

## Transit Call Recap – May 13, 2026

- **Board of Transportation Project Approvals:** Brennon provided an update on the June Board of Transportation meeting, where 26 projects totaling \$7.9 million in state funds, including concept special initiatives, TDM programs, micro transit, and facility repairs—were approved for funding, highlighting the state's commitment to innovative transit solutions and ongoing budget monitoring.
  - **Project Funding Breakdown:** Brennon explained that the approved projects included concept special initiatives, TDM programs for rideshare opportunities, additional micro transit funding, and state funds for a transit facility damaged by Helene, demonstrating a diverse allocation of resources.
  - **State Commitment and Innovation:** Brennon emphasized the state's dedication to supporting new and innovative transit projects, noting the importance of concept grants that coordinate multiple agencies and the Board's enthusiasm for projects impacting their communities.
  - **Budget Monitoring and Updates:** Brennon stated that the state is actively monitoring both state and federal budget developments and will provide updates to agencies, with expectations for clearer budget information by the end of the month.
- **Finance and Claims Process Updates:** Monique presented updates on the IDP process, naming conventions for claim documentation, fiscal year contract agreements, claim submission statuses, upcoming deadlines, and reminders for claim corrections and eligibility, instructing agencies to follow specific procedures and timelines.
  - **Claim Documentation Requirements:** Monique outlined the required naming conventions for claim supporting documents, specifying that G codes must be included and each document should be attached separately, except for salaries and fringes, to ensure efficient reviews.
  - **Fiscal Year Contract Agreements:** Monique announced that FY27-53-10 contract agreements will be sent to subrecipients via DocuSign, with a 30-day return window, and advised agencies to notify their finance specialist if more time is needed.
  - **Claim Submission Status and Deadlines:** Monique reported 23 claims and five change requests in submission status, and listed key deadlines: May claims due June 30th, June and fourth quarter claims due July 30th, and final change requests due June 30th.
  - **Claim Corrections and Eligibility:** Monique reminded agencies to ensure contact information accuracy, communicate with claim reviewers, and submit

corrections within three business days; claims with overdraft line items or missing corrections will be returned.

- **Capital Project Extensions and Vehicle Reimbursement:** Monique instructed agencies needing capital project extensions to contact Chris Dodson, and detailed vehicle reimbursement requirements, including vendor invoices, title applications, procurement letters, and inspection forms.
- **Grant Administration and Concept Grant Updates:** Carolyn and Casondra provided updates on the FY27 and FY28 grant application processes, including contract phases, document requirements, concept grant approvals, and ROAP grant closeout and setup, emphasizing deadlines, reporting, and eligibility for disbursements.
  - **FY27 and FY28 Grant Application Phases:** Carolyn described the transition from application review to contract and compliance for FY27, and outlined the pre-application, application, and contract phases for FY28, urging agencies to complete outstanding documentation.
  - **Document Tips and Requirements:** Carolyn highlighted new and revised forms, including the applicant profile and public hearing notice, clarified federal and local outreach requirements, and stressed the need for correct program resolution and local share certificates.
  - **Concept Grant Status:** Carolyn reported that thirteen concept grant applications were approved at the June Board meeting, one is ready for July, four are in progress, and all special initiative funds have been obligated, with no further applications accepted.
  - **ROAP Grant Closeout and Setup:** Casondra urged agencies to submit FY26 ROAP reports by July 15th to expedite FY27 disbursements, provided spending updates, and explained fund transfer procedures and eligibility for second disbursements based on fund expenditure.
  - **Reporting Reminders and Corrections:** Casondra reminded agencies of monthly reporting deadlines, the importance of timely transfers, and the need to finalize and approve reports, noting that late or incorrect reports delay disbursements and impact eligibility.
- **Procurement and Contracting Updates:** Blair and Chris discussed the status of vehicle IFB and bus contracts, contract extensions, and procurement reminders, instructing agencies to use ProcurementPro for FY26 projects and submit contracts for review before enforcement.
  - **Vehicle and Bus Contract Status:** Blair reported that the vehicle IFB for LTVs and raised roof vans is in final review by state purchasing and legal teams, with

contract extensions in place to ensure continuity until the new contract is finalized.

