



Birmingham, Jefferson County Transit Authority
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**Program of Projects
for
Federal Fiscal Year 2017
(Utilizing FFY 2016 Apportionments)**

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Introduction and Overview

The Birmingham Jefferson County Transit Authority (BJCTA), in accordance with Federal Transportation Administration Circular 9030.1E (FTA C 9030.1E) – Urbanized Area Formula Program: Program Guidance and Application Instructions, has developed this Program of Projects (POP) for federal fiscal year 2016. A POP is a list of projects proposed by a designated recipient in cooperation with a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to be funded from the urbanized area’s Section 5307 apportionment and FTA Section 5339, Bus and Bus Facilities Formula Program. The POP includes a brief description of these funding programs, a list of the eligible projects that are proposed to be funded under each including any sub-allocation among public transportation providers, total project costs, and Federal share for each project. Projects identified in the POP, once they have approved, will be programmed into the Birmingham MPO’s Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

The POP may include funds from a previous fiscal year that have not been completely expended and that have rolled over into the current fiscal year. In some cases, the POP may also include flexible highway funds such as Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ).

FTA Section 5307 List of Projects

FTA Section 5307 Urbanized Area Formula Program Description

FTA Section 5307 (49 U.S.C. 5307) formula funds provides funding to public transit systems in the Urbanized Areas (UZA) for public transportation capital, planning, job access and reverse commute projects, as well as operating expenses in certain circumstances.

FTA Section 5307 formula funds may also be used by Jobs Access Reverse Commute (JARC 5307). JARC 5307 provides funding for local programs that offer job access and reverse commute services to provide transportation for low income individuals who may live in the city core and work in suburban locations and the development and maintenance of transportation services designed to transport welfare recipients and eligible low-income individuals to and from jobs and activities related to their employment.

The Program of Projects (POP) will identify the sub-recipients and projects for which the designated recipient is applying for financial assistance. This POP will be submitted to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for approval of New Freedom projects in the Nashville MPO urbanized area.

The Program of Projects (POP) identifies the sub-recipients and projects for which the designated recipient is applying for financial assistance. The BJCTA will submit a POP to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for approval of FTA Section 5307 projects located within the Birmingham MPO urbanized area. This POP includes a brief description, total projects costs and Federal share of each project, and the amount of funds required for planning and program administration.

Designated Recipient: Birmingham Jefferson County Transit Authority

Fund Sources	Federal	State	Local	Total
FY 2016 Apportionment	\$7,224,000		\$1,806,000	\$9,030,000
CMAQ Flex	\$ 800,000		\$ 200,000	\$1,000,000
Total Funds Available	\$8,024,000		\$2,006,000	\$9,030,000

List of Projects

Project Sponsor. Birmingham Jefferson County Transit Authority

Agency Description: The Birmingham Jefferson County Transit Authority (BJCTA) was created in 1972 by an Act of the Alabama Legislature, taking over the public transit operation for the City of Birmingham and Jefferson County from the Birmingham Transit Company. The BJCTA provides local publicly accessed bus service to citizens and visitors within the Metropolitan Birmingham area. In addition, the BJCTA provides special door-to-door paratransit services for seniors and people with disabilities that are unable to ride the larger buses on the fixed routes. BJCTA is an independent authority, whose appointed nine-member board of directors develops, implements, and monitors public transportation policy, and oversees the fiscal wellbeing of the agency.

Project: Preventative Maintenance

Project Description: The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) requires that federally-funded assets be maintained in accordance to documented Vehicle Maintenance Program. Preventative maintenance is required to ensure vehicles remain in a state of good repair based on manufacturer recommendations. Preventative maintenance also help to avoid breakdowns that may jeopardize passenger safety, helps ensure that all equipment such as wheelchair lifts are functioning properly, and to conserve agency vehicle maintenance budgets. In short, well maintained vehicles are essential to providing a safe and secure transit experience. Projects included herein address both vehicle maintenance the equipment needed to maintain these vehicles.

