

Chapter 5

Plan Implementation

5.1 Establishing Priorities

Implementation of this plan is expected to occur through efforts made by transit agencies and other transportation providers for target populations in the OKI region, including projects and programs that they initiate. Priorities for implementation include projects or programs that address the needs identified in Chapter 4 of this plan.

It is expected that many of the efforts undertaken to implement this plan will rely, at least in part, on federal funding available through the Federal Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities (Section 5310) Program. This Coordinated Public Transit – Human Services Transportation Plan is targeted to serving the populations served by these three federal programs and is the basis for awarding federal funding for them in most of the Cincinnati urbanized area.

The following general evaluation criteria will be used for project selection and are consistent with the federal Program Guidance and Application Instructions, which include selecting projects that:

1. Address gaps in current service provisions for targeted communities as defined in the local coordinated plan;
2. Make use of available resources and leverage resources to the extent possible;
3. Coordinate with other Federal programs (e.g., coordinated services, financial partnerships);
4. Can be achieved with the given technical capacity of the project sponsor; and
5. Demonstrate evidence of broad solicitation for input (coordinated planning process).

In addition to meeting these general criteria, funding requests that address the identified needs and that advance the associated strategies identified in Chapter 4 will receive a higher score in the competitive selection process than those that do not. The strategies in Chapter 4 and the criteria considered for grant applications were developed and maintained with input from the 5310 Oversight Team and thus reflect the direct experience and expertise of transportation providers for the target populations.

5.2 Additional Considerations

In addition to addressing the identified needs and strategies, applications for funding will also be evaluated based on how the project addresses the following considerations:

- **Service to targeted populations** - Targeted populations include elderly individuals and individuals with disabilities for Section 5310. Applicants must provide a description of how their project will provide service to the identified targeted populations.
- **Elimination or reduction of duplication in services** - To ensure appropriate levels of communication have occurred with other agencies providing similar services, the applicant will be asked to describe efforts taken to help eliminate or reduce duplication in services and

to indicate other agencies contacted and the results of such efforts, including any letters, agreements, or contracts.

- **Sustainability** - Once a project has been initiated, it is important that the project sustain itself. The low-income or disabled population may become dependent upon the services, and applicants need to take precautions so that these services can be continued should the federal funds become unavailable in the future. Applicants in the Cincinnati urbanized area should indicate how their projects will be sustained after the funding period is complete; accordingly, projects that demonstrate contingency planning for alternate funding sources will be stronger and will receive higher priority.

The project selection process also involves the 5310 Oversight Team working with OKI to evaluate applications for funding. To avoid any bias in the process, individual members of the 5310 Oversight Team do not participate in evaluating their own projects if they have submitted grant applications. The expertise and involvement of the 5310 Oversight Team provides additional and valuable perspective from providers and advocates of transportation services for target populations.

5.3 Implementation Projects

OKI prepares a Program of Projects (POP) with each 5310 funding award cycle which generally occurs annually. The POP lists agencies that are approved for funding as sub recipients of OKI and provides a narrative describing details of the project or program being funded. Adhering to FTA eligibility requirements, OKI awards various types of projects that have demonstrated the ability to fill gaps and address needs identified by this plan. The types of projects are listed below and each has the potential to address multiple Identified Needs of this plan. Table 5.1 lists the 5310 funded projects that are currently active in the OKI region.

Vehicles: Additional vehicles allow for expanded transportation service where agencies are expanding their fleet size to provide service to new areas; agencies can share vehicles to address the need for more coordination; all vehicles funded by this program are equipped with wheelchair lifts or ramps enabling better service to people who use wheelchairs. Increased scheduling opportunities and types of destinations served including jobs are also possible to address when agencies are able to expand their fleet size. Fare costs can be reduced or kept lower when significant portions of vehicle costs are covered by the 5310 program. New technologies such as cleaner fuel alternatives can be included with new vehicles that address the need to improve service accessibility and/or reduce operation costs.

Preventative Maintenance: Funding the routine maintenance of vehicles helps ensure a longer and more productive life span of vehicles used by an agency. This funding also enables agencies to apply the offset costs to other important agency needs to better serve their customers.

Training: Training includes the training of agency staff to better serve their senior and/or customers with disabilities as well as the training of individuals themselves to better utilize the mobility options available to them.

Mobility Management: Mobility Management programs range from regional call center programs offer a one-stop contact for individuals needing transportation service to more specialized service meeting the needs of specific users.

Operations: Funding is provided to transit agencies when needed to help them provide specialized transportation service specifically to seniors and/or individuals with disabilities.

Table 5.1: Active 5310 Program Recipients by Project Type

5310 Program Active Subrecipients by Project Type	Population Served		Project Service Area							Vehicle Quantity
	Seniors	Disabled	Boone	Butler	Campbell	Clermont	Dearborn	Hamilton	Kenton	
Vehicles										
Abilities First Foundation		X								4
BAWAC		X								2
Central Connections (Middletown Area Senior Citizens, Inc.)	X									6
Cincinnati Area Senior Services	X									11
Clermont Senior Services Inc.	X									31
Colerain Township	X									1
Easter Seals Tristate, LLC	X	X								4
Episcopal Retirement Services	X									2
Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health Services (formerly Clermont Counseling)		X								1
Knolls of Oxford - Maple Knoll Communities	X									2
Maple Knoll Village - Maple Knoll Communities	X									7
Mayerson Jewish Community Center	X	X								4
Mercy Health West Park	X	X								1
Ohio Living - Llanfair	X									1
Oxford Senior Citizens, Inc.										5
Partners in Prime										9
Point of Arc of Northern Kentucky		X								5
SEM Villa										1
Volunteers of America										2
Warren County Community Services										8
Wesley Community Services										10
Preventative Maintenance										
Clermont Senior Services Inc.	X									
Mayerson Jewish Community Center	X	X								
Oxford Senior Citizens, Inc.	X									
Partners in Prime	X									
SEM Villa	X	X								
Volunteers of America		X								
Warren County Community Services	X									
Wesley Community Services	X	X								
Equipment/Software										
Clermont Senior Services Inc.	X									
Lifetime Resources - Catch-a-Ride	X									
Mayerson Jewish Community Center	X	X								
Training										
Mayerson Jewish Community Center	X	X								
Mobility Management										
Cancer Justice Network	X	X								
Cincinnati Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired		X								
Northern Kentucky Area Development District	X	X								
Operations										
Butler County Regional Transit Authority	X	X								
Transit Authority of Northern Kentucky	X	X								