



Coastal Region Metropolitan Planning Organization

Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Urban Attributable (Z230) Funds

APPLICATION

DECEMBER 2018

Send the electronic copy
of the completed application by:

January 15, 2019, 5:00 p.m.

to:

Wykoda Wang, Transportation Administrator
Chatham County-Savannah Metropolitan Planning Commission
110 E. State Street
Savannah, GA 31401

Contact info:

912-651-1466

wangw@thempc.org

Coastal Region Metropolitan Planning Organization
Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program

CHECKLIST FOR APPLICANTS

- Have you answered all applicable questions in the application?

- Has the appropriate person signed the application?

- Have you filled out the detailed budget table on the last page of this application?

- Have you attached a letter from your governing board or official able to commit to the local match?

- Have you attached a project location map?

- Have you attached information demonstrating the basis of your project's cost estimate?

- Have you attached other information that is applicable to the answers in your application?

Coastal Region Metropolitan Planning Organization (CORE MPO)

Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG) Urban Attributable (Z230) Funds

FY 2019 CALL FOR PROJECTS

The Coastal Region Metropolitan Planning Organization (CORE MPO) is conducting a competitive project selection process to award unused FY 2019 Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program Urban Attributable (Z230) funds, provided through the act entitled Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (also known as FAST Act).

- **Expected Available Funds in FY 2019 = \$1,128,585 (federal portion)**
- **Maximum Award = N/A**
- **Minimum Award = \$200,000 (federal portion)**
- **At least 20% of the eligible costs of the proposed project must be locally funded.** (Previously incurred costs cannot be counted as part of the 20% match for the newly awarded federal funds.)

An applicant may request for *at least \$200,000 of federal funds*. The federal funding request in this application can represent no more than 80% of the total cost of the applicant's proposal. For example, if an applicant requests \$1,000,000, and provides no more than the required 20% local match, he/she would be submitting a proposal totaling \$1,250,000.

- **Federal Requirements**

Applicants should keep in mind that using the STBG funds involves adherence to federal requirements, as applicable, such as the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), prevailing wage rates (Davis-Bacon), Buy America, competitive bidding, and other contracting requirements, regardless of whether the projects are located within the right-of-way of a Federal-aid highway.

- **Projects funded through this selection process must be located within the CORE MPO's Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA) boundary.**

The CORE MPO administered STBG Urban Attributable funds can only be spent within the MPO's Metropolitan Planning Area which includes all of Chatham County, the portion of Effingham County and Bryan County located within the Savannah Urbanized Area, as well as Richmond Hill.

- **Projects, if awarded funds, will be programmed in FY 2019 in the CORE MPO's FY 2018 – 2021 Transportation Improvement Program (July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2021).**

Once the project is programmed in the TIP and the awarded federal funding is authorized in FY 2019, the funds must be obligated within two years, otherwise the funds will be rescinded for use by other selected priority projects.

Please see CORE MPO Surface Transportation Block Grant Program Manual for additional information.

Applicant and Project Information

Eligible Entities

Please indicate which type of eligible entity is the primary project sponsor: (Select one.)

Local government

Regional transportation authority

Transit agency

Other local or regional governmental entity with responsibility for oversight of transportation improvements that the State of Georgia determines to be eligible.

Eligible Projects

Please indicate **all** applicable categories your proposal falls under. **Please see CORE MPO Surface Transportation Block Grant Program Manual for information on project eligibility.**

Highway Improvements

Bridge Improvements

Transit Improvements

Operational/Safety Improvements

Bicycle / Pedestrian /Non-Motorized Improvements

Planning Studies

Other

Applicant Information		
Agency Name (i.e. agency that will manage implementation) Chatham Area Transit Authority (CAT)		Date 1/15/2019
Street Address 910 E. Gwinnett St.	City, State Savannah, Georgia	Zip Code 31401
Contact Person's Name Aidan Quirke	Title Transit Planner	
Contact Person's Phone Number (912) 629-3933	Contact Person's Email Address aidan.quirke@catchacat.org	
Project Manager's Name (if awarded) Aidan Quirke	Title Transit Planner	

