Q & A Summary from the SFRTA Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC) and New Freedom (NF) Teleconference

Tuesday, June 28, 2011

1:00 pm

1. Would an agency be able to expand upon a project currently funded by NF in order to gain additional NF funding?
    a. Yes, as long as it is a **new** or **expanded** service. Per the circular, "For the purpose of the NF program, 'new' service is any service or activity that was not operational on August 10, 2005, and did not have an identified funding source as of August 10, 2005, as evidenced by inclusion in the Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) or STIP." This information is located on page III-8 of the NF circular.

2. Can an agency currently receiving JARC or NF money reapply for the same projects?
    a. Yes.

3. How would additional funds be distributed?
    a. Funds awarded for FY 2010 and 2011 would be distributed after funds from previous years were expended.

4. If an agency has a project which is currently partly funded with Broward County funds, can the agency apply for JARC funding for the same project?
    a. Yes, as long as records are kept to show how the JARC money was used.

5. JARC and NF applications require a 50% match for operating expenses. Can this be an "in-kind" match?
    a. Yes, as long as the in-kind service is related to the program application.

6. Is a project for The Glades (N. Palm Beach County) eligible, since the area is also eligible to receive rural area funds?
    a. Yes, as long as the majority (51%) of the project serves an urban area. The other option would be to split the project in two: the urban and the rural areas, with JARC/NF funding the urban are of the project.

7. Where is the information about the match requirements located within the Circulars?
    a. The JARC circular is located at:
    http://www.fta.dot.gov/funding/grants/grants_financing_3550.html#
    The information regarding match requirements begins on page III-10.

    The NF circular is located at:
    http://www.fta.dot.gov/funding/grants/grants_financing_3549.html#

The information regarding match requirements begins on page III-11.

8. Can agencies who are already receiving JARC or NF funds apply for the same projects in order to get a higher amount of funding for that project?
   a. Yes, however, the funds will be used in chronological order. FY 2009 funds must be expended before using funds from FY 2010.

9. Is there a final date by which questions to the SFRTA must be submitted?
   a. No. The SFRTA is available to help answer any questions applicants might have.

10. Please explain Table 5, located in the Selection Criteria section of the application. Criteria #12 addresses projects that have received previous funding by JARC or NF. Will a new project be penalized since it would not be able to receive those points?
    a. No. Criteria #12 allots up to 20 points for projects that have received prior JARC or NF funding. If the application is for a new project, then Criteria # 13 would be used. Criteria #13 awards up to 20 points for new projects. Either way, all applications are eligible to receive the same total number of points in Table 5.

11. What is the match requirement for a Mobility Management project?
    a. A mobility management project is considered to a Capital expense. Therefore, a 20% match is required.