

WRTA FTA PILOT TOD APPLICATION CONTENT Market Street TOD Corridor Comprehensive Plan

SECTION I. APPLICANT INFORMATION

Organization Legal Name

FTA Recipient ID number

Two Check boxes: YES and YES

IDENTIFY THE TRANSIT PROJECT – 1000 characters

Identify the transit project, including mode and station locations, and indicate if it is a current or past New Starts, Small Starts, or Core Capacity Project. If it is not, describe how the transit project meets the definition of a new fixed guideway project or core capacity improvement project as outlined in the Notice of Funding Opportunity:

This project will complete a comprehensive transit-oriented development plan for the Market Street Corridor in the city of Youngstown and Boardman Township in Ohio. This TOD corridor will connect the Western Reserve Transit Authority's fixed-route hub, Federal Station, in downtown Youngstown with Southern Park Mall in Boardman Township. The project map which is attached shows these locations and up to seven locations in between. Market Street is the mostly heavily travelled transit corridor in the fixed route system. Both Youngstown and Boardman have invested resources in studying this corridor for development.

WRTA is engaged in a thorough review of its fixed-route service and has targeted the Market Street Corridor through this TOD and other planning, as a Core Capacity Corridor, with up to nine TOD stations, dedicated lanes in both directions in portions of the Corridor, during peak hour periods with 10 to 15-minute headways and traffic signal priority.

SECTION II. COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING PROJECT BACKGROUND

PROJECT TITLE - 200 characters

Project Title: (Descriptive title of this project)

Youngstown-Boardman Market Street Corridor Transit-Oriented Development Comprehensive Plan

OVERVIEW OF THE PROJECT - 2000 characters

Provide an overview of your proposed comprehensive planning project, including how it addresses each of the six aspects of the general authority stipulated in MAP-21 Section 20005(b)(2) (also listed in Section C of the Notice of Funding Opportunity):

This project will complete a comprehensive plan for Transit Oriented Development in the Market Street Corridor in the City of Youngstown and Boardman Township. The Market Street Corridor is the primary arterial street corridor in Mahoning County. The Corridor, a primary arterial street, spans two communities, the City of Youngstown which is the central city in the Mahoning Valley region, and Boardman Township which is the largest inner ring suburb of the City of Youngstown. The corridor is anchored at the northern end by the WRTA's Federal Station in downtown Youngstown. Seventeen WRTA routes serve Federal Station. The corridor is anchored on the southern end at the Southern Park Mall, the only mall in Mahoning County. Six of WRTA's routes serve the Southern Park Mall. A cross-town route intersects at Market At. and Midlothian Blvd.

WRTA, with its project partners, will complete a comprehensive plan that will

1. Enhance economic development, ridership and other goals by concentrating development focus on the corridor and the higher frequencies that will be required
2. Facilitate multimodal connectivity and accessibility by multimodal infrastructure planning at each TOD hub
3. Increase access to transit hubs for pedestrian and bicycle traffic by effective multimodal infrastructure planning at each TOD hub.
4. enable mixed-use development through recommendations for necessary changes in zoning regulations and codes in TOD hub areas
5. identify infrastructure needs by evaluating street capacity, opportunities for road diet, exclusive lane requirements, and intersection improvements at selected TOD hubs
6. include private sector participation by including private developers in the planning and leveraging opportunity zone development within the reach of the WRTA central hub.

Boardman has identified the corridor for TOD and the changes in street design, including exclusive lanes, that may be required. Youngstown has completed a review of land use in the Market Street Corridor.

WORK PLAN - 3000 characters

Summarize the work plan for the comprehensive planning effort by task. Identify the substantial deliverables that will be provided to FTA over the course of the planning project:

The work plan for the comprehensive TOD corridor planning will include twelve tasks:

Task 1—Evaluation of Existing Conditions

1. Land use
2. Socio-demographic
3. Public transportation service and ridership
4. Motor vehicle, bicycle and pedestrian activity
5. Existing infrastructure capacity utilization

Task 2—Establish TOD Performance Measures

1. Increased ridership and associated revenue gain
2. Public/private sector engagement and investment
3. Neighborhood revitalization
4. Affordable housing
5. Economic returns to landowners and businesses
6. Congestion relief and environmental benefits
7. Improved non-motorized infrastructure for bicycle and pedestrian safety

