvement activities. MPO Staff will attend training, workshops and conferences as needed.

MPO Staff will also continue to do passenger rail planning work for proposed Amtrak Gulf Breeze Corridor from Birmingham to Mobile. MPO Staff will attend training, workshops, conferences and meeting related to passenger rail planning.

Products: An updated and maintained *Montgomery Urbanized Area Transit Development Plan* for 2009-2013. A transit system that meets the needs of Montgomery Area Transit System riders, and also meets all Federal and State requirements. An updated and maintained GIS with fixed transit routes, bus benches, bus shelters, bus stop signs and other related transit amenities. Up-to-date reports, grant applications and other items as needed. A completed survey of the MATS for travel demand modeling purposes. Public involvement assistance as needed.

A transit system that meets the needs of the City of Montgomery. Continuous funding from the Federal Transit System grants and completed National Transit Database reports. A transit system that follows and meets Federal and State requirements. Equipment, software and hardware that is up-to-date. A well trained and well versed staff. Further products include an initiated study process to get the Gulf Breeze passenger rail route started.

Staffing: The MPO Planning Staff, Montgomery Area Transit System, Alabama Department of Transportation, Federal Transit Administration and Federal Railroad Administration.

Schedule/Timeline: Maintain, update and implement the Transit Development Plan document as needed in FY-2010. Maintain all transit related GIS data and information as needed in FY-2010. Manage all transit grants and apply for new one as needed in FY-2010. Prepare all other Federal Transit Administration reports as needed during FY-2010. Prepare request for proposals and hire consultant to do transit survey in FY-2010. Attend training as needed and required in FY-2010.

Financial Responsibility:

<u>Source of Funds</u>	<u>FY-2010</u>
Planning Funds (FHWA-PL)	\$76,000
Local Match	<u>\$19,000</u>
Total Cost	\$95,000