Competitive Rail Vehicle Replacement Grant Program (Rail Program)
Webinar
November 3, 2022

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Federal Transit Administration

Agenda

- Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Background
- Program Overview
- Eligibility Information
- Evaluation Criteria
- Review and Selection
- Civil Rights
- Grants.Gov
- Questions

BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW (BIL) BACKGROUND

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Background | Program Overview | Eligibility Information | Evaluation Criteria | Application Requirements & Documents | Civil Rights | Grants.gov | Questions

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)
(Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act)

- 71% Increase in funding over the FAST Act
- Major new funding for State of Good Repair, Low and No Emission, and CIG Grants
- Continues Existing Structure for FTA Programs focused on urban, rural, and targeted populations
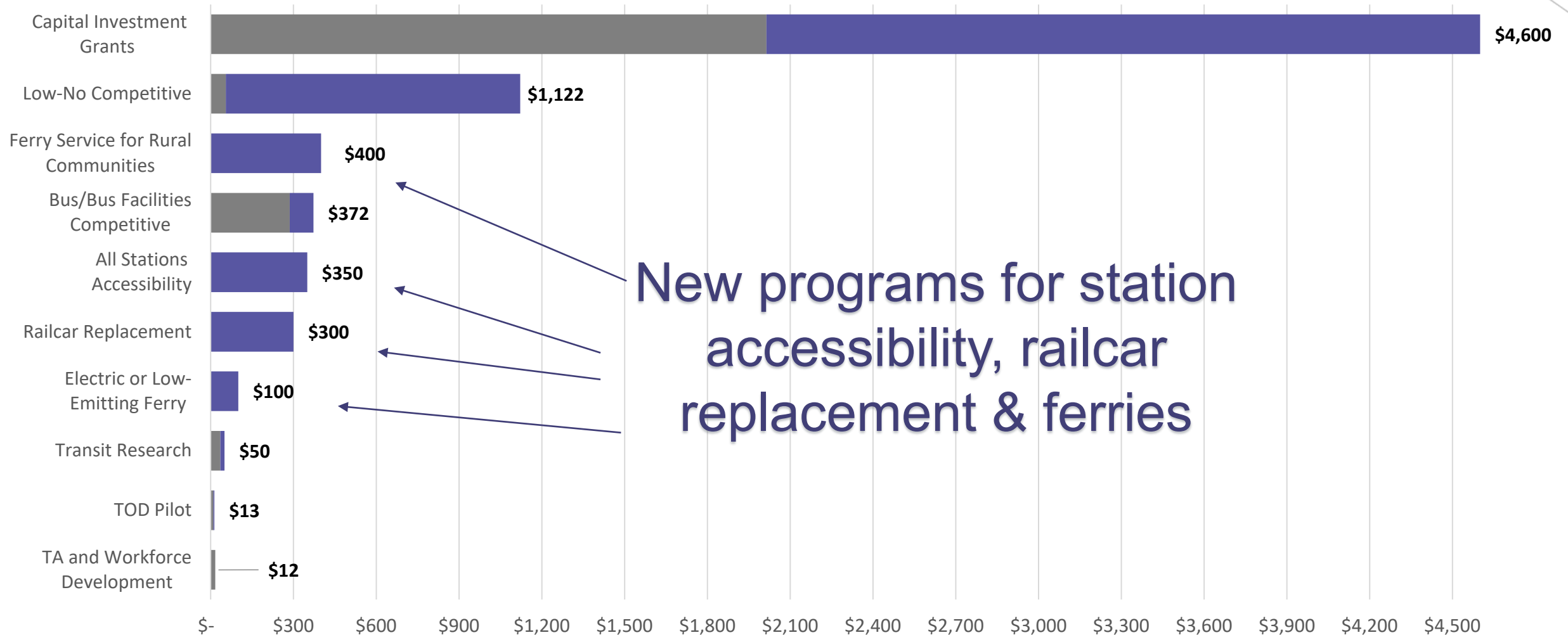
Provides Funding for 5 Years

