

Federal Transit Administration Grants**FY2021 Request: \$10,000,000****Reference No: 30643****AP/AL:** Allocation**Project Type:** Equipment / Commodities**Category:** Transportation**Location:** Statewide**House District:** Statewide (HD 1-40)**Impact House District:** Statewide (HD 1-40)**Contact:** Dom Pannone**Estimated Project Dates:** 07/01/2020 - 06/30/2025**Contact Phone:** (907)465-2956**Appropriation:** Statewide Federal Programs**Brief Summary and Statement of Need:**

Competitive grants from the Federal Transit Administration that are administered by the department to purchase transit vehicles for elderly and handicapped transportation and operating expenses of transit operators.

Funding:	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026	Total
1002 Fed Rcpts	\$10,000,000	\$12,000,000	\$12,000,000	\$12,000,000	\$15,000,000	\$15,000,000	\$76,000,000
Total:	\$10,000,000	\$12,000,000	\$12,000,000	\$12,000,000	\$15,000,000	\$15,000,000	\$76,000,000

☐ State Match Required
 ☐ One-Time Project
 ☐ Phased - new
 ☐ Phased - underway
 ☒ On-Going
 0% = Minimum State Match % Required
 ☐ Amendment
 ☐ Mental Health Bill

Operating & Maintenance Costs:

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Staff</u>
Project Development:	0	0
Ongoing Operating:	0	0
One-Time Startup:	0	0
Totals:	0	0

Prior Funding History / Additional Information:

Sec1 Ch3 SLA2019 P8 L23 SB19 \$10,000,000
 Sec1 Ch19 SLA2018 P11 L13 SB142 \$10,000,000
 Sec1 Ch1 SLA2017 P9 L13 SB23 \$10,000,000
 Sec1 Ch2 SLA2016 P18 L7 SB138 \$10,000,000
 Sec1 Ch38 SLA2015 P17 L14 SB26 \$10,000,000
 Sec1 Ch18 SLA2014 P64 L28 SB119 \$10,000,000
 Sec1 Ch16 SLA2013 P81 L5 SB18 \$9,000,000
 Sec1 Ch17 SLA2012 P137 L18 SB160 \$9,000,000
 Sec1 Ch5 SLA2011 P102 L23 SB46 \$9,000,000
 Sec7 Ch43 SLA2010 P38 L31 SB230 \$9,000,000
 Sec1 Ch15 SLA2009 P22 L27 SB75 \$9,000,000
 Sec13 Ch29 SLA2008 P161 L20 SB221 \$9,000,000
 Sec4 Ch30 SLA2007 P105 L12 SB53 \$9,000,000

There is also a small grant to the state for administering the program. Match for pass-through grants is 9.03% - 43.14% and is provided by the grantee. Match for planning is 20%, provided by the state.

Project Description/Justification:

This program provides federal funding from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to implement and maintain coordinated public transportation throughout Alaska.

Recipients of the funds described in items two to six below must apply to the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) transit planning office and compete statewide. Applications are solicited and then reviewed by a committee of transit-oriented Alaskans from the state, local governments and the public. The applications are scored with an emphasis on coordinated transportation, where opportunities to leverage related services are recognized.

Funds are used for the following activities:

- 1) State Administration. Federal funds are provided to administer the program
- 2) Project Administration. DOT&PF passes through these funds to public transit systems. These funds require a 9.03% local match and are used for administrative overhead such as transit system director's salary, office expenses, insurance, advertising, and planning
- 3) Capital Funding. Capital expenses include funding for the purchase of vehicles, communication systems, dispatching systems, maintenance, buildings, and shelters. Capital funding requires a 9.03% local match for public transit and 20% match for human service. Capital funds are available to both public and private nonprofit organizations
- 4) Jobs Access and Reverse Commute (JARC) Funding. These funds are used to offset a community's cost of providing transportation for low income people to and from work
- 5) Operating Expenditures. This category includes the cost of fuel, driver salary, dispatcher, and other associated costs. These funds require a 43.14% local match
- 6) Purchase of Services. These funds are provided to private nonprofit and public organizations for the purchase of transportation services
- 7) Training and Technical Assistance (No match required)

A local government may purchase public transportation services from private companies.

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Project Description/Justification:

On March 27, 2020, Congress passed the federal act known as the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act or the CARES Act. This act includes funding for Federal Transit Administration grants to non-urbanized areas.

Federal Transit Administration Grants

FY2020 Request: \$29,000,000
Reference No: 30643

The Department of Transportation & Public Facilities (DOT&PF) is requires \$29,000,000 in additional Federal Receipt authority to cover costs associated with the Federal Transit Administration programs incurred due to the COVID-19 pandemic for non-urbanized Areas.

CARES Act funds are available for operating expenses for all Federal Transit Administration 5311 recipients (non-urbanized areas), including administrative leave for transit workers. Operating expenses are those costs necessary to operate, maintain, and manage a public transportation system.

The Alaska Marine Highway System (AMHS) is eligible to receive a portion of the funding from the Federal Transit Authority from the CARES Act (anticipated at \$10.0 million). These funds will be used to pay for COVID-19 eligible costs incurred starting March of 2020. Funds are to prevent, prepare and respond to COVID-19 with a focus on operational expenses. This funding will cover employee's leave charged as COVID-19 admin leave and will pay salaries for employees who are not required to work due to reductions in service levels. Funding can also be used to purchase cleaning and sanitizing supplies and personnel protection equipment. There is no match required for these funds when used for operating expenses

**Department of Transportation and Public Facilities
Statewide Federal Programs
COVID-19 Federal Transit Administration 5311 Grants**

Subject of RPL: FY2020 COVID-19 Federal Transit Administration 5311 Grants	ADN/RPL #: 25-2020-8766
Amount requested: \$29,000,000	Appropriation Authority: Sec 1 Ch 3 FSSLA 19 Pg 8 Ln 23
Funding source: Federal Receipts (1002) Capital	Statutory Authority: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• AS 37.20.010 Acceptance of federal grants and transfers of property• AS 44.42.060 Grants to the Department• 49 U.S.C. § 5301 Transportation• 23 U.S.C. § 101 Highways

PURPOSE

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PREVIOUS LEGISLATIVE CONSIDERATION

No previous RPLs have been requested for this purpose. The FY2020 Statewide Federal Program budget appropriation includes \$10,000,000 for Federal Transit Administration Grants.

TIMING ISSUES

These federal funds are a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and were made available after the Legislature recessed.

BUDGETARY ISSUES

This request is directly aligned with the mission of DOT&PF to keep Alaska moving through service and infrastructure. These funds are one-time only funds made available to help states deal with the expenses as result of the COVID-19 pandemic. There will be no future budgets impacts because of this request.

Legislative Fiscal Analyst Comment: To enable legislative tracking, Legislative Finance will assign federal Covid-19 fund code 1265 to federal appropriations associated with Covid-19.

Based on the federal guidance for this funding, this purpose is an appropriate use of these funds. This RPL increases the federal appropriation made in an FY20 capital project from \$10 million to \$39 million. These grants go to non-urbanized transit systems, which in Alaska includes municipalities other than Anchorage and Fairbanks (those two transit systems receive federal funds directly). The Alaska Marine Highway System is not typically a recipient, but the Inter-Island Ferry Authority does typically receive a portion of these funds.

There are no technical issues with this RPL.