Scope	Federal	State	Local	Total
Vehicle Preventative Maintenance	\$ 6,660,723		\$1,665,181	\$8,325,904
Re-key Fair Box Maintenance	\$ 80,000		\$ 20,000	\$ 100,000
2 Vehicle lifts for Shop	\$ 181,845		\$ 45,462	\$ 227,306
Total	\$ 6,922,568		\$1,730,642	\$8,653,210

Project: Information Technology and Communications

Project Description: Computers and communication technologies have had a significant impact on the Birmingham Jefferson County Transit Authority. The BJCTA Information Technology department has several efforts underway to improve computer equipment for BJCTA internal use, internal communications, and IT hardware on transit vehicles to improve customer travel experience.

Scope	Federal	State	Local	Total
Departmental Laptops for IT	\$ 6,000		\$ 1,500	\$ 7,500
Internal Website	\$ 12,800		\$ 3,200	\$ 16,000
Audio Visual System for Board Room	\$ 56,000		\$ 14,000	\$ 70,000
WiFi Devices for Buses	\$ 56,276		\$ 14,069	\$ 70,345
Total	\$ 131,076		\$ 32,769	\$ 163,845

Project: Onboard Transit Technology

Project Description: BJCTA is completing the installation and deployment of automatic data collection systems on the revenue service transit fleet. This includes automatic vehicle location systems, automatic passenger counting systems, and advanced passenger information systems. Funding will be used to complete installation and deployment of hardware on transit vehicles and at major transit facilities. It will also be used to deploy software to help these systems communicate among themselves, assist BJCTA with analysis of ridership data and service performance data, and communicate with the public about the status of services.

Scope	Federal	State	Local	Total
Automatic Data Collection Hardware and Software (3 rd Party Contract)	\$ 161,236		\$ 40,309	\$ 201,545
	\$ * 8,747		\$ 2,187	\$ 10,934
Total	\$ 169,983		\$ 42,496	\$ 212,479

* Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Flexible Funds

Project: Transit Planning

Project Description: The BJCTA is developing its planning capabilities to include spatial analysis of the transit service area, and project analysis to include analysis of bus routes and related transit services. To continue this development, BJCTA will purchase both hardware and software specific to support spatial data analysis. This hardware and software will enable BJCTA to develop and exchange data with partnering agencies, and communicate with its senior leadership, Board of Directors, elected officials, partner agencies, local municipalities, and its customers through thematic maps. It will also enable BJCTA staff to query spatial information quickly and employ mobile GIS technology to enhance data collection.

Scope	Federal	State	Local	Total
Desktop Computers (2) and ArcGIS Licenses (up to 5 seats)	\$ 3,120		\$ 780	\$ 3,900
Total	\$ 3,120		\$ 780	\$ 3,900

Project: Fiscal Accountability

Project Description: Many of BJCTA’s customers still pay for transit services using cash and coins. As a result, BJCTA manages a larger number of coins, and accuracy is important especially as it relates to reconciling fare box collections with electronic records. BJCTA will purchase a new coin machine to be installed in the agency’s money room.

Scope	Federal	State	Local	Total
Coin Machine for Money Room	\$ 6,000		\$ 1,500	\$ 7,500
Total	\$ 6,000		\$ 1,500	\$ 7,500

Project: Vehicle Replacement/Expansion Program

Project Description: BJCTA has developed a vehicle replacement and expansion program to support its efforts to replace vehicles that have achieved or exceeded their useful life, and to expand their vehicle fleet to meeting new demands and accomplish their transit development plan (TDP), to include route optimization. Working in cooperation with the Birmingham MPO, funding from the region’s Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funding will be provided to BJCTA to support this effort.

Scope	Federal	State	Local	Total
(2) 40 Foot Compressed Natural Gas Bus	\$ * 791,253		\$ 197,813	\$ 989,066
Total	\$ 791,253		\$ 197,813	\$ 989,066

* Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Flexible Funds

FTA Section 5339 List of Projects

FTA Section 5339 Bus and Bus Facilities Formula Program Description

The Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities program (49 U.S.C. 5339) makes federal resources available to states and direct recipients to replace, rehabilitate and purchase buses and related equipment and to construct bus-related facilities including technological changes or innovations to modify low or no emission vehicles or facilities. Funding is provided through formula allocations and competitive grants. A sub-program, the Low- or No-Emission Vehicle Program, (Lo-No) provides competitive grants for bus and bus facility projects that support low and zero-emission vehicles.

