



News Release

For Immediate Release

Date: February 6th, 2023

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Call for Projects: Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities

ROCKFORD, IL — Notice is hereby given that the Region 1 Planning Council (R1), the federally-designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Rockford Urban and Metropolitan Area, is seeking eligible projects for the local apportionment of Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities (Section 5310), the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 (CRRSAA), and American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) funds.

The Call for Projects is from February 6, 2023, through March 7, 2023. Completed applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm on Tuesday, March 7, 2023. The total funds available through this call for projects is \$396,607. Project application, listing of eligible project types, and information on project matching funds requirements are available at <http://r1planning.org/planning-activities>.

Applications and questions can be submitted to:

Makenzee Wilcox, Associate Planner

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About the Funding Programs

The Section 5310 program aims to improve mobility for seniors and individuals with disabilities by removing barriers to transportation services and expanding transportation mobility options. This program supports transportation services planned, designed, and carried out to meet the special transportation needs of seniors and individuals with. As was the case in previous funding cycles, only agencies that originate transportation service within the Rockford Urbanized Area are only able to apply for funds from the local apportionment.

In addition to Section 5310, the region has funds available to award through the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 (CRRSAA), signed into law on December 27, 2020, and the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP), signed into law on March 11, 2021.

The CRRSAA program included \$900 billion in supplemental appropriations for COVID-19 relief, \$14 billion of which will be allocated to support the transit industry during the COVID-19 public health emergency. The purpose of this Act was to support the Nation's public transportation systems during the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) public health emergency. Additional information can be found on The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Transit Administration (FTA) website: <https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grants/coronavirus-response-and-relief-supplemental-appropriations-act-2021>.

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP), which was signed on March 11, 2021, includes \$30.5 billion in federal funding to support the nation's public transportation systems as they continue to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. ARP formula funding is being disbursed through FTA apportionments to its Urbanized Area, Rural Formula, Tribal Transit, and Enhanced Mobility of Older Adults and Individuals with Disabilities programs. Additional information can be found on The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Transit Administration (FTA) website: <https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/american-rescue-plan-act-2021>.

ABOUT R1: The Region 1 Planning Council, in its capacity as the federally-designated MPO for the Rockford Region programs various federal and state transportation funding programs. While Rockford Mass Transit District (RMTD) and Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) are the co-designated recipients of the allocated funds to the region, the MPO coordinates with RMTD to put out a Call for Projects that will guide the best use of the received Section 5310 funds, CRRSAA funds, and ARP funds. The MPO Transportation Alternatives Selection Committee will review and vote on completed applications.

For more information, visit www.r1planning.org.

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