Task 3—Conduct Public Participation and Community Outreach

1. Community
2. Corridor
3. TOD district

Task 4—Complete Review of Land-Use Regulations and Zoning Codes

1. Land-Use Regulations
2. Land-Use Zoning Codes

Task 5—Identify and Evaluate Transit-Oriented Development Districts

1. Land-use patterns
2. Active transportation options
3. Existing and potential population and employment
4. Multi-modal connectivity and convenient and safe access
5. Opportunities for re-development and new development

Task 6—Identify Public-Private Partnership Opportunities

1. Incentives that may reduce risks
2. Affordable, mixed-income housing
3. Opportunity zones

Task 7—Identify Political Leadership and Government Support

Task 8—Identify Public Transportation, Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements

1. Fixed-route bus service
2. Bicycle lanes
3. Pedestrians

Task 9—Prepare the Transit-Oriented Development Strategy

1. Land-Use Plans and Zoning
2. Transit-related Action Plans
3. Active Transportation Plans
4. Marketing Transit-Oriented Development
5. Public and Private Investments
6. Barriers to Implementation
7. Transit-Oriented Development Toolkit
8. Development Standards and Design Guidelines

Task 10—Develop TOD District Plans, Implementation Actions and Timelines

1. Identify Districts for development
2. Prepare district plans, implementation actions and timelines

Task 11 – Evaluate TOD Project Outcomes against Performance Measures

Task 12 – Prepare Market Street Corridor Comprehensive Transit-Oriented Development Plan

Deliverables

1. Task 1 – Existing Conditions
2. Task 2 - Establish Performance Measures
3. Task 3 - Public Participation and Community Outreach Plan
4. Task 4 - Land Use Regulations and Zoning
5. Task 5 - TOD Districts Evaluation
6. Tasks 6&7 - Public-Private Partnerships and Government Leadership and Support
7. Task 8 – Public Transportation, Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements
8. Task 9 - Transit-Oriented Development Strategy
9. Task 10 - TOD Plans, Implementation and Timeline
10. Task 11 - TOD Benefits and Performance Measures
11. Task 2 - Memorandum-Completed Public Participated and Community Engagement
12. Task 12 – TOD Outcomes and Performance Measures
13. Market Street Corridor Comprehensive Transit -Oriented Development Plan

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

List the supporting documents attached to your application. See Section (D)(2) of the Notice of Funding Opportunity for application contents, which in addition to the supplemental form includes a (required) map of the proposed study area, documentation of any partnerships, and documentation of any funding commitments. Do not attach any other materials.

Title Short –50 characters

Description – 100 characters

Map of the proposed study area (required) – Content of the map:

Title – Market Street TOD Corridor Map

Short Description – Market Street Corridor alignment, potential stations, roadways, landmarks and planning study area

Documentation of any partnerships

partnership between the transit project sponsor and an entity in the project corridor with land use planning authority to conduct the comprehensive planning work, if the applicant does not have both of these responsibilities

Title – Letter of Intent

Short Description – Letter of Intent - Western Reserve Transit Authority, City of Youngstown and Boardman Township

Documentation of any Funding Commitments

Title – WRTA Funding Commitment

Short Description – Western Reserve Transit Authority Board Resolution and Certification of Taxing Authority

ENTITIES INVOLVED IN CARRYING OUT THE WORK PLAN

Identify the names of the entities that will be involved in carrying out the work plan (including the applicant) and their specific roles and responsibilities. Include names of key staff with job titles for the partner entities.

(Entity names and roles – include names of key staff with job titles)

Entity Name – 60 characters

Role – 1000 characters

Western Reserve Transit Authority

Role: Signatory to Letter of Intent; Sponsorship; engagement of consulting services; overall management of the project

Key staff:

Dean J. Harris, Executive Director

Judy Rodriguez, Director of Transportation

City of Youngstown

Role: Signatory to Letter of Intent; Key partner with authority over land use and zoning regulations and codes within the corporate limits of the City of Youngstown

Key staff:

Nikki Posterli, Director, Community Planning and Economic Development

T. Sharon Woodbury, Director, Economic Development

Beverly L. Hosey, Director, Community Development

Laura Fulmer, Zoning Specialist

Chuck Shasho, Deputy Director of Public Works

Kedar Bhide, Construction Engineer

Ian Beniston, Executive Director, Youngstown Neighborhood Development Corporation

