

**RLS**  
Associates, Inc.

Moving Public Transportation  
Into the Future

## New Hampshire Statewide Coordination of Community Transportation Services Plan Update

Public Meetings  
October 3-5, 2016

Presented by: RLS & Associates, Inc. [www.rlsandassoc.com](http://www.rlsandassoc.com)

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## Meeting Objectives

1. **History of Coordination**
2. **Funding Program Overview**
3. **Review of 2006 Statewide Plan**
4. **Research Approach**
5. **Structure of NH Statewide Coordination**
6. **Regional SWOT Analysis**
7. **Next Steps**

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## History of Coordination

- ◆ Human Services Transportation Coordination  
Aims to Improve Transportation Services for  
People with Disabilities, Older Adults, and  
Individuals with Lower Incomes by Ensuring that  
Communities Coordinate Transportation  
Resources Provided through Multiple Federal  
Programs

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## History of Coordination

- ◆ 2003 General Accounting Office Report Identifying:
  - 62 Different Federal Funding Programs
  - 8 Different Federal Funding Agencies
  - Little or No Coordination & Duplication of Programs
- ◆ SAFETEA-LU was Signed into Law on August 10, 2005, and Expired on September 30, 2009
- ◆ Congress Renewed Its Funding Formulas, Until Replacing SAFETEA-LU in 2012 with MAP-21 and in 2015 with FAST

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## Funding for Public Transit

(serving the general public)

### Urban Public Transit (5307)

- ◆ Geographic area: Areas with population > 50,000
- ◆ Eligible recipients: Public bodies
- ◆ Eligible Activities: Operating, Capital & Planning
- ◆ Application process: Public body applies to & receives funds directly from FTA
- ◆ # of 5307 systems in NH: 5
- ◆ FTA 5307 funds per year: ~\$8M

### Rural Public Transit (5311)

- ◆ Geographic area: Areas with population < 50,000
- ◆ Eligible subrecipients: State or local government, nonprofit organizations or public transportation providers
- ◆ Eligible Activities: Operating, Capital & Administration
- ◆ Application process: NHDOT solicits applications & enters into contracts with entities
- ◆ # of 5311 systems in NH: 7
- ◆ FTA 5311 funds per year: ~\$4M

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## Section 5310 Program Overview

(serving seniors& individuals with disabilities)

- ◆ **Program Goal:** To meet transportation needs of older adults & people with disabilities Were Insufficient, Inadequate, or Inappropriate
- ◆ **Eligible subrecipients:** State or local government, private nonprofit organizations or public transportation operators
- ◆ **Eligible activities:** Capital & Operating
  - Traditional Projects: Buses, vans, wheelchair lifts, etc.
  - Nontraditional Projects: Mobility Management, Travel Training, Volunteer Driver Programs & Operating
- ◆ **Application process:** NHDOT solicits applications & enters into contracts with entities for projects:
  - Purchase of Service    RCC Formula Funds    Traditional Capital

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## NHDOT Section 5310 Solicitations

**Centralized:** NHDOT scores, ranks & selects projects and NHDOT contracts directly with transit provider

- ◆ **Traditional Capital** (buses, vans, etc)
  - Annual solicitation

**Decentralized:** RCCs solicit, score & select projects & NHDOT reviews for eligibility & then contracts with 1 Lead Agency per RCC

- ◆ **Purchase of Service** (Volunteer transportation, demand response service, etc)
  - Biennial solicitation
- ◆ **RCC Formula Funds** (any eligible 5310 project)
  - Annual solicitation

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## 2006 Statewide Plan

- ◆ Recommendations for the 2006 Plan were the following:
  - Creation of a State Coordinating Council for Community Transportation (SCC)
  - Implementation of a regional community transportation coordination infrastructure
  - Coordination of existing local and regional transportation assets
  - Improved data sources

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## 2006 Statewide Plan

- ◆ Due to these recommendations, an SCC and 10 Regional Coordinating Councils were formed
- ◆ The recommendation for increasing local and regional transportation relied on the participation of Medicaid for funding
  - Medicaid has not been an active participant, and there's not sufficient funding to carry out the rest of the plan
- ◆ The updated plan will seek to provide realistic and implementable goals and strategies within the current funding environment

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### Research Approach

- ◆ Review Relevant Plans and Studies
- ◆ Document Current Conditions
- ◆ Interviews with State Agencies, the SCC, RCCs and RPCs
- ◆ Public Meetings
- ◆ Review of Current NHDOT Funding Structure
- ◆ Provide Strategies and Recommendations for the Statewide Coordination Structure, Use of Funds, and Engagement of Stakeholders at the State, Regional, and Local Levels

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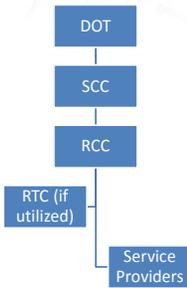
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### Current Structure of NH Statewide Coordination Efforts



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### Structure of NH Statewide Coordination Efforts

- ◆ The State Coordination Council (SCC) is charged with the following:
  - Develop and provide guidance for the coordination of community transportation options within the State
  - Set statewide coordination policies for community transportation and monitor the results of statewide coordination
  - Approve the formation of regional coordination councils and the selection of regional transportation coordinators
  - Solicit and accept donations for funding

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## Structure of NH Statewide Coordination Efforts

- ◆ In your opinion, what should be the role(s) of the following in the provision of NH coordinated transportation:
  - SCC
  - RCC
  - NHDOT

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## REGIONAL SWOT ANALYSIS

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## Strengths

- ◆ What general strengths does your region have? (growing employment, tourist attractions, medical facilities, etc.)
- ◆ What are the community transportation successes since the implementation of the 2006 Statewide Plan?
- ◆ Are there examples of successful coordinated transportation relationships between providers in your region?

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### Weaknesses

- ◆ What are the unmet transportation needs in your region?

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### Opportunities

- ◆ Are there any new developments in your region which would create a need for additional transportation?
- ◆ Are there any collaboration or funding opportunities available in your region which could benefit coordinated transportation efforts?
- ◆ What strategies or policies should be implemented at the local level to better meet the transportation needs in your region?

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### Threats

- ◆ What barriers are keeping your region from meeting all of the transportation needs?
- ◆ What are the barriers to coordinated transportation that regional providers experience?
- ◆ Do you know of any additional barriers in your region that are potentially approaching?

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### Next Steps

- ◆ Mid-Project Report
  - includes documentation and analysis of the current state of coordinated transportation in New Hampshire
  - provided to the SCC for review and comment later in October
- ◆ Final Report
  - includes all finalized Mid-Project Report, with the addition of an analysis of the Section 5310 Program as it is administered by NHDOT and strategies for increasing statewide coordination
  - provided to the SCC for review and comment in mid-December

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