From:	Brumfield, Ryan M
Cc:	White, Julie A (NCDOT); Vine-Hodge, John A; Chambers, Blair; Sudano, Stephanie; Gallas, Rebecca J; Freeman, Myra S
Subject:	DEADLINE EXTENDED - CARES 5311 Round 3 Funding Needs Survey and Assessment Tool
Date:	Friday, January 22, 2021 1:13:17 PM
Attachments:	ESTIMATED DHHS Vaccine Funding SUBJECT TO CHANGE.xlsx CARES 5311 Round 3 Needs Assessment.xlsx image001.png

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Good Afternoon,

After yesterday's news regarding the NCDOT-NCDHHS funding partnership for rides to vaccination sites, we received mixed feedback from transit agencies about the ability to support this new initiative. Many agencies have established a plan with their local healthcare providers, started providing trips, waived fares, and are prepared to help in any way to ensure residents have access to a vaccine. However, some agencies who have driver shortages, limited vehicle capacity, or financial challenges may have difficulty supporting increased ridership demands at this time. We believe this is an extremely important priority and an opportunity for NC transit to showcase your importance and what you are capable of. To that end, we are committed to helping you all succeed in supporting this new initiative.

We anticipate the approximately $2.5 Million in DHHS funding going out within the next week or so. This funding is retroactive, so trips provided today or previously to vaccination sites will be eligible for reimbursement. For an idea of the amount of funding you can expect to receive, attached is an **estimate** of funding by transit agency. **These numbers are subject to change** as we continue to process claims from the first round of DHHS CARES funding provided last year (the more claims processed of those funds, the less will be available for the vaccine initiative). The final figures will be distributed next week. Note that for those systems with a remaining balance of DHHS CARES from last year's disbursement, your balance will be subtracted from any new disbursement amounts. Your remaining balance plus the new disbursement must be used for transportation to vaccination sites.

We are looking at additional ways to provide funding support and resources to help those systems with the greatest need. One possible source of additional funding is the CARES Act. Last week we sent out a request for agencies to submit their additional CARES Act operating and capital needs by today. Given this new initiative, **we are extending the deadline of the CARES Rnd. 3 needs assessment survey to COB January 27**. We've added a question to the survey specifically regarding your funding needs to support transportation to vaccination sites. For those who have already submitted and would like to revise your estimate, please contact Blair Chambers (tbchambers@ncdot.gov) who can release your survey to be updated. For those who were not planning to submit anything, please reconsider given this new initiative. **If you do not need funding, we still encourage you to complete the survey** which also includes questions about recent ridership and funding trends. I have reattached the needs assessment tool here which must be attached to your survey if you choose to request funding.

We plan to follow up frequently over the next couple of weeks with updates about funding, solutions, and guidance regarding this new initiative. Please reach out to your planner or to me if

you have any questions, concerns, feedback, or urgent needs.

Thanks,

Ryan

Ryan Brumfield, PE
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From: NCDOT Public Transportation - CTP <ctptransportation@ncdot.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2021 1:04 PM
Cc: NCDOT - Integrated Mobility Division <IMD_All@ncdot.gov>
Subject: DUE by January 22 - CARES 5311 Round 3 Funding Needs Survey and Assessment Tool
Importance: High

Good afternoon,

As discussed previously, distribution of remaining 5311 CARES Act funding will be needs-based. We will prioritize funding for those who have urgent operating or capital needs through June 30, 2021 which cannot be covered with other funding sources. **To determine each system's need, please complete the following survey and the attached needs assessment tool <u>by January 22</u>**:
https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/c67164f7378d408192922850cb6c7132

The needs assessment tool must be completed in its entirety and attached to the SmartSheet survey when you submit your survey responses. Please read the instructions on the first tab of the needs assessment tool closely before completing the tool. When determining whether to list an item as a

capital need, please refer to the definition of capital asset in FTA's 5010 circular (bottom of page I-5). In general, technology, equipment, land, rolling stock, or other infrastructure with a useful life of more than one year is considered capital. Items that cost more than $5,000 per unit and have a useful life of more than one year are considered equipment and therefore fall under capital.

You must complete the survey and needs assessment tool by the January 22 deadline to be eligible for additional 5311 CARES Act funding from NCDOT.

Once we receive survey responses, we will compile results and develop a strategy to assist with as many valid operating and capital needs as possible. As with previous disbursements, we will have to apply to FTA for the remaining funding once the disbursement amounts are decided. We anticipate finalizing disbursement amounts by the end of January and submitting our FTA application in early February – this means new contracts or amendments providing additional funding will likely move forward in March. If you have a more urgent need, please talk with your planner to explore options.

If you have any questions or concerns about this request, please talk to your planner or feel free to contact me directly.

Thanks,

Ryan

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