Designated Recipient: Birmingham Jefferson County Transit Authority

Fund Sources	Federal	State	Local	Total
FY 2016 Apportionment	\$ 696,975		\$ 174,244	\$ 871,219
5339 Discretionary	\$ 405,000		\$ 101,250	\$ 506,250
Total Funds Available	\$1,101,975		\$ 275,494	\$1,377,469

List of Projects

Project Sponsor. Birmingham Jefferson County Transit Authority

Agency Description: The Birmingham Jefferson County Transit Authority (BJCTA) was created in 1972 by an Act of the Alabama Legislature, taking over the public transit operation for the City of Birmingham and Jefferson County from the Birmingham Transit Company. The BJCTA provides local publicly accessed bus service to citizens and visitors within the Metropolitan Birmingham area. In addition, the BJCTA provides special door-to-door paratransit services for seniors and people with disabilities that are unable to ride the larger buses on the fixed routes. BJCTA is an independent authority, whose appointed nine-member board of directors develops, implements, and monitors public transportation policy, and oversees the fiscal wellbeing of the agency.

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Scope	Federal	State	Local	Total
(1) 40 Foot Compressed Natural Gas Bus	\$ 395,626		\$ 98,907	\$ 494,533
(5) Paratransit Buses (\$91,728/veh.)	\$ 364,000		\$ 91,000	\$ 455,000
Total	\$ 759,626		\$ 189,907	\$ 949,533

Project: Transit Data Collection and Monitoring Technology

Project Description: BJCTA is completing the installation and deployment of automatic data collection systems on the revenue service transit fleet. This includes automatic vehicle location systems, automatic passenger counting systems, and advanced passenger information systems. Funding will be used to complete installation and deployment of hardware on transit vehicles and at major transit facilities. It will also be used to deploy software to help these systems communicate among themselves, assist BJCTA with analysis of ridership data and service performance data, and communicate with the public about the status of services.

Scope	Federal	State	Local	Total
Automatic Data Collection Hardware and Software (3 rd Party Contract)	\$ 15,400		\$ 3,850	\$ 19,250
	\$ 301,349		\$ 75,337	\$ 376,686
Total	\$ 316,749		\$ 79,187	\$ 395,936

* Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Flexible Funds

Project: Facility Safety

Project Description: BJCTA takes traveler safety seriously, and has made it a priority. BJCTA also takes seriously the security of transit assets, facilities, and employees. As such, BJCTA has undertaken improvements to secure its facilities and improve safety for its employees by providing continuous surveillance and controlling access to facilities and sensitive areas of its operation.

Scope	Federal	State	Local	Total
Key Card Readers	\$ 21,600		\$ 5,400	\$ 27,000
(5) Monitors for Intermodal Facility	\$ 4,000		\$ 1,000	\$ 5,000
Total	\$ 25,600		\$ 6,400	\$ 32,000

* Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Flexible Funds

FTA Section 5310 List of Projects

FTA Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Elderly and Disabled Individuals Program Description

The Grants for Enhanced Mobility of Elderly and Disabled Individuals program (49 U.S.C. 5310) makes federal resources available to states. This program (49 U.S.C. 5310) provides formula funding to states for the purpose of assisting private nonprofit groups in meeting the transportation needs of older adults and people with disabilities when the transportation service provided is unavailable, insufficient, or inappropriate to meeting these needs. Funds are apportioned based on each state's share of the population for these two groups.

Formula funds are apportioned to direct recipients; for rural and small urban areas, this is the state Department of Transportation, while in large urban areas, a designated recipient is chosen by the governor. Direct recipients have flexibility in how they select sub-recipient projects for funding, but their decision process must be clearly noted in a state/program management plan. The selection process may be formula-based, competitive or discretionary, and sub-recipients can include states or local government authorities, private non-profit organizations, and/or operators of public transportation.

The program aims to improve mobility for seniors and individuals with disabilities by removing barriers to transportation service and expanding transportation mobility options. This program supports transportation services planned, designed, and carried out to meet the special transportation needs of seniors and individuals with disabilities in all areas – large urbanized (over 200,000), small urbanized (50,000-200,000), and rural (under 50,000). Eligible projects include both “traditional” capital investment and “nontraditional” investment beyond the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) complementary paratransit services.

BJCTA in Partnership with the Regional Programming Commission (RPC) developed a request for proposal process (RFP) in which these sub-recipients were selected and approved by the Metropolitan Planning Organization board (MPO).