Boardman Township

Role: Signatory to Letter of Intent; Key partner with authority over land use and zoning regulations and codes within the corporate limits of Boardman Township

Key staff:

Krista Beniston, Director of Zoning and Development

Tricia D'Avignon, Assistant Director of Zoning and Development

Marilyn Kenner, Road Superintendent

Eastgate Regional Council of Governments

Role: Assure consistency with long-range and short-range plans; providing data and analyses of vehicular and non-vehicular activity, traffic conditions relative to capacity; regional and community economic development planning and opportunities

Key staff:

Ken Sympson, Director of Transportation

Mirta Reyes-Chapman, Transit Program Manager

Joanne Esenwein, Director of Planning

Mark Rogazine, Economic Development Planner

WRPA-NEO Development/ Finance Authority

Role: The Western Reserve Port Authority will review and assess land development opportunities and public/private partnerships

Key staff:

- John Moliterno, Executive Director
- Antony Trevena, Director of Economic Development
- Sarah Lown, Public Finance Manager
- Randy Partika, Project Manager and Development Engineer

Youngstown State University

Role: Engage in Federal Station as a TOD development opportunity and land owner in the TOD district

Key staff:

- Michael Hripko, Vice-President External Affairs, Government Relations, Economic Development
- Dominic Marchionda, City-University Planner

Youngtown-Warren Regional Chamber

Role: Provide regional insight and lead responsibility for opportunity zone investment and development

Key staff:

- Sara Boyarko, Senior Vice-President, Economic Development
- Lauren Johnson, Manager, Business Development

PROJECT SCHEDULE – See spreadsheet

Identify the schedule for the comprehensive planning project in terms of milestones, including the dates at which the substantial deliverables identified earlier will be provided to the FTA. Also include the anticipated date for incorporation of the planning effort into the region's unified planning work program.

Milestone – 400 characters

Date – select the date

Milestone and Date

LOCATION OF THE STUDY AREA

Please characterize the location(s) of the study area:

[Click from a list](#)

Large Urban

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS: OH-013 – Tim Ryan

Opportunity Zone

Yes/No - Name of the Zone. Describe how the proposed comprehensive plan will impact the Opportunity Zone. 500 characters

Yes

Two opportunity zones:

Census Tract 8137: Tract GEOID 39099813700

Census Tract 8140: Tract GEOID 39009814000

WRTA's Federal Station falls into these two opportunity zones. The two zones join at the intersection of W. Federal St. and Fifth Avenue, WRTA's Federal Station transit hub. The comprehensive plan will include TOD planning around WRTA's Federal Station, the core hub of the fixed-route system and the TOD station at the north end of the Market Street Corridor. Significant private sector development opportunity exists. A bikeway and pedestrian project will be completed within 12-18 months.

Project Budget

Pilot Program for TOD Planning Request \$250,000

Other Federal Funds, if applicable \$0

TOD Match (eligible non-federal funds) \$83,333

Other Federal Match (other eligible non-federal funds) \$0

Total Project cost \$333,333

Identify the non-federal match sources and contribution from each 500 characters

The source of the non-federal match is the Western Reserve Transit Authority's voter-approved ¼ percent sales tax collected in Mahoning County, Ohio. This tax has been approved, as authorized by the Ohio Revised code, Chapter 306. The certificate of the November 2017 election certifying the tax for a continuing period of time and the WRTA board resolution authorizing the local share for this project are in Supporting Documents.

Budget By Task – See spreadsheet

100 characters for each task

Cost

SECTION III. EVALUATION CRITERIA

DEMONSTRATION OF NEED

Identify the potential state, local and/or other impediments to implementation of the products of this planning effort, and how the work plan will address them: - 2,000 characters

Potential impediments to implementation may include the following, with how the work plan addresses each

1. The Market Street Corridor is on State Route 7. The Ohio Department of Transportation and the Eastgate Regional Council of Governments will be engaged throughout the project.
2. Changes in land-use regulations and zoning codes will be necessary. The City of Youngstown and Boardman Township, both with authority of these regulations and codes are signatories to the Letter of Intent.
3. Questions and concerns from residents, property owners and developers. Active public participation is planned. Meetings with property owners and developers will be held as necessary.

