

Federal Transit Administration

- Operating agency of U.S. Department of Transportation
- Leadership - appointed by the President



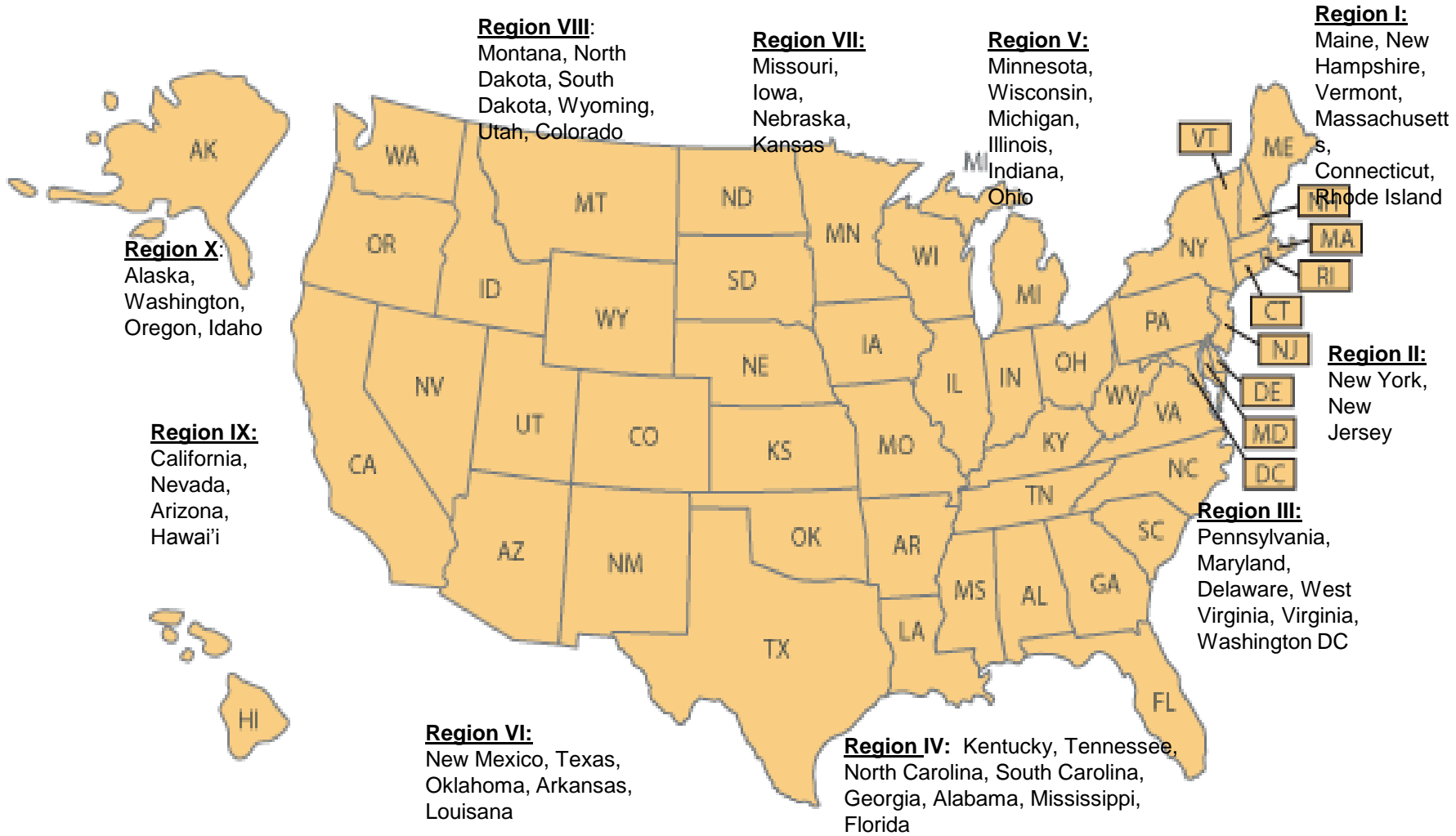
Peter Rogoff
Administrator



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Authorization and Appropriations Process

