



December 21st, 2010

Dear Prospective JARC/New Freedom Program Applicant:

This is to inform you of the FFY 2010 & FFY 2011 (Round 12 and 13) Federal Transit Administration Job Access & Reverse Commute (JARC) and the New Freedom (NF) grant program solicitations and to advise you of program guidelines. Eligible applicants for both programs include private non-profit organizations, state and local government agencies, and operators of public transportation services, including private operators of public transportation services.

The purpose of the JARC program is to improve access to transportation services to employment and employment-related activities for welfare recipients and eligible low-income individuals, and to provide transportation from urban areas to suburban employment opportunities. Job Access projects are targeted to providing transportation services such as shuttles, vanpools, bus routes, connector services to mass transit, and guaranteed ride home programs for welfare recipients and low income persons. Reverse Commute projects provide transportation services to suburban employment centers from urban, rural and other suburban locations for the general public. Please also note that continuing, successful JARC projects will be given priority over new or expanded JARC requests.

The New Freedom program seeks to reduce barriers to transportation services and expand the transportation mobility options available to people with disabilities beyond the requirements of the American with Disabilities Act of 1990. Proposals for new and continuing services are encouraged to apply.

An information session on the JARC and New Freedom Programs will be held for potential applicants **at the NJTPA on January 13th, 2011 at 10:00 a.m.** Directions to the NJTPA office are available on the NJTPA's website, <http://www.njtpa.org/about/contact/>. Representatives from the NJTPA, NJ Transit and the NJ Department of Human Services will be available to answer any questions. Please confirm your attendance at your earliest convenience by contacting Hamou Meghdir at (973) 639-8436 or at hmeghdir@njtpa.org. Attendance is not mandatory, but is encouraged.

A selection committee comprised of representatives from NJTPA Central Staff, the NJTPA Regional Transportation Advisory Committee (RTAC), NJ Transit, and the United We Ride County Coordinators will evaluate and rank projects. The NJTPA Board of Trustees will consider approval of the ranked list of applications in May 2011, and forward to NJ Transit its list of approved projects. Upon FTA approval, NJ Transit will administer both programs.

Completed applications are due at the NJTPA by 5 p.m. February 11th, 2011.

Applications should also be copied to NJ Transit. Applications should be emailed in PDF format and two hard copies must be provided. The program guidelines and application forms are attached and on the NJTPA website at: www.njtpa.org/project/Mobility/JARC/.

Please forward this solicitation to your respective county department or local agency that might be interested in applying for funding under the JARC or New Freedom program.

General questions on the JARC and New Freedom programs should be directed exclusively via email to Hamou Meghdir, hmeghdir@njtpa.org, and Jim Flynn, NJ Transit, jpflynn@njtransit.com. Please copy all written correspondence to me, dschmetterer@njtpa.org.

Please mail and e-mail applications to the following:

David Schmetterer
Regional Planning
NJTPA
One Newark Center, 17th Floor
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E-mail: dschmetterer@njtpa.org

Mr. Jim Flynn
Community Transportation Administrator
Innovative Service/Sales Programs NJ Transit
One Penn Plaza East
Newark, NJ 07105
Phone (973) 491-7382
Email: jpflynn@njtransit.com

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

David Schmetterer
Regional Planning, NJTPA

Copy:

Victor Waldron, FTA
Richard Roberts, NJ Transit
Robert Koska, NJ Transit
Marianne Stock, NJ Transit
Jim Flynn, NJ Transit
Sally Stocker, NJ Transit
Norma DeJesus, NJ Transit
Mary K. Murphy, NJTPA