- Rail Vehicle Replacement
- All Stations Accessibility
- Low-No Ferries
- Rural Ferries

Creates New Competitive Programs

Competitive & CIG Funding – FY21 to FY22
(Millions of Dollars)

Program	Amount
Capital Investment Grants	$4,600
Low-No Competitive	$1,122
Ferry Service for Rural Communities	$400
Bus/Bus Facilities Competitive	$372
All Stations Accessibility	$350
Railcar Replacement	$300
Electric or Low-Emitting Ferry	$100
Transit Research	$50
TOD Pilot	$13
TA and Workforce Development	$12

New programs for station accessibility, railcar replacement & ferries

Note: Transit Research includes Bus Testing and NTD

■ FAST FY21 ■ Additional Funding Under BIL (FY22)

State of Good Repair Program Funding (5337)

	FY21 enacted** (in millions)	FY22 enacted (in millions)	FY23 authorized (in millions)	FY24 authorized (in millions)	FY25 authorized (in millions)	FY26 authorized (in millions)
High Intensity Fixed Guideway*	$2,619.71	$3,994.20	$4,063.69	$4,153.28	$4,225.17	$4,316.37
High Intensity Motorbus	$76.85	$117.17	$119.23	$121.84	$123.95	$126.63
Competitive Grants For Rail Vehicle Replacement	----	$300	$300	$300	$300	$300
5337 State of Good Repair Total	$2,723.80	$4,465.53	$4,537.78	$4,630.93	$4,705.68	$4,800.50

* Totals include amounts for oversight and administrative takedowns and transfers to the Office of Inspector General.

**FY21 enacted may include additional appropriations above the FAST Act authorized amounts

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Program Description

- Competitive funding to assist in the funding of capital projects to **replace rail rolling stock**.

- Replacement, not expansion, program.

- Multi-year grant awards are permitted at DOT's discretion (up to 3 years).

Important Dates

Notice of Funding Opportunity	October 12, 2022
Applications Due	**January 5, 2023**
Project Evaluations	January and February 2023
Award Announcement	Estimated in April 2023
Pre-Award Authority	Starts on date of project announcement
Available for Obligation	The year of award plus 3 fiscal years – September 30, 2026 For multi-year grants, subsequent obligations must be made in the following year for a two-year agreement, and each of the two consecutive fiscal years for a three-year agreement, following the fiscal year from which the first obligation is made.

DOT/FTA Program Priorities

The Rail Program supports DOT and FTA's priorities and objectives through investments that

(1) renew our transit systems;

(2) advance racial equity;

(3) connect communities; and

(4) reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

IMPORTANT Application Information: Multi-Year NOFO

- **FY22 available funds:** $300M for up to 3 new awards

  PLUS

- **FY23 available funds:** $300M for up to 3 new awards

- This multi-year **FY22 and FY23 NOFO** is a **total** of **$600M** for up to **6 new awards.**

- **FTA may at its discretion award future FY24 and FY25 funding as permitted by law, totaling an additional $600M.**

That's ONE application package submitted, and ONE application process for BOTH FY22 and FY23 available funding.

ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

Eligible Applicants (Section C.1)

Recipients

- States (including territories and Washington, D.C.)
- Local governmental authorities

Eligible Cost-Sharing or Matching (Section C.2)

Funding Source	Eligible Amount
Competitive Grants for Rail Vehicle Replacement (Rail Program)	Up to 50% of total eligible project costs
Other Federal Funds – including FTA funding and SGR formula funds	Up to 80% of total eligible project costs (including up to 50% from Rail Program)
Non-Federal Funds (Local Match)	At least 20% of total eligible project costs

Eligible Cost-Sharing or Matching (Section C.2)

NOTE: Example for illustrative purposes only.