Designated Recipient: Birmingham Jefferson County Transit Authority

Fund Sources	Federal	State	Local	Total
FY 2016 Apportionment	\$ 666,744		\$ 166,686	\$ 833,430
FY 2015 Lapsing Funds Apportionment	\$ 222,484		\$ 55,621	\$ 278,105
Total Funds Available	\$ 889,228		\$ 222,307	\$1,111,535

List of Projects

Project Sponsor. Birmingham Jefferson County Transit Authority

Agency Description: The Birmingham Jefferson County Transit Authority (BJCTA) was created in 1972 by an Act of the Alabama Legislature, taking over the public transit operation for the City of Birmingham and Jefferson County from the Birmingham Transit Company. The BJCTA provides local publicly accessed bus service to citizens and visitors within the Metropolitan Birmingham area. In addition, the BJCTA provides special door-to-door paratransit services for seniors and people with disabilities that are unable to ride the larger buses on the fixed routes. BJCTA is an independent authority, whose nine-member appointed board of directors develops, implements, and monitors public transportation policy, and oversees the fiscal wellbeing of the agency.

Project: Third Party Transportation

Project Description: Travelers Aid and The Exceptional Foundation, both non-profit agencies, will partner with third party vendors to provide safe and reliable transportation services to disabled and elderly individuals within their respective service areas. FY 2016 and FY 2015 funds will be provided to BJCTA to support these agencies in this effort.

Scope	Federal	State	Local	Total
Purchase 14,560 Trips	\$ 174,720		\$ 43,680	\$ 218,400
Purchase 334 Trips	\$ 4,000		\$ 1,000	\$ 5,000
Total	\$ 178,720		\$ 44,680	\$ 223,400

Project: New Vehicle Acquisition

Project Description: Lakeshore Foundation, The Arc of Jefferson County and The Exceptional Foundation, all non-profit agencies, will purchase new, ADA-accessible vehicles to meet increased client transportation needs within their respective service areas. FY 2016 and FY 2015 funds will be provided to BJCTA to support these agencies in this effort.

Scope	Federal	State	Local	Total
Acquire Four 15-Passenger Vans	\$ 104,588		\$ 26,147	\$ 130,735
Acquire One 6-Passenger SUV	\$ 41,600		\$ 10,400	\$ 52,000
Acquire Two Cut-away Buses	\$ 123,757		\$ 30,939	\$ 154,696
Total	\$ 269,945		\$ 67,486	\$ 337,431

Project: Vehicle Replacement/Expansion Program

Project Description: BJCTA has developed a vehicle replacement and expansion program to support its efforts to replace vehicles that have achieved or exceeded their useful life, and to expand their vehicle fleet to meet increased para-transit service demands. FY 2016 and FY 2015 funds will be provided to BJCTA to support this effort.

Scope	Federal	State	Local	Total
Four Para-transit buses	\$ 293,530		\$ 73,382	\$ 366,912
Three Para-transit vans	\$ 78,023		\$ 19,506	\$ 97,529
Total	\$ 371,553		\$ 92,888	\$ 464,441

Project: Administrative Fees

Project Description: BJCTA and RPC will work together to inform sub-recipients about Section 5310 requirements, provide training and technical assistance, monitor activities of sub-recipients, etc. The specific duties of each entity is identified in the MOU between the agencies. FY 2016 funds will be provided to BJCTA to support these sub-recipients in this effort.

Scope	Federal	State	Local	Total
Regional Programming Commission	\$ 33,337		\$	\$ 33,337
Birmingham-Jefferson County Transit Authority	\$ 20,002		\$ 13,335	\$ 33,337
Total	\$ 53,339		\$ 13,335	\$ 66,674

Project: Transit Safety, Training and Accessibility

Project Description: BJCTA is committed to the safety, passenger education and accessibility of our para-transit rider program. These projects are included to reflect our diligence in these areas as well as to address passenger needs. FY 2016 and FY 2015 funds will be provided to BJCTA to support these efforts.

Scope	Federal	State	Local	Total
Wheel Chair Lift Installation Cost	\$ 4,307		\$ 1,077	\$ 5,384
Wheel Chairs for Intermodal Facility	\$ 630		\$ 157	\$ 787
Passenger Information Displays	\$ 10,734		\$ 2,684	\$ 13,418
Total	\$ 15,671		\$ 3,918	\$ 19,589