From:	<u>Brumfield, Ryan M</u>
Subject:	Rural Microtransit Funding Opportunity – Call for Interest Due April 25
Date:	Wednesday, April 20, 2022 12:29:12 PM
Attachments:	image001.png NCDOT IMD Microtransit Overview 2022-04-13.pdf

Transit Partners:

USDOT has announced \$2.9 billion in competitive funding for major infrastructure projects, including ondemand mobility services in rural areas through the combined <u>Multimodal Projects Discretionary Grant</u> (<u>MPDG</u>) opportunity. On-demand service (microtransit) is eligible under the Rural Surface Transportation Grant within MPDG and applications are due May 23, 2022.

IMD is surveying our transit partners across the state to understand local mobility needs and gauge interest in applying for this grant opportunity. IMD would prepare a combined grant application on behalf of participating transit systems. If awarded, the grant would fund upfront costs to initiate microtransit service as well as ongoing operating expenses for 3-5 years for up to 10 transit systems serving rural areas in North Carolina. Both Software as a Service (SaaS) and Transportation as a Service (TaaS) service models would be eligible (see service model descriptions below and attached microtransit overview).

If your system is interested in participating, **please complete the following survey by COB on Monday**, **April 25<sup>th</sup>:** <u>https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/b19ad14e05f441ff91354249acd87f51</u>. This survey will help us understand your system's unmet mobility needs, potential benefits to your community, capacity to participate in the grant application development, and ability to provide a local match if required.

For additional information on microtransit, please refer to the attached overview and summary provided below:

## **Microtransit Definition**

A technology-enabled transit service that typically uses shuttles or vans to provide pooled on-demand transportation with dynamic routing.

## Service Models

- <u>Software as a Service (SaaS)</u>: Vendor provides the software and the transit agency provides the drivers, vehicles, and operations management.
- <u>Transportation as a Service (TaaS) / Turnkey:</u> Vendor provides the drivers, vehicles, software, and operations management as a turnkey solution on behalf of the transit agency.

Please contact Adam Meyer with AECOM (<u>adam.migliore.meyer@aecom.com</u>) or me if you would like to discuss this opportunity further.

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