Project Budget

Description	QTY	A. Rail Program Grant Amount Requested	B. Other Federal Funds	C. Other Non-Federal Funds	D. Total Cost
New Passenger Revenue Vehicle	20	2,500,000	1,500,000	1,000,000	100,000,000
Insert Item	Total:	50,000,000	30,000,000	20,000,000	100,000,000

Note:
Column A can be up to 50% of Column D.
Columns A+B may be up to 80% of Column D.
Column C must be at least 20% of Column D.
Column D can only include eligible project costs (e.g., cannot include cost for expansion vehicles).

Exceptions:
For NTI training - Column A may be up to 80% of Column D.
The amount in Column A for NTI training may not exceed 0.5% of the grand total of column A.

For workforce development - Column A may be up to 80% of Column D.
The amount in Column A for workforce development may not exceed 0.5% of the grand total of Column A

Eligible Projects (Section C.3)

- Replacement of rail rolling stock
  - **Rail rolling stock** is defined as revenue service, passenger carrying vehicles, or propulsion (locomotives) vehicles necessary for the provision of rail public transportation. Rail vehicles can include, but are not limited to, commuter rail, heavy rail, and light rail vehicles.
  - **Replacement** is defined as the number of vehicles required to replace the number of vehicles to be removed from service that are substantially the same type.

- Included in the transit asset management (TAM) plan upon completion of the plan

Eligible Projects (Section C.3)

Vehicle Replacement

Please complete the table below with information about the existing rail rolling stock to be replaced and the new vehicles planned for procurement.

NTD Fleet ID (existing)	Number of vehicles to be replaced (existing)	Years in Revenue Service (existing, list in number of years)	Maximum vehicle passenger capacity (existing, each)	Number of vehicles (new)	Maximum vehicle passenger capacity (new, each)

[Insert Item (New Fleet ID)]

Did any of these existing vehicles undergo life-extending overhauls? ○ Yes   ○ No

If yes, please explain:

Eligible Projects: Workforce Development

Workforce Development:

- Recipients are permitted to use up to 0.5% of the requested grant award for workforce development activities.
- An additional 0.5% can be used for training at the National Transit Institute.

See 49 U.S.C. 5314(b)

Examples Include:
- On-the-job training
- Apprenticeships
- Research for training programs
- Employment outreach programs

Ineligible Projects

- Projects **not eligible** under this program:
    - Vehicles that do not operate on rails;
    - Maintenance and other non-revenue vehicles; and
    - Fleet expansion projects.

        » If a procurement includes both expansion and replacement vehicles, only the cost of the replacement vehicles may be included in the total eligible project cost under this program.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Background | Program Overview | Eligibility Information | **Evaluation Criteria** | Review and Selection| DBE | Grants.gov | Questions

FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

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Evaluation Criteria (Section E.1)

1. **Demonstration of Need**

   - What is the age, condition, and performance of the rail vehicles to be replaced?

   - Has the rail rolling stock to be replaced exceeded or will it exceed the useful service life in the 5-year period following the grant?

     (5 years starting 1 year after the date applications are due)

Evaluation Criteria (Section E.1)

2. **<u>Demonstration of Benefits</u>**

    - **Safety:** How will the project increase safety of vehicles and how does that impact the broader safety of the transportation system?

    - **Performance:** How does the project reduce breakdowns and service interruptions, increase service performance and reliability, and reduce the cost of maintaining outdated vehicles?

    - **Enhanced Access and Mobility for People with Disabilities:** How does the project improve access and mobility for persons with disabilities, including wheelchair users?

    - **Combatting Climate Change:** Does a replacement locomotive or self-propelled passenger cars with a locomotive or self-propelled passenger cars produce fewer harmful emissions at the point of service?

Evaluation Criteria (Section E.1)

3. **Planning and Local/Regional Prioritization**

   - How is the proposed project consistent with rail vehicle replacement priorities in the applicant's Transit Asset Management (TAM) plan?

   - How is the proposed project consistent with local and regional planning documents?

   - How is the proposed project consistent with local government priorities?

   - Are there letters of support from local stakeholders?