Project Overview		
Project Name CAT Intelligent Transit System (ITS) Project		
Project Location Description (please also attach a location map) 900 E. Gwinnett St.		
County (or counties) in which project is located Chatham County	City (or cities), if any, in which project is located Savannah, Garden City	
<p>Proposal Description Summary</p> <p>This project requests replacement of CAT's existing, outdated ITS platform. The proposed project will allow CAT to upgrade its internal and external communication system through the purchase of new ITS software and hardware. This technology will greatly improve the Authority's ability to communicate real-time service information to passengers, as well as improve dispatching capability, on-time performance, safety and security, and data reporting.</p> <p>A modern ITS platform provides exact positions of fixed route buses, what routes they are traveling, if they are running in advance or delay, and can accurately forecast next vehicle and departure information for CAT passengers. Such a system is critical for attracting new riders to use transit.</p>		
Total Estimated Project Cost*	Federal Z230 Funds Requested	Local Match Available
\$410,731	\$328,585	\$82,146
<i>*Please also be sure to fill out the Budget Detail Table at the end of this application.</i>		

Who is providing the local match?

Name of Agency or Organization	Source (e.g. particular CIP fund)
Chatham Area Transit	SPLOST

Please attach a letter signed by either your governing board or an official who can commit to the stated local match.

Has your agency managed and completed other federal-aid transportation projects before?

(Choose one)

- 0 completed federal-aid projects

- 1 completed federal-aid project

- 2 completed federal-aid projects

- 3 or more completed federal-aid projects

Please list as many as three federal-aid projects completed by your agency, *preferably for projects that are similar to your proposal*:

P.I. No.	Project Name	Sponsor's Project Manager
N/A	FY2018 5307 Capital and Operating Assistance	Grant Sparks
N/A	FY2017 5307 Capital	Grant Sparks
N/A	FY2016 5339(b) Bus and Bus Facilities (Paratransit Vehicles)	Grant Sparks

What agency will maintain the project after completion?

___Chatham Area Transit Authority_____

If a maintenance agreement is necessary, has it been executed? (Chose one) Y / **N** / NA
 If yes, please attach the agreement.

If the completed project will generate the need for operational funds, please describe the estimated annual cost and the status and source of funding for operations.

This project is for ITS replacement, thus no additional operating expenses are expected.

Will your project require purchase(s) or easement(s) for right-of-way (Choose one) Y / **N** / Maybe
 Additional information:

N/A

If other agencies or organizations are partnering with you on this application or on implementation of your proposal, please list and describe the nature and the status of any agreements (e.g. ROW donations or easements):

Organization #1	
N/A	
Contact Name	Contact Phone
Contact Email:	
Status of Agreement	

Organization #2	
N/A	
Contact Name	Contact Phone
Contact Email:	
Status of Agreement	

Organization #3	
N/A	
Contact Name	Contact Phone
Contact Email:	
Status of Agreement	

If funding were available today, how much time do you estimate would be needed for any phases of your project that would be funded by this request:

Phase(s) to be Z230-funded	No. of Months
Procure ITS Vendor	2
Issue contract	0.5
Deploy project	1

Please list any necessary preliminary work that already *has been completed*, and provide dates (e.g. GDOT concept approval, FHWA environmental approval or categorical exclusion, etc.):

Steps Completed	Date
N/A	

Please describe status of any non-Z230 funded work that *still needs to be completed before the project or phase that would be funded by this request can begin* (e.g. if Z230 funds + Local Match will fund only the construction phase, what is the status and schedule for the incomplete preliminary engineering and ROW phases?).

Status of Steps to be carried out before Z230-funded work begins	Estimated completion date
N/A	

In 500 words or less, please describe what public benefits and efficiencies would be provided to our area by your proposed project. (For example, how does your project match the project ranking criteria such as freight connections, safety improvements, congestion reduction, multi-modal connection, impacts to environment and tourism, etc? [Please reference the CORE MPO Surface Transportation Block Grant Program Manual for project ranking criteria.](#))

An Intelligent Transit System (ITS) is a computer system that provides transit operators with details on exact positions of fixed route buses and provides transit riders the ability to look up real-time bus arrivals and departures by route, trip planning capabilities and service alerts through web and mobile applications.

