



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
LANSING

JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

KIRK T. STEUDLE
DIRECTOR

May 19, 2009

To: Michigan Transit Agencies

Subject: Michigan Vendor Showcase and Transit Summit

The Bureau of Passenger Transportation will be submitting the federal application for the first half of the state's allocation of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Section 5311 funding. These funds will provide replacement revenue vehicles, funding to assist with four facility projects that are "shovel ready", and intercity projects. Our goal is to use the remaining funds (Phase II) for projects that increase operating efficiency. We are particularly interested in cost-saving equipment, greening of existing facilities and hybrid buses. To the degree possible, we would also like our second phase of investments to help stimulate Michigan's economy. Based on these objectives we are hosting a Michigan Vendor Showcase and Transit Summit on July 14, 2009, at Central Michigan University in Mt. Pleasant. We have scheduled this back-to-back with the Small Bus Rodeo (which is July 15) to help defray travel costs for some agencies.

The Michigan Vendor Showcase will be focused on (but not limited to) suppliers of goods and services who either manufacture their products in Michigan or who are headquartered in Michigan. This will offer an opportunity for you to see what great products and services are available to you and how you can help stimulate Michigan's economy by the purchases you make using all of your funding sources (not just ARRA funds). We are attempting to line up a wide variety of vendors who can provide information on clean energy, products to improve your efficiency, the latest technology, and the myriad of services you need for your day-to-day operation.

The Transit Summit will immediately follow the Showcase. At the Summit, MDOT and the rural transit agencies will review what we learned in the Showcase and MDOT will ask for transit industry feedback in setting priorities for the use of the Phase II ARRA funds to be awarded by MDOT. We will also review the federal procurement guidelines and ARRA requirements so everyone is aware of the requirements for using ARRA funds. The remainder of the summit will be dedicated to receiving your input on the types of projects and equipment that should be given priority for the use of the Phase II funds. **Because this is such an important endeavor, we are requiring that any agency who wishes to be considered for a Phase II project attend both the showcase and the summit. Agencies must check in at the beginning of the showcase (registration will be from 9:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.) and at the beginning of the summit (registration from 1:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.) to be considered as having attended.**

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The Michigan Public Transit Association (MPTA) has offered to assist with agency registration for this statewide event, so please fill out the enclosed registration form and return it by June 26, 2009, via e-mail to mptacindy@comcast.net or fax to the MPTA offices at (517) 324-7034. The expenses associated with attendance at this event are RTAP eligible and will not count against your RTAP cap. At the end of the fiscal year you must let MPTA know if this event will cause you to surpass your cap so that a waiver may be granted.

If you have any questions about this event, please contact your project manager.

Sincerely,



Sharon L. Edgar, Administrator
Bureau of Passenger Transportation

Enclosure