Workshop

Public Transit – Human Services
Transportation Coordination
Planning

MoDOT
Logistical Details

- Introductions
- Restrooms
- Exits
- Breaks
- Lunch
- Handouts
- Questions?
Abbreviations

- **COG** – Council of Government,
- **FFY** – Federal Fiscal Year
- **FTA** – Federal Transit Administration – USDOT
- **JARC** – Job Access & Reverse Commute
- **MoDOT** – Missouri Dept. of Transportation, 
- **MPO** – Metropolitan Planning Organization,
- **RPC** – Regional Planning Commission,
- **SAFETEA-LU**: Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act – A Legacy for Users, which is the current federal transportation authorization law
Coordination Overview

- Why?
- What?
- Where?
- Who?
- How?
- When?
Why?

- SAFETEA-LU federal reauthorization law
- Federal Executive Order 13330
- Projects in FTA 5310, 5316 & 5317 Programs
- Opportunities for Efficiency & Effectiveness
SAFETEA-LU Sec. 3012, 3018 & 3019

“The projects selected were derived from a locally developed, coordinated public transit – human service transportation plan and the plan was developed through a process that included representatives of public, private and non-profit transportation and human service providers and participation by the public”
Key Word Analysis of SAFETEA-LU Requirements

“The projects selected were derived from a locally developed, coordinated public transit – human service transportation plan and the plan was developed through a process that included representatives of public, private and non-profit transportation and human service providers and participation by the public”
What – Minimally?

- FTA Section 5310 Program for Agencies serving Seniors or Persons with Disabilities
- FTA Section 5316 Job Access and Reverse Commute Program (JARC)
- FTA Section 5317 New Freedom Program
FTA Section 5310 Program

- In Missouri, program funds 80% of the purchase of vehicles for non-profit agencies serving the mobility needs of Seniors and/or persons with disabilities,
- Administered state-wide by MoDOT with urban sub-allocations,
- $2,179,389 to Missouri in FFY 2006
FTA Sec. 5316 JARC Program

- Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC) program funds agencies that service the work related transportation needs of low income individuals,
- Rural and small urbanized JARC grants administered by MoDOT,
- FFY 2006 Missouri rural JARC = $804,275 and small urbanized JARC = $284,808.
FFY 2006 Large Urban JARC

- St. Louis area - $853,416
- Kansas City area - $520,534
- Springfield area - $118,633
FTA Sec. 5317 New Freedom

- New program as of FFY 2006
- Funds “new” services or improvements that are “beyond” the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA),
- MoDOT makes the rural and small urbanized grants,
- FFY 2006 Missouri rural funds = $422,493 and small urbanized funds = $157,112.
FFY 2006 New Freedom

- St. Louis area - $568,601
- Kansas City area - $352,954
- Springfield area - $52,780
JARC & New Freedom Grant Administrators

- MoDOT – Rural Missouri,
- MoDOT – Small urbanized Missouri (St. Joseph, Joplin, Columbia, Jefferson City, Lee’s Summit),
- East-West Gateway COG – St. Louis
- Kansas City Area Transportation Authority – Kansas City,
- City Utilities Transit Division - Springfield
What – Optionally?

- Other federally funded mobility activities,
- State funded mobility programs,
- Locally and privately funded transportation programs,
- Strategies that improve efficiency or effectiveness involving no added funds,
Where?

- “Locally” developed plans,

- In rural Missouri, plans funded along regional planning commission (RPC) boundaries,

- Also, “local” areas along urban metropolitan planning organization (MPO) boundaries
Who?

- Transportation partners-providers,
- Passengers and advocates,
- Human service partners-funders,
- Other interested agencies and persons
How?

- Community planning session(s)
- Self-assessment groups
- Focus groups
- Surveys
How? – (continued)

- Detailed study and analysis
- Public meetings,
- Public outreach
- Public participation
When?

- Plans developed at least every 4 years; at least every 5 years in air quality attainment areas,

- Grant process will occur at least every two years.
Coordination Overview Test!

- Who?
- What?
- When?
- Where
- Why
- How?
Plan Document - Overview

- Identifies (minimally) transportation services available, and needs of:
  - Individuals with disabilities,
  - Older adults,
  - People with low incomes,
Plan Document - Overview

- Provides strategies for meeting local needs,
- Prioritizes transportation service strategies for funding and implementation,
- Should maximize program’s collective coverage by minimizing duplication,
Plan Document - Overview

Plan must be developed through a process that includes representatives of transportation and human services transportation providers:

– Public
– Private
– Non-profit providers
Participation by members of the public should include:
- Individuals with disabilities,
- Older adults,
- People with low incomes,
Plan Document - Overview

- Plan only required in communities seeking funding in one or more of the three (3) specified FTA programs,

- To strengthen impact, plan should incorporate activities offered under programs of federal, state and local agencies.
Document Overview – Test!