System Reliability: The local Chamber of Commerce has estimated that Savannah attracts more than 13.7 million visitors each year who contribute an estimated \$2.5 billion to the local economy. To encourage tourists to use transit, CAT offers free ferry and downtown circulator services; however, the effectiveness of these services is limited by the lack of real-time passenger information and alerts. Furthermore, according to its latest customer survey over half of CAT's passenger trips are for work-related purposes. These workers depend on a reliable schedule and accurate service information so they can adjust their trips when routes are delayed or detoured. CAT's existing ITS platform fails to meet these needs and must be replaced for the Authority to be competitive in a rapidly changing transportation landscape.

Traffic Operations: ITS will provide CAT's dispatchers and planners with real time information tracking the health of the system on a micro and macro level. Dispatchers will be able to ensure that operators are running the correct route and keeping on schedule and communicate directly with them through voice and text. In the event of emergencies, the agency's dispatchers will be able to quickly disseminate information from authorities directly into the busses as they arrive in the control center. Planners will be able to look at real time route playback and schedule adherence reports to identify inefficiencies in the schedules and the overall system. This will lead to better overall service.

Real-time Passenger Information: ITS allow riders to view busses departure and arrival time from any stop in the system giving them more freedom and flexibility when using the system. This will add to their overall quality of life. No longer will they need to wait at a bus stop for an unnecessary amount of time. Riders will be able to time their arrival at the bus to be just before the bus which is not only convenient but also adds to the safety of passengers who may have previously waited at night or in an unfamiliar area.

Service Alerts and Trip Planning: ITS can offer the agency the ability to directly communicate with passengers through an app informing them about delays or changes in service, promotions, upcoming schedule changes, and emergency communications. ITS also allows passengers to plan their trip on transit and provides optimal transfer locations that lower overall trip times.

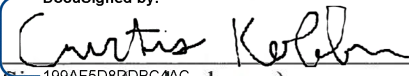
Safety and Security: CAT's existing ITS platform is integrated with the fleet of on-board security cameras. This equipment is critical during emergencies and when handling customer dispute resolutions. The current ITS does not allow for real-time camera feeds and requires CAT staff to wait 24-hours before downloading footage. The new system will be in real-time.



Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG) Fund Application, December 2018

Project Sponsor Signature

SPONSOR

DocuSigned by:

Signature (on hard copy)

1/15/19
Date

Curtis Koleber
Print Name

CEO
Title

Please remember:

- To fill out the Detailed Budget Table, to the extent applicable, on the following page;
- To attach a letter from your governing board or other official who can commit the agency to the stated local match.
- To attach a Project Location Map;
- To attach information showing the Basis of your Cost Estimate.

