



Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation
600 East Main Street, Suite 2102
Richmond, Virginia, 23219

Transit Ridership Incentive Program (TRIP) REQUEST FOR IDEAS

Requested Information: The Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) is seeking feedback and input from Virginia transit operators for consideration in developing the Transit Ridership Incentive Program (TRIP). DRPT is searching for project concepts or ideas that may apply for TRIP funds in the upcoming fiscal years, for the purpose of informing the development of program policies and guidance. This document has the following sections: general program overview, contact information, and potential projects of interest for both the regional connectivity program and the zero fare /low income program. **This form is due to DRPT 45 days after its disbursement date on December 15, 2020**

Section I: General Information

TRIP is a new statewide discretionary grant program that was approved by the General Assembly in 2020 as part of HB 1414. For more information on the legislation that introduced TRIP, please refer to the [Legislative Information System \(LIS\)](#).

TRIP funds are dedicated to two separate initiatives:

1. Heightening regional connectivity in urban areas with population excess of 100,000
2. Supporting the creation of commuter fare and low income pilot programs

Due to differences in performance goals, metrics of success, eligibility criteria, and programming, TRIP will be separated into the below two program types:

1. Transit Ridership Incentive Program- Regional Connectivity
2. Transit Ridership Incentive Program- Zero Fare and Low Income

This section will briefly outline general information, eligibility criteria, and program considerations for the two program types, as currently defined. Please use this information to build context before responding to this RFI.

Transit Ridership Incentive Program- Regional Connectivity Projects

TRIP supports the regional connectivity of urbanized areas with populations in excess of 100,000.

- Eligible applicants: Large urban or small urban transit agencies, public service corporations, transportation district commissions, or localities that provide transit services to urbanized areas with populations in excess of 100,000
- Eligible Projects: The improvement of and expansion of existing regional routes, the creation of new transit routes with regional significance, the development and implementation of regional subsidy financing models, the creation of bus-only lanes on transit routes of regional significance, and the implementation of integrated fare collection.
- Scoring considerations: Project's potential impact to regional connectivity, reduction in congestion and increased transit mode share, existing or completed planning efforts, financial capacity, technical capacity, involvement of localities and the appropriate Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)/regional planning district.

Transit Ridership Incentive Program- Zero Fare and Low Income Pilots

TRIP supports the creation and improvement of zero fare and low income pilot programs that aim at increasing ridership, accessibility to healthcare, education, and the workforce through transit, and enhancing transportation equity.

- Eligible applicants: Transit agencies, Transportation District Commissions, Public Service Corporations, Local Governments, Private non-profit transit providers, and local governments that provide transit service.
- Eligible Projects: Providing subsidized or fully free passes to low-income populations or essential workers, eliminating fares on high-capacity corridors, or deploying an entirely fare free system.
- Scoring considerations: Project's ability to improve accessibility and quality of life for low-income populations, by improving their access to transit, Title VI analyses, existing or completed planning efforts, financial capacity, partnerships/collaborating with local organizations (human resource agencies, non-profits, etc.)

Section II: Contact Information

Directions: Please use this fillable PDF form for responses. Agencies can submit multiple ideas by adding projects in Section III and/or Section IV- there is no limit to the amount of project ideas.

If applicable, the following additional documentation may also be submitted: relevant local or statewide plans, existing research, and other resources that may be helpful in project review.

General Information	
Operator/ Agency Name:	
Localities Served:	
Does your agency operate in one of the following localities/ regions: Blacksburg, Charlottesville, Fredericksburg, Hampton Roads, Lynchburg, Northern Virginia, Richmond or Roanoke?	

Contact Information	
Primary point of contact:	
Phone:	
Email:	

Section III: Potential Projects, Regional Connectivity

The below section seeks information on potential projects of interest for the regional connectivity program. Projects with regional collaboration and involvement of the appropriate MPO will be prioritized in the scoring process. Furthermore, projects that relate to an existing statewide or local plan will have additional consideration.

Projects of Interest	
Working project name and brief project summary	
Localities served by project	
Potential impact on regional connectivity	
Potential performance measures	
Is this project included in a local or state-wide plan? <i>If so, please provide copy of plan.</i>	Yes No
Has this project received funding from another source? <i>If so, what source?</i>	Yes No <i>Source: _____</i>
Has a regional authority (MPO, planning district) been involved in the submission of this RFI or the project's existing planning efforts?	Yes No
Is the project consistent with the Regional Constrained Long Range Plan?	

Additional comments: _____

**** If you have multiple projects of interest, please fill out the additional forms provided at the end of the document**

Section IV: Potential Projects, Zero Fare and Low Income

The below section seeks information on potential projects of interest for the zero fare and low income projects. In considering which projects may be applicable, DRPT will apply additional consideration to projects created through collaboration and partnerships with local organizations.

Projects of interest	
Working project name and brief project summary	
Program format	<i>Entirely Fare Free System Zero-fare Corridor low income/ subsidized pass program</i>
Potential impact on system's accessibility, equity, and/or ridership	
Potential performance measures or metrics of success	
Expand on the planning studies and/or research that led to identify the need for the project	
If applicable, what is the project's metric of low income?	

Additional Comments: _____

*** If you have multiple projects of interest, please fill out the additional forms provided at the end of the document*

Section V: Supplemental Forms

If needed, please fill out the below forms with all applicable ideas for TRIP funds.

Projects of Interest 2- Regional Connectivity	
Working project name and brief project summary	
Localities served by project	
Potential impact on regional connectivity	
Potential performance measures	
Is this project included in a local or state-wide plan? <i>If so, please provide copy of plan.</i>	Yes No
Has this project received funding from another source? <i>If so, what source?</i>	Yes No <i>Source:</i>
Has a regional authority (MPO, planning district) been involved in the submission of this RFI or the project's existing planning efforts?	Yes No
Is the project consistency with the Regional Constrained Long Range Plan?	

Additional Comments: _____

Section V: Supplemental Forms (continued)

Projects of Interest 2- Regional Connectivity	
Working project name and brief project summary	
Localities served by project	
Potential impact on regional connectivity	
Potential performance measures	
Is this project included in a local or state-wide plan? <i>If so, please provide copy of plan.</i>	Yes No
Has this project received funding from another source? <i>If so, what source?</i>	Yes No <i>Source:</i>
Has a regional authority (MPO, planning district) been involved in the submission of this RFI or the project's existing planning efforts?	Yes No
Is the project consistency with the Regional Constrained Long Range Plan?	

Additional Comments: _____



Projects of interest 2- Zero Fare and Low Income	
Working project name and brief project summary	
Program format	<i>Entirely Fare Free System Zero-fare Corridor low income/ subsidized pass program</i>
Potential impact on system's accessibility, equity, and/or ridership	
Potential performance measures or metrics of success	
Expand on the planning studies and/or research that led to identify the need for the project	
If applicable, what is the project's metric of low income?	

Additional Comments: _____

Section V: Supplemental Forms (continued)

Projects of interest 3- Zero Fare and Low Income	
Working project name and brief project summary	
Program format	<i>Entirely Fare Free System Zero-fare Corridor low income/ subsidized pass program</i>
Potential impact on system's accessibility, equity, and/or ridership	
Potential performance measures or metrics of success	
Expand on the planning studies and/or research that led to identify the need for the project	
If applicable, what is the project's metric of low income?	

Additional Comments:
