



HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL

PO Box 22777 • 3555 Timmons Ln. • Houston, Texas 77227-2777 • 713/627-3200

May 21, 2010

To: Houston, Urbanized Area Public Transportation Stakeholders and Transportation Providers, and other Interested Parties

Re: 2010 “Call for Projects” for Job Access and Reverse Commute & New Freedom Programs

Dear Transportation Stakeholders:

In an effort to continue to improve the mobility options within the Houston Urbanized Area, the Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC), in coordination with the Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County (METRO), is conducting a Call for Projects for the Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC) and New Freedom programs. The purpose of the Call for projects is to identify, select and fund sustainable projects that meet documented transportation needs of the elderly, persons with disabilities and low income populations.

The JARC and New Freedom grant programs are funded through the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and were authorized under the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), enacted in 2005. The purpose of the JARC program is to provide access to jobs and training opportunities for low income individuals and to improve access to suburban employment centers (regardless of income). The New Freedom program provides new and improved transportation services for disabled persons, beyond the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

The Application Package includes this cover letter, the Application Form (a MS Word File), the Budget Worksheet (an Excel file) and an Addendum (a pdf. file). The Addendum contains information about the regional transportation coordination goals, the JARC and New Freedom programs goals, program measures, eligible activities and a listing of the FTA Certifications and assurances required for service providers if a project is approved for funding.

The JARC and New Freedom project proposals will be evaluated by a multi-agency team, using the criteria as outlined in the Application Form (Part IV, Consistency with Selection Criteria).

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To assist potential grant applicants, a project workshop will be held on Wednesday, June 2, 2010 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the H-GAC offices, 3555 Timmons Lane, Houston, Texas, 77027, 2nd Floor Room C.

Project submittals are due to H-GAC on or before Friday, June 25, 2010, by 2:00 p.m. (CST). Late submittals will not be accepted.

The Application Packages (10 copies, bound or stapled) should be mailed to:

Mr. Alan Clark, MPO Director
Houston-Galveston Area Council
P.O. Box 22777
Houston, Texas 77227-2777

OR Hand Delivered to:

Mr. Alan Clark, MPO Director
Houston-Galveston Area Council
3555 Timmons Lane, Suite 120
Houston, Texas 77027

The application package and background information are available on the H-GAC and METRO websites at www.h-gac.com/transportation and at www.ridemetro.org/grantprograms (respectively). Paper copies of the application package will be made available upon request.

Should you have any questions, please contact Mr. Kari Hackett, Transportation Program Manager, at 713-993-4576 or kari.hackett@h-gac.com or Ms. Edie Lowery, Director of Grant Programs at 713-739-6925 or by email to edith.lowery@ridemetro.org. All written questions received by June 14, 2010 and their answers will be posted to the H-GAC and METRO websites by June 18, 2010.

H-GAC and METRO look forward to working with you on the JARC and New Freedom projects in our region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alan Clark", written in a cursive style.

Alan Clark
MPO Director

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CC: Laura Wallace, FTA – Reg. 6
Michael Leary, FHWA – TX
Rakesh Tripathi, P.E. – TxDOT
Project Evaluation Team Members: