

## **Federal Transportation Funding**

[Fixing America's Surface Transportation \(FAST\) Act](#) is the most current federal authorization for transportation funding programs. Signed in December 2015, the FAST Act authorizes funding over federal fiscal years (FFY) 2015-16 through 2019-20 for highway, highway and motor vehicle safety, public transportation, motor carrier safety, hazardous materials safety, rail, and research, technology, and statistics programs.

Core programs managed by the [Federal Highway Administration](#) (FHWA) under the FAST Act include:

- Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ);
- Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP);
- Metropolitan Planning (PL funds);
- National Highway Freight Program (NHFP);
- National Highway Performance Program (NHPP);
- Railway-Highway Crossings Program; and
- Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG), also known as the Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP).

Core Transit Programs managed by the [Federal Transit Administration](#) (FTA) authorized under the FAST Act include:

- FTA 5303 Metropolitan Planning;
- FTA 5307 Urbanized Area Formula;
- FTA 5309 New Starts;
- FTA 5310 Formula Grants for Enhanced Mobility of Seniors & Individuals with Disabilities;
- FTA 5337 State of Good Repair; and
- FTA 5339 Bus & Bus Facilities.

The shaded lines indicate federal programs primarily allocated/utilized by FAMPO and are detailed on the following pages.

Other funding opportunities include, but are not limited to, Bridge Programs, State Planning & Research, and Transportation Alternatives Program, which provides federal assistance to eligible projects. Additional Information can be found in – [A Guide to Federal-Aid Programs & Projects](#).

## **Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ)**

The CMAQ Program provides funds to States for transportation projects designed to reduce traffic congestion & improve air quality. In general, the match is **80% federal funds** with a **20% match of non-federal (State) funds**.

### **Typically Eligible CMAQ Activities**

- New bicycle & pedestrian facilities that demonstrate Single Occupancy Vehicle (SOV) reduction
- Shared ride & transportation demand management (TDM) - carpools/vanpools, marketing, public education & outreach activities
- Expanding Park & Ride lots
- Traffic signal optimization
- Traffic Operations Center
- Courtesy Patrols
- Modern roundabouts
- Dynamic Message Signs
- Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) deployment/expansion
- Intersection improvements that relieve congestion & do not add capacity
- Diesel retrofit & replacement projects
- Alternative fuel infrastructure
- Operating assistance for new/expanding service (including vanpools)
- Transit facilities (new stations, terminal, transfer facilities) only if associated with a new or enhanced route

### **Typically Ineligible CMAQ Activities**

- ANY project or elements of work that does not improve air quality
- ANY activity that is part of a larger project that adds SOV capacity such as new roads
- Traffic signal replacement in-kind without interconnecting, optimizing, etc
- Emergency vehicle preemption of traffic signals
- Moving roadways or intersections
- Non-motorized project that have a strong or solely recreational purpose
- Safe Routes to School projects
- Fuel subsidies
- Road rehabilitation & reconstruction projects
- Studies

## **Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP)**

The purpose of HSIP funds is to reduce severe crashes on public roads. Therefore, the HSIP Program provides funds to States for transportation projects designed to correct or improve a hazardous road location or address a highway safety problem. FHWA has stressed the need for data driven problem identification, project prioritization & consistency with the State's Strategic Highway Safety Plan. In general, the match is **90% federal funds** with a **10% match of non-federal (State/Locality) funds**.



### **Typically Eligible HSIP Activities**

- An intersection or road segment safety improvement such as pavement or shoulder widening
- Grade separations
- Pavement & safe streets projects
- Systemic improvements such as flashing yellow arrows, reflective backplates, rumble strips, etc
- Improvement in the collection & analysis of crash data
- An improvement for pedestrian or bicyclist safety or safety of the disabled
- Construction, installation & maintenance of signs at bicycle/pedestrian crossing & in school zones
- Construction of a traffic calming feature
- Elimination of a roadside obstacle
- Improvement of new highway signage or pavement markings (must meet retroreflectivity requirements)
- Installation of priority control system for emergency vehicles at signalized intersections
- Planning integrated interoperable emergency communications equipment, operational activities or traffic enforcement activities related to work zone safety.
- Installation of new guardrails, barriers & crash attenuators where none existed before
- Construction & operations improvement on high-risk rural roads
- Railway crossing elimination, reconstruction & improvements



### **Typically Ineligible HSIP Activities**

- Private road improvements
- Beautification projects
- Economic Development projects
- Bridge needs
- Maintenance needs
- Railroad Quiet Zones
- Enforcement
- Public information campaigns
- ITS projects without a safety component

## **Metropolitan Planning (PL) & FTA 5303 (5303)**

VDOT distributes federal funds from FHWA & FTA – PL funds & 5303 funds, respectively – to metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) to support the MPO’s core responsibilities. Each MPO is apportioned federal gas taxes on a minimum share, plus factors for population & air quality. The match is **80% federal funds** with a **20% match of non-federal (State/Locality) funds**.



### **Typically Eligible PL/5303 Activities**

- Unified Planning Work Program development & administration
- Long-Range Transportation Plan preparation
- Transportation Improvement Program development & maintenance
- Travel Demand Modeling
- ITS planning
- Transit, bicycle, pedestrian, & freight planning
- Public Participation Plan & related outreach activities, & interagency consultation
- Indirect costs, with an approved indirect cost allocation plan
- Corridor studies
- Safety studies
- The planning of future highway programs & local public transportation systems & the planning of the financing of such programs & systems
- Access & mobility analyses
- Traffic & feasibility studies
- Bicycle & pedestrian planning initiatives
- Economic impacts of transportation Investments
- Traffic counts for both highway & transit
- Development & implementation of management systems (congestion, pavement, bridge, etc)
- The conduct of activities relating to the planning real-time monitoring elements



### **Typically Ineligible PL/5303 Activities**

- Engineering, design & construction projects
- Administering the project once selected
- Technical review during design
- ROW acquisition
- NEPA documentation
- Non-transportation-related projects

## **Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG)** **Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP)**

The Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG), previously known as the Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP), provides funds for states for projects to preserve & improve the conditions & performance on any Federal-Aid highway, bridge & tunnel projects on any public road, pedestrian & bicycle infrastructure & transit capital projects, including intercity bus terminals. STBG funds are apportioned to large urban regions within Virginia. In general, the match is **80% federal funds** with a **20% match of non-federal (State) funds**.

### **Typically Eligible STBG/RSTP Activities**

- Highway, bridge, transit & safe streets projects on the National Highway System & other federal-aid highways & repair work on off-system bridges
- Planning, design or construction roadways
- Planning studies
- Road & bridge new construction & reconstruction
- Transit capital purchases
- Roadway & traffic safety improvements & programs
- Traffic monitoring, management & control facilities & programs
- Traffic safety studies & public information initiatives
- ITS improvements
- Infrastructure-based ITS capital improvements, including the installation of vehicle-to-vehicle infrastructure communication equipment
- Projects & strategies designed to support congestion pricing, including electronic toll collection & travel demand management strategies & programs
- Truck parking facilities (conditions apply)
- Recreational trails projects
- Pedestrian & bicycle projects (filling in short gaps in existing multimodal system)

### **Typically Ineligible STBG/RSTP Activities**

- Projects on a local road or rural minor collector (unless road is on the Federal-aid highway system)
- Sidewalk maintenance not associated with a road project
- New streetscape or landscape items not associated with a road project

## **FTA 5307 Urbanized Area Formula**

The 5307 Urbanized Area Formula Funding Program makes federal resources available to urbanized areas for transit capital & operating assistance for transportation-related planning.

For small urbanized areas with a population between 50,000 and 200,000 – like FAMPO – available funds are apportioned based on a combination of population & population density & are administered & allocated by the DRPT for the State. In these small urbanized areas, Section 5307 funds can be used for capital expenses or operating expenses.<sup>1</sup> Larger urbanized areas of over 200,000 in population, may not use funds for operating assistance unless identified by FTA as eligible. In general, the match is **80% federal funds** with a **20% match of non-federal funds**.



### **Typically Eligible FTA 5307 Urbanized Area Formula Projects**

- Direct transit capital improvements, such as purchase of, expansion or replacement buses, passenger rail, rolling stock & improvement, facilities & related equipment
- Planning, engineering, design & evaluation of transit projects & other technical transportation – related studies
- Studies relating to management, operations, capital requirements & economic feasibility
- Work related to constructing, acquiring or improving the operation of facilities & equipment
- Crime prevention & security equipment of maintenance & passenger facilities
- Workforce development, including job access & reverse commute projects that provide transportation to jobs & employment opportunities for welfare recipients & low-income workers



### **Typically Ineligible FTA 5307 Urbanized Area Formula Projects**

- Highway, intersection improvements, bike paths, sidewalks & park & ride lots that have no benefit to public transit service
- Non-urbanized areas in attainment for air quality

<sup>1</sup> [FTA Urbanized Area Formula Grants - 5307](#)