**A
two-step,
sequential
process**





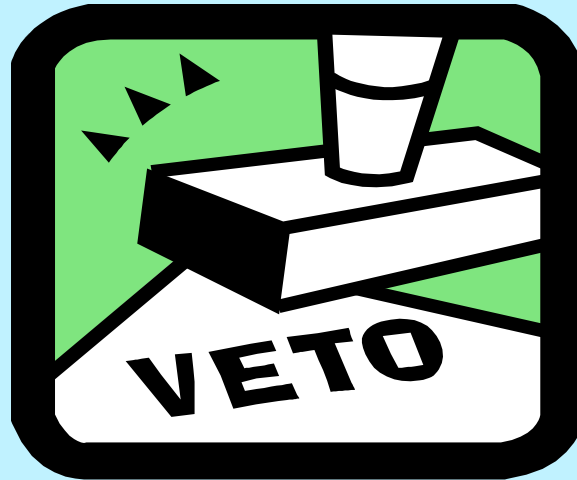
Congress first passes an authorization bill that establishes or continues an agency or program.

Authorizations may be one or more years and typically authorize the appropriation of funds for programs and agencies.

APPROPRIATIONS



Following an authorization, Congress typically passes an appropriations bill to fund what has been authorized.



- Authorization and appropriations bills must be passed by both Houses of Congress and presented to the President for signature or veto

Purpose

- Congress determines the purposes for which an appropriation may be used
- Public funds may be used only for the purpose or purposes for which they were appropriated. 31 U.S.C. 1301(a)
- Charging authorized items to the wrong appropriation, and unauthorized items to any appropriation is prohibited

FTA Funding Investments

- Public transportation includes buses, subways, light rail, commuter rail, monorail, passenger ferry boats, trolleys, inclined railways, and people movers
- Capital – Vehicles, facilities and associated equipment
- Operating – For areas less than 200,000 in population
- FTA does not fund Amtrak the nation's intercity passenger rail system

Funding Process

- Funding Programs
- Role of FTA headquarters and regional offices
- Grant Development
- Grant Award
- Spending & Drawdown of funds
- Grant Closeout
- Grant Oversight

FTA Funding Programs

FORMULA PROGRAMS

Metropolitan & Statewide Planning

- Supports cooperative, continuous, and comprehensive planning for making transportation investment decisions
- Each urbanized area must have a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
- MPO Produces TIP's and Transportation Plans (4 year cycle generally)
- Project **MUST** be on TIP to be funded
- Funded by grants to the States; formula based on population

Urbanized Area Formula Program

- Transit capital and operating assistance in urbanized areas and for transportation-related planning.
- Allocated based on population, density and transit service factors, with two new formula features
 - Small Transit Intensive Cities formula
 - Growing States and High Density States formula (Section 5340)
- Capital Grants
- Operating Assistance in Areas under 200,000

Fixed Guideway Modernization Program

- Modernization of existing rail systems and new fixed guideway systems
- Rail Systems at least 7 years old
- Formula based on amount of rail infrastructure and service (7 tiers, starting with historic rail cities)

Job Access & Reverse Commute

- Addresses transportation challenges faced by welfare recipients and low-income persons seeking to obtain and maintain employment
- Eligibility:
 - Projects to get low income persons to employment and employment-related activities; reverse commute services
 - States and UZA's must select recipients competitively from locally-developed human service transportation coordination plan

New Freedom Program

- Capital/Operating costs of services and facility improvements in excess of Americans with Disabilities Act requirements
- Projects developed through locally-developed human service transportation coordination plan

Formula Grants for Other Than Urbanized Areas

- Providing funding to States for the purpose of supporting public transportation in rural areas with a population of less than 50,000
- Capital, operating, planning and state administration
- Indian Tribes
- Rural Transit Assistance Program (RTAP)
- Formula based on population and land area
- Intercity bus minimum and consultation

Transportation for Elderly Persons and Persons with Disabilities

- Assisting private nonprofit groups in meeting transportation needs of the elderly and persons with disabilities
- Formula based on number of elderly persons and persons with disabilities
- Projects selected from locally developed human service transportation coordination plan
- Eligibility: Capital and contracted paratransit services

FTA Funding Programs

DISCRETIONARY PROGRAMS

Alternatives Analysis

- Assist in financing the evaluation of reasonable alternatives and general options in a particular, broadly-defined travel corridor.