4. **Local Financial Commitment**

   - How/when will the local funds be fully secured?

   - What is the source of the local share, is it available and set aside for the project?

Evaluation Criteria (Section E.1)

5. **Project Implementation Strategy**

- How soon can the proposed project be obligated (within 12 months)?

- How has the applicant considered any planning or environmental requirements?

- How will the project be implemented?

6. **Technical, Legal, and Financial Capacity**

- Does the applicant have the know-how to carry out the proposed project?

- What technical, legal, or financial capacity issues exist, if any?

REVIEW AND SELECTION

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Background | Program Overview | Eligibility Information | Evaluation Criteria |
Review and Selection| Civil Rights | Grants.gov | Questions

Additional Considerations (Section E.2)

- Geographic diversity

- Age of vehicles to be replaced

- Diversity in transit system size

- Applicant's availability of State of Good Repair Formula funding or other competitive awards

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- Geographic diversity

- Age of vehicles to be replaced

- Diversity in transit system size

- **Applicant's availability of State of Good Repair Formula funding or other competitive awards**

State of Good Repair Formula Funds (SGR)

Please list the funding amount the **applicant** receives as part of the State of Good Repair Formula Grant Program (49 U.S.C. 5337) apportionment.

Applicant's FY2020 SGR Funding Allocation

Applicant's FY2021 SGR Funding Allocation

Applicant's FY2022 SGR Funding Allocation

Additional Considerations (Section E.2)

After applying the above criteria, and in support Executive Order 13985, Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government, and Executive Order 14052, Implementation of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, FTA will give priority to additional considerations.

Racial Equity and Barriers to Opportunity

- planning and policies related to racial equity and overcoming barriers to opportunity
- project investments that either proactively address racial equity and barriers to opportunity, including automobile dependence as a form of barrier, or redress prior inequities and barriers to opportunity.

CIVIL RIGHTS

Nondiscrimination Requirements

 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Prohibits discrimination against people with disabilities in several areas, including public transit. Sets service criteria for accessible transit, ADA paratransit requirements, and design standards for vehicles and stations. Applies regardless of federal funding.

 Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Prohibits discrimination in federally funded programs based on race, color and national origin, included limited English proficiency.

 Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program. Prohibits discrimination in DOT-funded contracts by ensuring fair competition for women- and minority-owned businesses bidding and working on DOT-funded contracts.

 External EEO Program. Prohibits discrimination against applicants, employees, and former employees of federally funded agencies, including FTA recipients, based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, and genetic information.

 Section 5332. Broad nondiscrimination requirement that prohibits FTA funding recipients from discriminating against persons based on race, color, *religion*, national origin, *sex*, disability, or *age*.

Civil Rights Program Submissions

Title VI
- Updated every 3 years
- Public Outreach
- Limited English Proficiency
- Complaints
- Service Standards & Equity Analyses

DBE
- Goal updated every 3 years
- Procurement and Contracting Procedures
- Transit Vehicle Manufacturing

EEO
- Updated every 4 years
- Workforce Goal

Disadvantaged Business Enterprise

- DBE applies to capital, operating, and planning funds, including vehicle procurement

- DBE goal-setting identifies if there are DBEs available to do work on the project
  - Transit vehicles excluded from goal setting

- Must be purchased from a DBE certified Transit Vehicle Manufacturer
  - Eligible TVMs found at:
  - www.transit.dot.gov/TVM

- Must be reported to FTA within 30 days of purchase

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

Rail Cars

- Accessible vehicles conform with 49 CFR Part 38

Items of note:

- FTA Circular 4710.1 – Chapter 4
- Level Boarding
  - Rapid Rail (no exception, 3" x +/- 5/8")
  - Light Rail (where operated on dedicated ROW; 8" ATR elsewhere, except street boarding)
  - Commuter Rail/Amtrak (37.42, OGC guidance)
    » Low Platforms 8" ATR

