

# Public Transit Division's Staff

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**"Serving our communities"**



**Fact Sheet**

**Public Transit Division**

# ***MDOT's Public Transit Division***

Through the Office of Intermodal Planning, the MDOT is committed to coordinated planning and the collaborative allocation of local, state and federal resources to develop, implement and sustain transportation programs and projects.

The Public Transit Division has as its' primary responsibility the development and administration of general public and specialized transportation program grants and contracts. These programs include service delivery, technical assistance, and training components. The Division administers U.S. Department of Transportation funds on behalf of the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for rural and small urban areas of the state.

## **Mission**

The mission of the Public Transit Division is to plan, develop, implement and administer sustainable transportation programs, projects and plans that promote the most effective and efficient allocation of state, federal and local resources throughout the state.

## **Goals**

Improve the availability and accessibility of public and specialized transportation resources for rural and small urban areas through a collaborative planning process and increased investments.

Improve the level of coordination of transportation resources that are available through State Agencies, local Community Action Agencies, other public bodies and the private sector.

Incorporate technology solutions in public and specialized transportation programs to increase safety efficiency and effectiveness.

Develop and maintain a comprehensive transportation information data base.

## **Description of Programs**

### **Section 5311 Non-Urbanized Transportation**

Commonly referred to as the Rural General Public Programs, federal funds are awarded by the MDOT to support general public transportation projects in areas with populations less than 50,000. Funds may be used for planning, capital purchases, administration and operating expenses, and require a local match. Eligible recipients include local public bodies, non-profit organizations and state agencies.

### **Section 5310 Elderly and Disabled Transportation**

Grants are made by the MDOT to private non-profit organizations (and certain public bodies) primarily for the purchase of capital equipment such as buses, vans and computers. The services supported by this program are targeted to the elderly and persons with disabilities. Projects must be included in a coordinated human service transportation plan.

### **New Freedom Program**

Federal funds are made available for capital and operating costs for service and facility improvements to address transportation needs of persons with disabilities that go beyond the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Projects must be included in a coordinated human service transportation plan. Local match requirements apply.

### **Rural Transit Assistance Program (RTAP)**

RTAP funds are used by the Division to provide training, and technical assistance, support research or demonstration projects, and enable contractors to promote transit as a mobility alternative.

### **Intercity Bus Program**

This program meets a federal requirement for assistance to bus operators in providing connecting services between non-urbanized areas and larger regional or national bus routes.

### **Job Access/Reverse Commute Program**

Job Access grants are intended to provide new transit service for low income individuals to get to jobs, training and child care. Reverse Commute grants support service to transport workers to suburban job sites. Local matching requirements apply. Projects must be included in a coordinated human service transportation plan.

### **Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program**

The Division has developed a DBE Program to ensure that minority-owned and small businesses receive the opportunity to participate in federally supported transportation contracts. An annual participation goal is developed and maintained by Division staff. Each transit contractor is encouraged to take affirmative steps toward meeting this goal.