TRIBAL TRANSIT & PROSPECTS FOR FUTURE FUNDING

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28TH - 1:00 PM CENTRAL TIME

SPEAKERS
Kelly Shawn
Community Transportation Association of America

Jon Mielke
Small Urban & Rural Transit Center

Jim Glaze
Tribal Transit attorney

Small Urban & Rural Transit Center
Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute
North Dakota State University

Northern Plains Tribal Technical Assistance Program
Annual 5311(c) Funding

Fiscal Year

$ Millions

2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011

2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011
Growth in Tribal Transit Services
**Program Funding Needs?**

National Congress of American Indians and Intertribal Transportation Association requested:

- Base level of funding at $35 million/year
- Increase by $10 million/year
- Up to annual amount of $85 million/year
- Absolute minimum of $15 million/year

Justifiable???
SURTC’s Research Approach

• Assess overall reservation mobility needs
• Determine demand for existing funds
• Identify program achievements
• Assess operator efficiencies & effectiveness
• Funding sources & operator funding needs
• Quantify overall program funding needs
Personal Mobility – Need Indicators

• Age
• Income
• Disabilities
• Households without vehicles
• Remoteness & population density
• Other mobility options
Cannot Stereotype Tribes

332 reservations in lower 48 states
106 less than 1 sq. mile
24 over 1,500 sq. miles

256 less than 5,000 residents
10 in metropolitan areas

42 have fewer than 5 residents per sq. mile
176 have more than 50 residents per sq. mile
Mobility Need Indicators

Seniors: 31 reservations with 20% of residents age 60 and over (vs. 16.3% nationally)

Youth: 33 reservations with 33-38% (vs. 20.4%)

Disabilities: no significant differences (7.7%)

Income: 32.2% live in poverty (vs. 12.2%)
Tribal Need Indicators

No cars: 28 reservations with 15-30% (vs. 10.3% nationally)

Spent on fuel: 29 Native counties @ 14.8% (vs. 7.8% nationally)

Remoteness: many reservations are rural or even frontier (fewer than 6 residents/sq. mi.)
## 5311(c) & ARRA Tribal Transit Grants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Funds Available &amp; Granted</th>
<th># of Requests</th>
<th>Funding Requested</th>
<th>Total Awards</th>
<th>Planning Grants</th>
<th>New Start Grants</th>
<th>Enhancement Grants</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5311c FY 2006</td>
<td>$8 M</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>$22.1 M</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>16</td>
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<tr>
<td>5311c FY 2007</td>
<td>$10 M</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>$21.0 M</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>16</td>
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<td>5311c FY 2008</td>
<td>$12 M</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>$24.0 M</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>5311c FY 2009</td>
<td>$15 M</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>$28.0 M</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>52</td>
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<tr>
<td>5311c FY 2010</td>
<td>$15 M</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>$36.8 M</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>50</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARRA FY 2009</td>
<td>$17 M</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>$54.0 M</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>NA</td>
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</table>
Ridership Increases Related to Receipt of 5311(c) Funding

- **New Operator Rides**
- **Existing Operators-Additional Rides**
- **Aggregate Increase in Rides**

Bar chart showing the comparison of ridership increases.
Passenger Trip Purposes

- Employment: 28.0%
- Education: 21.5%
- Medical: 14.7%
- Shopping: 8.0%
- Unknown: 27.9%
Operating Funds
5311(c) Recipients – FY 2010
(Survey Responses)

- 5311(c) 32.5%
- 5311 & Other Federal 34.0%
- Tribal, 17.4%
- State 4.5%
- Fares 4.9%
- Other 6.8%
## Passenger Trips Per Mile

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<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rural Operators</td>
<td>.25</td>
<td>.24</td>
<td>.23</td>
<td>NA</td>
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</table>
# Operating Expenses Per Passenger Trip

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<tr>
<td><strong>Rural Operators</strong></td>
<td>9.37</td>
<td>9.57</td>
<td>9.91</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tribal Operators</strong></td>
<td>18.41</td>
<td>17.72</td>
<td>15.75</td>
<td>11.02</td>
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# Operating Expense Per Mile

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rural Operators</td>
<td>2.34</td>
<td>2.30</td>
<td>2.31</td>
<td>NA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tribal Operators</td>
<td>2.27</td>
<td>2.39</td>
<td>1.96</td>
<td>2.06</td>
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</table>
## Farebox Recovery Ratio

<table>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tribal Operators</strong></td>
<td>.05</td>
<td>.06</td>
<td>.04</td>
<td>.05</td>
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Potential Funding Sources

• FTA 5311 and 5311(c) grants
• Other FTA programs (5309, 5310, 5311(b)(3), 5311(f), 5316, and 5317)
• IRR (Indian Reservation Roads Program)
• Administration on Aging - Older Americans Act, Title VI
Potential Funding Sources

• Medicaid, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, Head Start, and Veterans Administration
• Administration for Native Americans
• Indian Health Service and Community Health Representative Program
• State departments of transportation
Potential Funding Sources

• Foundations, gifts, donations, and bequests
• In-kind local match
• Advertising sales
• Contract rides
• Fundraising
• Gaming/casino funds and other local funding sources
• Fare income
Average Annual Budgets

- 1,413 rural transit systems (NTD): $816,000
- 51 responding tribal systems: $380,000
- Tribal dependence on 5311(c) funding: Between 26.3% and 41.5%
## Annual Need for 5311c Funds – 120 Tribes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Average Annual Budget</th>
<th>25%</th>
<th>30%</th>
<th>35%</th>
<th>40%</th>
<th>45%</th>
<th>50%</th>
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<td>$450,000</td>
<td>$13.5M</td>
<td>$16.2M</td>
<td>$18.9M</td>
<td>$21.6M</td>
<td>$24.3M</td>
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<tr>
<td>$500,000</td>
<td>$15.0M</td>
<td>$18.0M</td>
<td>$21.0M</td>
<td>$24.0M</td>
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<tr>
<td>$550,000</td>
<td>$16.5M</td>
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<td>$23.1M</td>
<td>$26.4M</td>
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<td>$600,000</td>
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<td>$21.6M</td>
<td>$25.2M</td>
<td>$28.8M</td>
<td>$32.4M</td>
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<td>$650,000</td>
<td>$19.5M</td>
<td>$23.4M</td>
<td>$27.3M</td>
<td>$31.2M</td>
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<tr>
<td>$700,000</td>
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<td>$750,000</td>
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<td>$40.5M</td>
<td>$45.0M</td>
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5311(c) Program Needs

- Depends on number of tribal transit systems (120 to 170)
- Depends on target level of support (25% to 50% of annual operating budget)
- Depends on size of average operating budget ($450,000 to $750,000)
- Bottom line: $15 million to $65 million
www.SURTC.org

Copies of slides & report:  www.surtc.org

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