

DRPT Agency Update – November 2022

Commonwealth Transportation Board

The CTB approved at their October 25, 2022 Board meeting the following items:

- Changes to the Urban Transit Agency Strategic Plans Guidelines
- Updates to Policy for the Implementation of State Transit Capital Prioritization

FY24 Transit/Special/MPO Grant Workshop

DRPT will be hosting a Public Transit Grant Application Workshop for local and regional transit agency partners across Virginia on November 16, 2022 at 10:00AM in preparation for the Fiscal Year 2024 grant application cycle, which opens on December 1, 2022.

Participants will have the opportunity to engage with DRPT's public transit programming and planning experts regarding the latest information on the FY24 application cycle, including technical assistance and application guidance on all public transportation programs administered by DRPT.

Registration link: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/7945743249800271627>

FY24 Commuter Assistance Program Grant Workshop

In advance of the Fiscal Year 2024 grant application cycle opening December 1, 2022, DRPT will host a virtual Commuter Assistance Program Grant Workshop on November 15, 2022 from 10AM to noon.

The grant workshop is for any agency and vanpool provider that may seek grant funds from DRPT to operate a commuter assistance program or project. CAP projects may include vanpool projects, transit marketing and other projects that reduce single occupant vehicle trips and increase transit ridership, vanpooling or carpooling.

Attendees will have the opportunity to directly engage with DRPT's Commuter Assistance Program experts regarding the latest information on the grant program and application requirements for this grant cycle.

Registration link: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/9213900170266153486>

Section 5311 Workshop

DRPT is hosting an in-person workshop for Section 5311 Transit Partners at the Inn at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Virginia on November 29-30, 2022.

The workshop will cover important topics relevant to 5311 transit agencies including FTA compliance, procurement, funding opportunities, and state led processes. Each

5311 agency is strongly recommended to have the appropriate staff member(s) attend this in-person meeting.

Questions on the workshop may be directed to Neil Sherman, Director of Statewide Transit Programs, at neil.sherman@drpt.virginia.gov

Electric Transit Buses for Virginia

Electric buses are cleaner, quieter, and have the potential to save agencies money on maintenance and fuel. However, successfully transitioning a bus fleet to electric requires technical know-how, specialized planning, and workforce training. With billions in federal funding being made available for electric transitions, there's never been a better time to start planning for the switch to battery electric buses.

Please join the Virginia Conservation Network, the Electrification Coalition, and DRPT on Thursday, November 17 from 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. During the webinar, three transit professionals will share their experiences with public transit fleet electrification.

- Speakers:
 - Brian Booth, Director of Blacksburg Transit
 - Raymond Mui, Assistant General Manager of DASH
 - Gil Johnson, VP of Capital Project Consulting representing GoRaleigh Transit

Please register here: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4065276445014438672>

Transit Asset Management (TAM) Plan

DRPT has completed the update to the 2022 Tier II Group TAM Plan, which went into effect on October 1, 2022. (<https://drpt.virginia.gov/guidelines-and-requirements/transit-asset-management-plan/>)

MPOs have 180 days to adopt new transit asset management performance targets into their TIP/CLRPs. DRPT will be providing the performance targets and template language for use.

TAM-related data is now available on the DRPT Open Data Portal (<https://data.drpt.virginia.gov/stories/s/FY2022-2025-TAM-Plan/h9nh-b94p>) and allows for data filtering on both MPO areas and transit agencies.

FY2024-2027 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)

MPOs should be working with their local transit agencies to identify planned transit projects for their draft TIPs.

DRPT expects to see draft TIPs with planned transit projects around January 2023 and if needed, can provide an Excel template from the current STIP as a reference. For any questions, please contact David Nigrelli (david.nigrelli@drpt.virginia.gov) or Cordelia Akompong (cordelia.akompong@drpt.virginia.gov).