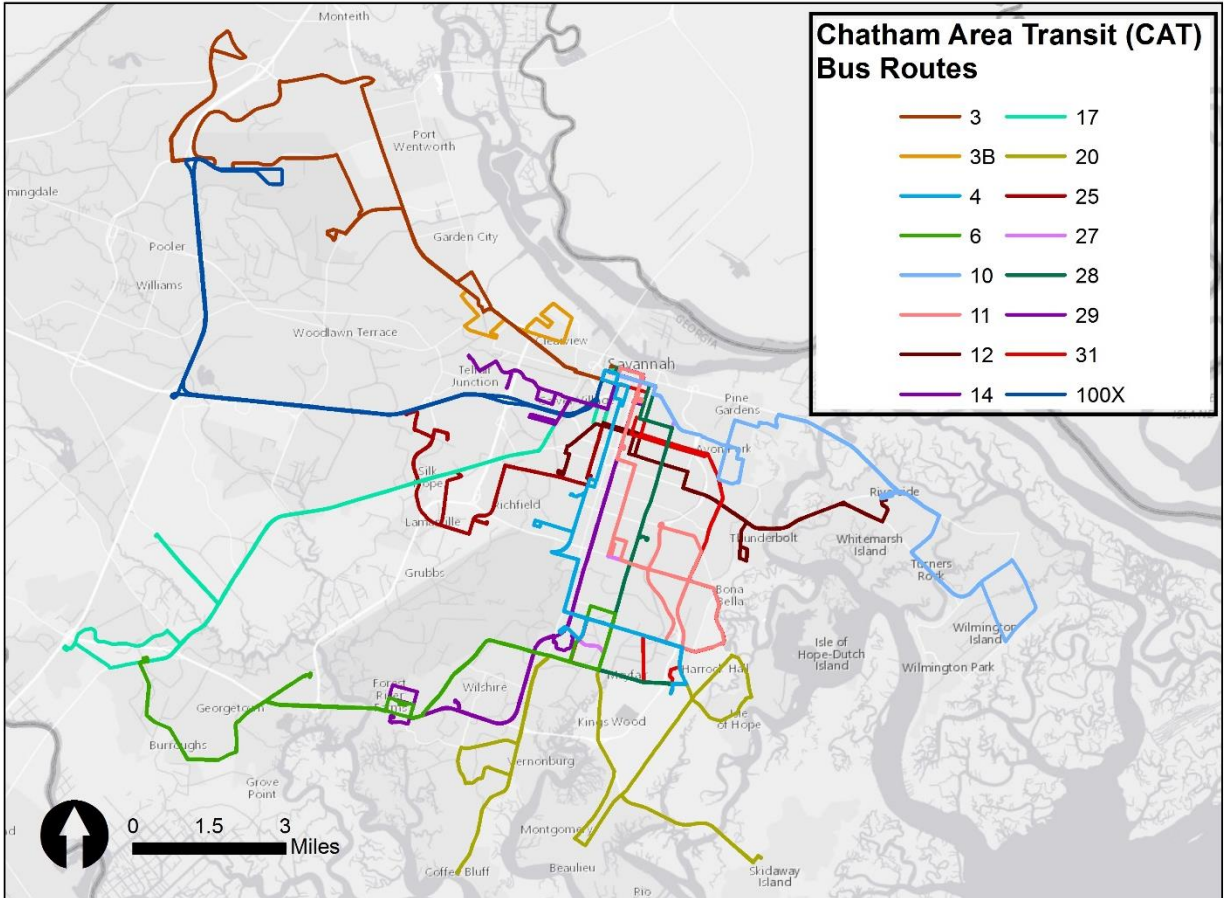


Budget Detail for Proposal										
Project Name:										
Activity	Desired Fiscal Year for TIP Programming (GDOT Fiscal Year) *	Total Estimate	Requested CORE MPO Z230 Federal Funds (Maximum allowed is 80% of your total eligible costs.)	Local Match (Minimum required is 20% of your total eligible costs.)	Local Match Breakdown (by source)					
					Amount A	Source A	Amount B	Source B	Amount C	Source C
PE										
ROW										
Utilities										
Construction										
Other activity Specify: Acquisition	FY19	\$410,731	\$328,585	\$82,146	SPLOST					
Other activity Specify:										
Other activity Specify:										
Total Amounts										

Please use this area to explain whether other grants or sources (not already shown above) are dedicated either to the proposed phase or to future phases, of your project.
 CAT will likely use other FTA funds and local match to cover cost overruns for ITS replacement.

*The first GDOT fiscal year in the MPO's next TIP is FY 2018, which begins July 1, 2017. The last year of the next TIP is FY 2021, which begins July 1, 2020.

Attachment 1: Project Map



ITS Cost Justification

January 10, 2019

Based on initial price quotes, Chatham Area Transit (CAT) is anticipating that a fully-functional ITS platform will cost anywhere from \$800,000 to \$2,000,000 depending on the scope of the project. CAT staff are in the process of preparing the RFP package to send to potential vendors.

As noted in the application budget, CAT will use other FTA funds and local match to cover any cost overruns on this project.



CHATHAM AREA TRANSIT

912.233.5767

610 W. Oglethorpe Avenue
Savannah, Georgia 31401

www.catchacat.org

January 10, 2019

Coastal Region Metropolitan Planning Organization (CORE MPO)
Attn: Wykoda Wang
110 East State Street
Savannah, GA 31401

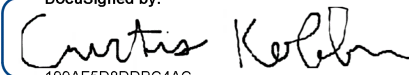
Subject: Chatham Area Transit (CAT) FY19 Z-230 Application

Dear Wykoda:

This letter confirms that CAT will be responsible for the local match amount listed in its "CAT Intelligent Transit System" application.

On behalf of the Chatham Area Transit Authority, we appreciate your consideration of our FY19 Z-230 application and we look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

199AF5D8DDBC4AC...
Curtis Koleber, CEO