- **ProcurementPro Usage:** Chris reminded agencies to use ProcurementPro for finalizing procurement documentation for FY26 projects, ensuring proper record generation and compliance.
- **Third-Party Contracting Procedures:** Chris instructed agencies to submit contracts for review before enforcing actions such as extensions, amendments, or options, and offered support for procurement questions across cycles.
- **Drug Testing Policy Changes:** Kevin Edwards informed participants about recent DOT drug testing rule changes, referencing an RLS email with updated policies and templates, and advised agencies to review the email and contact Earle for detailed guidance.
  - **Policy Update Communication:** Kevin directed agencies to review the email sent June 12th for details on DOT drug testing rule changes, noting the need to update policies if not using the RLS template.
  - **Subject Matter Expert Support:** Kevin Edwards advised agencies to contact Earle for questions about interpreting the changes, and offered to forward the email if recipients cannot locate it.
- **Training Opportunities and Updates:** Jeremy, Kim Angel, and Blair outlined upcoming training sessions, including TLDP, op stats webinars, safety and de-escalation training, PAT and PASS classes, and Drug and Alcohol Program Manager training, providing schedules, registration information, and requirements for participation.
  - **Transportation Leadership Development Program:** Jeremy announced open registration for the TLDP, with in-person seminars at NC State University Club starting August 24th, offering CEUs and networking opportunities.
  - **Op Stats Data Collection and Webinars:** Jeremy described the transition to a web form for op stats data collection, detailed webinar schedules for rural and urban agencies, and noted the extension of op stats due dates to September 30th.
  - **Safety and De-Escalation Training:** Kim Angel announced a July 15th training session by CUTR on enhancing safety through de-escalation and assault prevention, followed by in-person classes in early fall, and requested agencies to suggest locations and partnerships.
  - **PAT and PASS Training Differences:** Kim Angel explained the differences between PAT and PASS training, including classroom versus online components, certification processes, and requirements for hosting training sessions.

- **Drug and Alcohol Program Manager Training:** Kim Angel shared plans for in-person Drug and Alcohol Program Manager training in November, with reasonable suspicion determination offered as a webinar, and requested agencies to provide suitable locations.
  
- **Inner City Bus Service Changes and Marketing:** Hart presented major updates to inner city bus services, including new routes, extensions, increased connectivity, and a statewide marketing campaign with billboards, radio ads, and bus advertisements, as well as ongoing coordination for additional stops and partnerships.
  - **New and Extended Routes:** Hart described the launch of the Pine Line (Raleigh to Atlanta via Florence, SC) and Rockfish Run (Raleigh to Greenville to Norfolk), as well as extensions to the Mid-State Express and High Country Gateway routes, improving connectivity and frequency.
  - **Connection Improvements:** Hart explained new direct connections between High Country Gateway and Piedmont Pass lines, enabling travel from Asheville and Boone to Norfolk with a single transfer in Winston-Salem.
  - **Marketing Campaign Initiatives:** Hart announced a marketing campaign featuring 35 billboards, radio ads, interior bus advertisements, and future exterior bus wraps, aiming to raise awareness of inner city bus services.
  - **Future Service Enhancements:** Hart outlined plans for additional stops in Norfolk, Kannapolis, Statesville, and rural areas between Raleigh and Fayetteville, and encouraged agencies to promote inner city bus information on their websites.
  
- **Reporting and Upcoming Deadlines:** Blair reviewed key upcoming deadlines for claims, reports, grant applications, and training sessions, reminding participants of office closures and the next transit call scheduled for July 8th.
  - **Reporting Due Dates:** Blair listed deadlines for May ROAP reports, monthly claims, annual facility checklists, charter reports, program income, training reports, TDM claims, and vehicle and lift reports, emphasizing timely submission.
  - **Grant Application Opening:** Blair noted that grant program applications and EBS will open on July 1st, marking the start of the new application cycle.
  - **Training Session Schedules:** Blair highlighted upcoming training sessions for ops and safety, and confirmed the next transit call will be held on July 8th.