How will the proposed work advance transit-oriented development in the corridor and region? – 2,000 characters

The proposed work will result in a completed Youngstown-Boardman Market Street Corridor Transit-Oriented Development Comprehensive Plan. The project will demonstrate the value of planning for significantly enhanced public transportation service in a corridor, together with the successful transit-oriented development stations, reduced fixed-route headways, dedicated bus lanes, traffic signal priority, zoning changes to support the land use plan in the TOD station and active transportation improvements.

Why are Pilot Program for Transit-Oriented Development Planning funds needed to realize the expected outcomes of the planning work? – 2,000 characters

The TOD planning funds are needed because sufficient resources are not available to support such a study, important as it is needed. The project budget will support the detailed planning that we believe is necessary to move to implementation. We cite the BUILD Smart2 Network project award as a case in point. The BUILD project will improve five streets in the core of downtown Youngstown, truly transformative, with autonomous shuttles. It ties downtown Youngstown, Youngstown State University and Mercy Medical Center together. Thinking immediately after the grant award was about how to spread the transformation. Hence, the investment of federal capital funding is envisioned to have the same impact on the Market Street Corridor.

Provide the approximate current population and employment of the area that the workplan will address, and describe ongoing transit-oriented development activity in this area. – 2,000 characters

The approximate current population and employment in the Market Street Corridor within the ¼ mile boundary around the Corridor is:

1. Population = 19,161
2. Employment = 17,772

WRTA's downtown Youngstown Transit Hub is the northern TOD station in this project, with thinking already underway about development needs and opportunities. WRTA will need an autonomous shuttle charging facility in close proximity to Federal Station. A new bike/pedestrian way is funded and will be developed in 2020. Suburban hubs are in our thinking. With a \$30 million investment at Southern Park Mall recently announced, WRTA has an opportunity to define and construct a permanent transit hub for the five routes that serve the mall. Hence, the logic for a new TOD station.

WRTA's Federal Station is central to the awarded BUILD grant and key streets emanating from Federal Station through downtown Youngstown, Youngstown State University and Mercy Health Center. Key project partners are Western Reserve Transit Authority, Eastgate Regional Council of Governments, City of Youngstown, Youngstown State University, Mercy Health Center and Youngstown-Warren Regional Chamber.

STRENGTH OF THE WORK PLAN, SCHEDULE AND PROCESS

If the proposed workplan does not cover the entire transit project corridor, why not? – 500 characters

The proposed workplan covers the entire Market Street Corridor.

Identify specific goals in the metropolitan transportation plan and existing local plans in the transit project corridor that the proposed planning work supports, as well as performance measures for the proposed planning work: 2,000 characters

The Eastgate Regional Council of Government's 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update states its vision as "strengthen the established transportation network through preservation, efficiency, collaboration and modal choice...".

The proposed planning work supports the following goals and objectives in Eastgate’s 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan:

Accessibility

1. Provide multimodal transportation choices, services, and components to meet existing and projected user demands, with emphasis on making pedestrian, bike, vanpool or carpooling a safe and more attractive alternative – including the flexibility of innovative provisions to incorporate mixed modes of travel.
2. Take full advantage of transit, bicycle and pedestrian accessibility to supplement missing multimodal access from local residential and business use areas, and help complete a system of use for traveling from one area to another.
3. Plan infrastructure growth and reinvestment to align with optimal population and economic patterns.

Climate Change and Energy Use

1. Continue the improvement and promotion of alternative transportation options which link residential areas to vital services and businesses, and alternative energy infrastructure.

Place Making

1. Coordinate transportation and land-use planning as a means to create quality places in existing and developing areas, and to strengthen the quality of the region.
2. Provide equitable access to available social and economic opportunities within the service area and to intermodal connections for similar opportunities outside the immediate area, especially for special populations such as low-income residents, the elderly, disabled, and minorities.

WRTA’s stated objectives include integrating fixed-route bus service with opportunities for community development that aligns its services with land use and development in its core transit corridors.

Performance measures for the proposed planning work are shown in the project workplan.

FUNDING COMMITMENTS – 500 characters

For each matching funding source listed earlier, please indicate whether the funds are already committed.

The Western Reserve Transit Authority is providing the entire local funding match for the project. WRTA will provide the local share from proceeds of its permanent ¼ percent sales tax, collected throughout Mahoning County. A sufficient fund balance is on hand. A board resolution and certification of the November 2017 election is attached in Supporting Documents.