Bus and Bus Facilities

- New and replacement buses and facilities

Clean Fuels Grant Program

- Achieving/maintaining standards for ozone and CO and support emerging clean fuel and propulsion technologies for transit buses.

Transit Investments for Greenhouse Gas and Energy Reduction (TIGGER)

- Capital investments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and/or reduce energy use within transit operations.

Public Transportation on Indian Reservations

- Direct funding to federally recognized tribes for the purpose of supporting tribal public transportation in rural areas.

Transit in Parks Program

- Interagency program with Department of Interior
- Address the challenge of increasing vehicle congestion in and around national parks and other federal lands
- Planning and Capital Costs

Veterans Transportation and Community Living Initiative Capital Grants Program

- The Department of Transportation has joined with the Departments of Veterans Affairs, Labor, Defense, and Health and Human Services to establish a new initiative
- Will improve transportation options and mobility for America's veterans, service members, and their families

Over-the-Road Bus Program

- To assist intercity fixed-route, commuter, charter, and tour bus services in complying with "Transportation for Individuals with Disabilities"

Research Programs

- Authorized FTA Programs:
 - National Research Program
 - Transit Cooperative Research Program
 - National Transit Institute
 - Project Action
- Multimodal University Centers Program

Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery Program (TIGER)

- Projects which fosters innovative, multi-modal and multi-jurisdictional transportation projects that promise significant economic and environmental benefits to an entire metropolitan area, a region, or the nation.

Alternative Financing

- Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA)
- State Infrastructure Banks
- Revenue bonds, such as farebox revenue bonds and grant anticipation notes
- Debt service reserve financing
- Capital leasing

Major Capital Investments (New Starts & Small Starts)

- Includes rapid rail, light rail, commuter rail, automated guideway transit, people movers, and exclusive facilities for buses (such as bus rapid transit) and other high occupancy vehicles.
- Capital projects less than \$75 million and total capital cost less than \$250 million (Small Starts).

New Starts Process Steps

- Systems planning: priority corridor
- Alternatives analysis: mode and alignment
- Preliminary engineering: final scope/cost, completion of NEPA, financial plan
- Final design: construction documents
- Full Funding Grant Agreement
 - FTA: funding
 - Project sponsor: delivery of the project

New Starts Full Funding Grant Agreement

- Formal Agreement signed by FTA and Grantee following detailed review by DOT, OMB and Congress
- Agreement on Project Scope, Budget, and Schedule
- Terms and Conditions of Federal Participation
- Multi-year Funding Commitment (subject to Congressional Appropriations)

Role of FTA Headquarters Office

- Notifies grantees that funding is available through Federal Register
- Manages electronic grant making system and account management functions
- Policy guidance
- Contractor support for oversight programs

Role of FTA's Ten Regional Offices

- Works with eligible recipients to develop grant application
- Process grant application
- Award Grant
- Grant Oversight
- Grant Closeout

Grant Oversight

- Triennial Review
- State Management
- Planning
- Financial
- Procurement
- Drug & Alcohol
- Civil Rights
- Intelligent Transportation Systems
- Project Management Oversight

Role of FTA Grant Recipient

- Develop projects
- Meet FTA eligibility criteria planning, environmental and civil rights requirements
- Apply for FTA grants
- Implement project(s)
- Drawdown funds (reimbursement program)
- Provide narrative and financial reports on project status (quarterly or annually)
- Participate in FTA oversight program
- Grant closeout
- Annual audits