



Making Efficient + Responsible Investments In Transit

# Transit Updates to the FY20 SYIP

Commonwealth Transportation Board – May 20, 2020

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Chief of Public Transportation



# Modifications to the FY20 SYIP

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- **DRPT allocates assistance to transit agencies on a year-to-year basis.**
- **The budget language that allows the CTB to extend the SYIP into FY21 also provided the CTB with the authority to allocate transit operating and capital funding prior to the adoption of a revised FY21-FY25 SYIP.**
- **This presentation summarizes the modifications necessary to carry funding forward for critical activities through the first quarter of FY21 and to allocate federal formula funds to transit agencies.**

# State Transit Operating Assistance

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- Transit agencies have faced unprecedented conditions during the COVID-19 pandemic, while maintaining essential lifeline services for their communities.
- Operating assistance offsets a portion (20-30%) of transit agency operating expenses in a typical year.
- Even with funding from the federal CARES Act, there is significant uncertainty as transit agencies are adopting their FY21 budgets
- Recommendation:
  - » *Allocate funding equivalent to one quarter of the FY20 operating assistance allocation to transit agencies for the first quarter of FY21*
  - » *Reevaluate in September*

# Other Operating Assistance – I-95

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- **Two agencies receive special assistance to provide commuter services in the I-95 corridor – PRTC (OmniRide) and Fairfax County (Fairfax Connector)**
  - » *DRPT recommends providing funding at the same level as FY20, which is \$1.19M.*
  - » *DRPT recommends that one quarter of this amount should be added to the FY20 SYIP (\$296.5K) and that this funding be reevaluated in September.*

# Commuter Assistance Programs

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- **DRPT has actively worked to re-scope the commuter assistance agencies to better support telework and to prepare for a return to work/commuting later this year.**
- **All commuter assistance agency budgets were evaluated and all discretionary/non-critical expenditures removed to establish baseline budgets for FY21.**
  - » *The total recommended funding is \$1.85M (compared to \$2.5M in grant requests)*
  - » *DRPT recommends adding first quarter of these allocations (\$463.3K) to the FY20 SYIP and that this funding be reevaluated in September.*

# Critical Capital Items

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- **Debt Service for Rail Related Facilities:** In past years DRPT has provided state capital assistance to PRTC for debt service payments related to the construction of VRE parking facilities in Manassas Park.
  - » *This needs to be funded at the beginning of FY21 to allow PRTC to make debt service payments.*
  - » *DRPT recommends that the total state share of \$141,275 be added to the FY20 SYIP.*
- **DRPT is currently evaluating all other FY21 capital requests to determine if there are other critical needs that would impact provision of service through FY21.**
  - » *DRPT recommends that these needs be reevaluated in September.*

# Federal Programs

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- **Each year DRPT allocates several categories of Federal funding assistance to transit agencies. DRPT recommends that these amounts be added to the FY20 SYIP.**
  - » *Section 5303 – Metropolitan Planning (support to MPOs and transit agencies)*
    - \$3,092,157, the available Section 5303 apportionment, and matching state funds of \$386,526
  - » *Section 5304 – Statewide Planning (DRPT)*
    - \$583,727, the available Section 5304 apportionment
  - » *Section 5307 – Small Urban Transit (Governor’s Apportionment)*
    - \$16,719,414, the available Section 5307 apportionment
  - » *Section 5310 – Human Service Transportation*
    - \$1,316,214, of the available Section 5310 apportionment, and state matching funds of \$747,576.
    - This funding will support operating and mobility management services in FY21.
    - DRPT recommends that capital funding requests be reevaluated in September to determine the availability of local matching funds.



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