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

Equivalent Facilitation

- DOT ADA regulations permit departures from the specific standards where equal or greater accessibility is achieved
  - Accommodates innovation
  - Case-by-case
  - *NOT* an exception!
- Determinations made by Administrator of relevant operating administration
  - **OST approval required!**
- FTA equivalent facilitation requests processed by TCR

GRANTS.GOV

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Applying for FTA Grant Opportunities in Grants.gov

FTA Notice of Funding Opportunity

https://www.transit.dot.gov/
https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grants/notices

FTA Notice of Funding Opportunity

FTA NOFO Page contains:

- Summary Description
  - Application requirements
  - Eligibility
- Supplemental Form
  - Applicants should complete and attach this to their submission
- Links to Grants.gov
- Links to Program Information
- Other references and links

Link to Grants.gov

FTA NOFO provides hyperlinks to Grants.gov opportunity notice, related documents, and application package.

https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grants/notices

Download Application

NOTE: Anyone can download the application package from Grants.gov. However, only "authorized organizational representatives" can submit applications in Grants.gov.

Application Package

Application Package

FY 2022 and FY 2023 Competitive Grants for Rail Vehicle Replacement Program (Rail Program)
Applicant and Proposal Profile

The "**Attachment Form**" shown below is included in the SF-424 Grant Application Package in Grants.gov.

Please attach the **FTA Supplemental Form** to the **Attachment Form** shown below when submitting in Grants.gov.

CAUTION: Do not use "**Supplemental Form**" from prior years or create your own form. Please use the file provided on the FTA website.

Applications on Grants.gov

https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants.html

Applicant – Organization Registration

Organizations must register in Grants.gov in order to submit applications

Workspace in Grants.gov

Web Addresses

FTA Funding Opportunities:

https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grants/notices

Grants.gov:

http://www.grants.gov/
http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants.html

GRANTS.GOV Applicant Support
1-800-518-4726
support@grants.gov

Important Links

Notice of Funding Opportunity: https://www.transit.dot.gov/notices-funding/fiscal-year-2022-and-fiscal-year-2023-competitive-grants-rail-vehicle-replacement

Application Information: https://www.grants.gov/ (search for "Rail Program" or Opportunity ID: FTA-2023-001-TPM-RAIL)

Rail Program Webpage: https://www.transit.dot.gov/grant-programs/competitive-grants-rail-vehicle-replacement-program

