

#### Notice of Funding Opportunity for the 2025 Atlanta Regional Transit Trust Fund Program

#### Summary

During the 2020 legislative session, the Georgia General Assembly passed HB 105 (as codified at O.C.G.A. § 48-13-140) establishing fees on for-hire ground transport services, intended to fund transit projects within the State. During the 2021 legislative session, the Goergia General Assembly passed HB 511 (as codified at O.C.G.A. § 48-13-141) establishing the Georgia Transit Trust Fund (TTF) as a separate fund in the State Treasury, with annual appropriations of for-hire ground transportation fees. The GDOT Commissioner is the trustee of the Georgia Transit Trust Fund and allocates funding to the ATL Board to award with the ATL's 13-county jurisdiction.

ATL is now soliticing applications for awards from FY25 TTF Atlanta regional allocation. ATL will prioritize captial projects, technology projects, and regional planning projects for this round of the TTF.

The ATL's Strategic Blueprint established the ATL's 3 C's and all awards will align with these principles.

- **Competitiveness**: a competitive system facilitates the attraction to and retention of businesses in the Atlanta region by investing in projects and services that connect customers to addressable markets, while optimizing public funding.
- **Customer Focus**: Delivering affordable, reliable, connected, convenient, and safe transit options that take customers where they want to go when they want to go there.
- **Cross-County Connectivity**: Transit options that reflect the frequency of travel across jurisdictional boundaries in metro Atlanta by integrating regional services with local networks.

For more information about the Strategic Blueprint, <u>click here</u>.

## Dates

NOFO opens: June 5, 2025

Applications due by: 5:00PM on Friday, August 1, 2025

#### **Available Funding and Award Amounts**

ATL will award up to approximately \$15,000,000 from state FY25 TTF appropriations.

There are no award minimums or maximums.

<u>Cost Sharing</u>: There is no requirement for cost sharing between TTF and other fund sources (federal, local, etc.), and applications are allowed to request up to 100% of the total project cost as a TTF award. However, projects that pair TTF funds with other funding sources, particularly those projects that maximize other funding sources, will be more competitive in this round of awards. For example, if the project is eligible for



federal funding at 80%, then requesting the matching 20% from TTF would be more competitive than requesting a higher percentage from TTF.

## **Eligible Applicants**

Eligible applicants include existing transit providers, local governments, Community Improvement Districts (CIDs), Transportation Management Associations (TMAs), and other regionally-active transitadjacent groups located wholly or partly with the ATL's 13-county jurisdiction.

## Eligible Projects

For FY25 applications, ATL will fund these types of projects:

- 1. **Technology projects**, including regional asset investments such as cameras and pilot projects such as automated vehicles
- 2. **Planning projects**, including regional plans, subregional plans, and county transit plans with multicounty components
- 3. **Small regional capital projects**, including construction projects, vehicle purchases, or capital cost of contracting for service

# Project Selection

ATL will score projects based on alignment with the 3 C's of Competitiveness, Customer Focus, and Cross-County Connections. This alignment will be scored on a scale of 1-5, based on the applicant's written discussion of the alignment.

Applicants must identify the plan or program, if any, that documents the project, such as a county transit plan, comprehensive transportation plan, the ATL's Program of Projects, or the ARC's Metropolitan Transportation Plan.

## Post-Award Process

For awarded projects, project sponsors will sign contracts with ATL to accept the award. Funds are only available on a reimbursement basis, therefore, project sponsors must pay vendors first and provide proof of payment to ATL before receiving reimbursement from the TTF award. For FY25 awards, pre-award authority is **not** authorized. Expenses seeking reimbursement must be paid **after** the award date. The award date is the date the ATL Board takes action to approve the award, currently scheduled for December 4, 2025.

If ATL is requested to be the project sponsor and the project is awarded funds, ATL will handle the invoicing directly. Reimbursement is not necessary.



Project sponsors will be required to submit semi-annual progress reports in June and December of each year in which the award is active. Once the award is closed, progress reports are no longer required.

Please click <u>HERE</u> to access the application via Google Forms.