- Assessment of transportation services,
- Assessment of mobility needs
- Strategies for meeting local needs,
- Prioritization of strategies,
- Process includes providers of transportation,
- Participation by members of the public,
- Where/when coordination plan required,
- Incorporation of other programs - optional
Required Plan Elements

The public transit – human service transportation coordination plan must minimally include the following elements at a level consistent with available resources and the complexity of the local institutional environment.
An assessment of available services that identifies current providers:

- Public
- Private
- Non-profit
An assessment of transportation needs:
- For individuals with disabilities,
- For older adults,
- For people with low incomes
- Basis of assessment may be from:
  - Experiences & perceptions of planning partners,
  - More sophisticated data collection efforts,
  - Gaps in service
Examples of Assessment Techniques

- Responses by participants in publicly held coordination planning meeting(s),
- Analysis of Census population data,
- Inventory of local mobility services,
- Focus group responses,
- Statistically representative sample of local area residents to identify mobility needs,
Plan Elements – #3 – Strategies or Activities

Identify strategies and/or activities that:

- Address the identified gaps in service
- Achieves efficiencies in service delivery
Examples of Coordination Activities & Strategies

- Actions that support eligible projects in FTA Section 5310, 5316 & 5317 programs,

- Proposals that address service gaps by:
  - Time (Days of week; hours of the day),
  - Space (locations un-served/underserved),

- Techniques to address efficiencies in service
  - Combining trips, single point for information, joint purchasing, vehicle/driver sharing, etc.
Strategies/Activities vs. Projects – Example #1

- **Strategies** define a mobility goal
  - Example: Increase utilization of vehicles,

- **Activities** describe a tactic to address a function of providing mobility service
  - Example: Improve the call-taking process,

- **Projects** implement actions in support of a strategy, e.g.
  - Obtain trip scheduling software
Strategies/Activities vs. Projects – Example #2

- **Strategies** define a mobility goal,
  - Example: Sustain current mobility services,

- **Activities** describe a tactic to address a function of providing mobility service
  - Example: Replace vehicles at end of useful life

- **Projects** implement actions in support of a strategy, e.g. – Replace vehicle at Agency X
Plan Elements – #4 Prioritize Strategies

Relative priorities for implementing specific strategies / activities identified based on:
- Resources,
- Time,
- Feasibility
Examples of Prioritization

- Numerical descending priority of strategies:
  - First
  - Second
  - Third, etc.

- General grouped priority of strategies:
  - High
  - Medium
  - Low
Plan Elements – Test!

- #1 – Assessment of Available Services,
- #2 – Assessment of Transportation Needs,
- #3 – Identify Strategies and/or Activities,
- #4 – Priorities for Implementing Strategies
Planning Participation Issues

- Adequate outreach to allow for participation
- Potential outreach strategies include:
  - Notice or flyers in centers of community activity
  - Newspaper or radio announcements
  - E-mail lists and web posting
  - Invitation letters
  - Do not exclusively rely on e-communications
Planning Participation Issues

- Useful to allow many ways to participate,
  - In-person testimony
  - Mail in comments,
  - E-mail,
  - Teleconference
Planning Participation Issues

Public meeting considerations:
- Location and time where accessible transportation is available,
- Adequately advertised to public,
- Interpreters available, if requested, for:
  - Individuals with hearing or vision impairments,
  - English as a second language,
- Accessible formats (large print, Braille, etc.)
Planning Participation Issues

Inclusion of Transportation Partners
- Area transportation planning agencies,
- Public transportation providers,
- Private transportation providers,
- Non-profit transportation providers,
- Past or current organizations funded,
- Human services agencies with transportation services either operated, funded or provided
Planning Participation Issues

Passengers and Advocates included:
- Existing and potential riders,
- Protection and advocacy organizations,
- Representatives of independent living centers,
- Advocacy organizations working on behalf of the targeted populations,
Planning Participation Issues

- Participation by Human Service Partners:
  - Agencies that administer programs for targeted populations for:
    - Health
    - Employment
    - Other support programs
Examples of Human Service Agencies

- Departments of Social/Human Services,
- Employment One-Stop Services,
- Vocational Rehab,
- Medicaid,
- Community Action Programs,
- Agency on Aging,
- Developmental Disability Councils,
- Community Services Board,
- Job Training and Placement Agencies,
- Housing / Health Care
- Mental Health Providers
Other Related Agencies

- Security and emergency management agencies,
- Economic development,
- Faith-based and community-based organizations,
- Representatives of the business community (employers),
- Appropriate local and state officials,
- Appropriate elected officials,
- School districts
Planning Participation Issues

NOTE – Participation in the planning process will not bar providers (public or private) from bidding to provide services identified in the coordinated planning process.
Planning Participation – Test!

- Methods of outreach,
- Methods of participation,
- Public meetings,
- Inclusiveness of participation,
Levels of Participation

- Participation not limited; nor required of all,
- **Participants will have an active role in:**
  - Development of the plan,
  - Adoption of the plan,
  - Implementation of the plan,
- Lead agency convening the planning should document efforts utilized to attract participation
Plan Adoption

- Participants should identify the process for adoption of the plan,
- Grant administrators (designated recipients) should include a strategy for adopting plans,
- FTA will not formally review & approve,
- Grant administrators will document the plan from which each project funded is derived
It is time to play . . . .

Coordination Jeopardy!
Coordination “Game” / Process Roles for Planning

- How do planning agencies play the process?
- How do potential grant recipients play the game?
- How do passengers/advocates play process?
- How do human service funding agencies play?
How do Planning Agencies Play?

- Develop & implement assessment tools,
- Solicit & attract public participation,
- Document publicly identified strategies,
- Document publicly identified priorities,
- Facilitate and finalized plan for adoption,
- Write finalized plan document,
- Submit adopted written plan,
How Do Potential Grant Recipients Play?

- Actively participate in assessment responses
- Inform clients & riders of planning activity,
- Actively participate in planning meeting(s),
- Actively promote activities/strategies relevant to desired funding program,
- Suggest workable strategies to maximize service coverage and minimize duplication
- Read the adopted plan; future participation
How Do Passengers and Their Advocates Play?

- Actively participate in assessment process,
- Inform service & funding agencies of needs,
- Actively participate in planning meetings,
- If needed, request accommodations early,
- Promote relevant activities/strategies,
- Read the adopted plan,
- Participate in future planning efforts
How Do Human Service Funding Agencies Play?

- Actively participate in assessment responses
- Assist in identifying other relevant agencies
- Inform partnering agencies about process,
- Actively participate in planning meetings,
- Promote relevant strategies/activities related to agency’s mission,
- Suggest efficient & effective strategies,
- Read adopted plan; participate in future updates
Coordination Game – Test!

- Planning Agencies
- Potential Grant Recipients
- Passengers and Advocates
- Human Service Funding Agencies
FAQ – Frequently Asked Questions – Number 1

Am I out of luck if the replacement vehicle our agency wanted to fund out of the Section 5310 program is not specifically mentioned in the coordination plan?
FAQ – Frequently Asked Questions – Number 2

- My agency already submitted a Section 5310 grant application for FY 2007 funding, so do we even need to participate in the coordination planning process?
FAQ – Frequently Asked Questions – Number 3

Would it be better to name specific projects in addition to strategies in the coordination plan?
My agency currently receives funding from the state funded Missouri Elderly and Handicapped Transportation Assistance Program (MEHTAP). Will this planning process in any way jeopardize our MEHTAP funding?
FAQ – Frequently Asked Questions – Number 5

There are no agencies in our regional planning area that have anticipated projects in the near term that would require funding from the FTA’s Section 5310, 5316 (JARC) and 5317 (New Freedom) programs. In that case, do we even need to do a coordination plan?
I currently cannot get to where I want to go at the time I need to get there. How will this coordination process help me?
FAQ – Frequently Asked Questions – Number 7

My agency does not receive funding in the three (3) FTA programs, and probably never will. Why should we participate in this coordination planning process?
Participant Introductions

- Name
- Agency / Company / Organization
- Main job responsibility
- Current mobility coordination activities
- Potential mobility coordination activities
- Usefulness of meeting with other mobility stakeholders
What is on the CD?

- PowerPoint Presentation,
- Presentation Outline with Appendix and Internet links to Web based resources,
- FTA Guidance on Coordination Plans – Ch. 5
- Outline of Coordination Planning Guidance
- RPC and MPO State Map and Information
- FTA Proposed Program Guidance Circulars
- Workshop Participant Survey Form
Wrap-up Questions?