QUESTIONS

Asking Questions
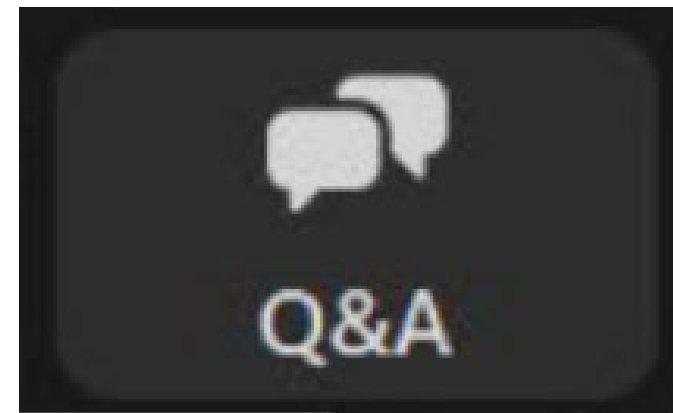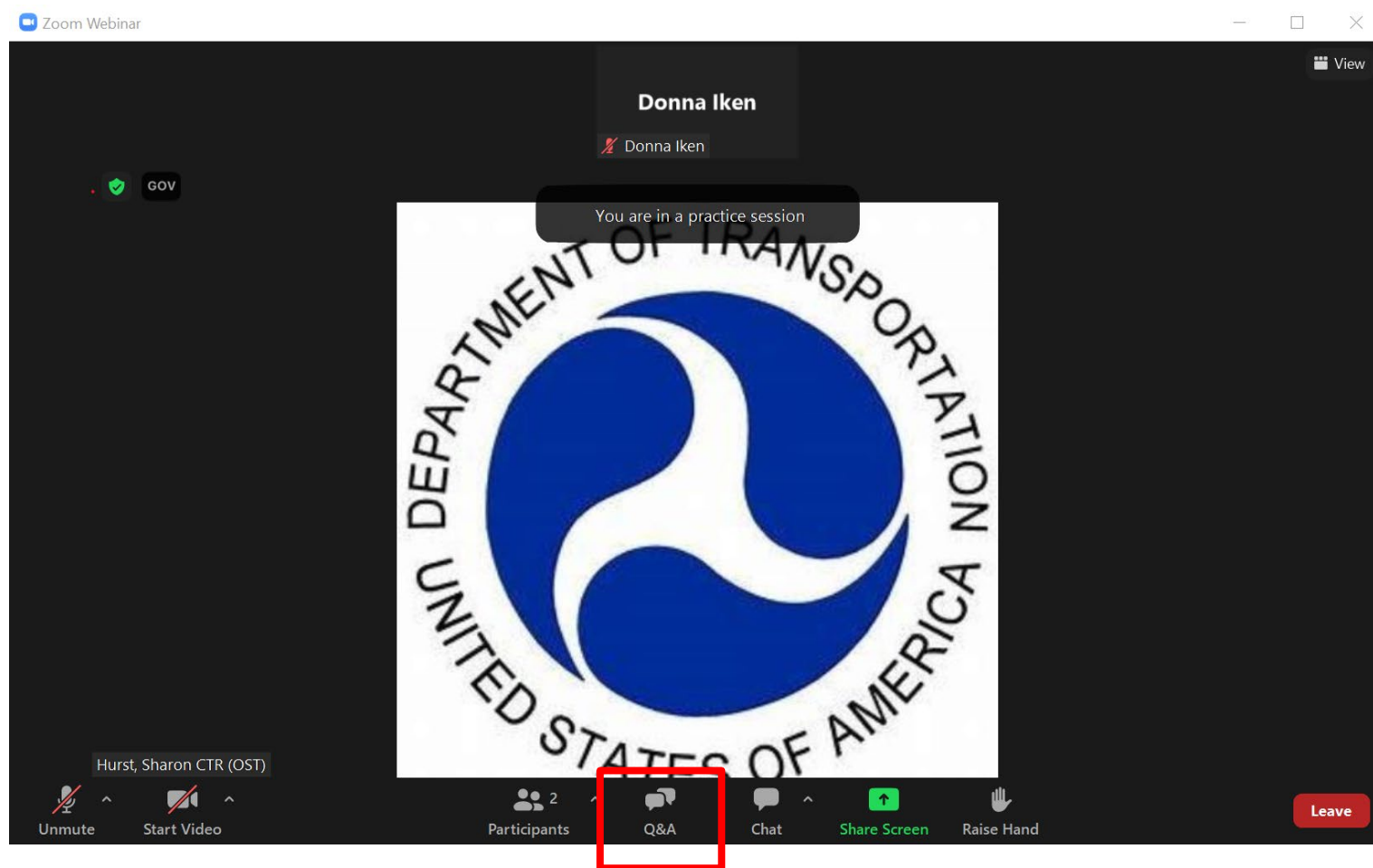
QUESTIONS?

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FTA Mission, Vision, Values

MISSION

Improve America's Communities through Public Transportation

VISION

A Better Quality of Life for All Built on Public Transportation Excellence

VALUES		
	SERVICE	**Provide reliable, transparent, responsive, and anticipatory services to meet stakeholder needs**
	INTEGRITY	**Commitment to the highest professional and ethical standards**
	INNOVATION	**Foster new ideas, concepts, and solutions for improved outcomes**
	SUSTAINABILITY	**Optimize decisions, resources, and systems to make long-term positive impacts on the environment, infrastructure, and safety**
	EQUITY	**Remove barriers for systemically underserved communities to access all aspects of economic, social, and civic life**