



May 20, 2010

Thomas M. Vaughan, Special Assistant
Public Transportation Bureau
New York Department of Transportation
50 Wolf Road – POD 54
Albany, NY 12232

Re: Tompkins County's FTA Sec 5317 Rural Request - 2010

Dear Mr. Vaughan:

On behalf of the Tompkins County Department of Social Services, I am writing to support Tompkins County request's for \$100,000 in FTA Section 5317 New Freedom funding. The grant will be used for a mobility management program to develop a coordinated travel training program under the County's Way2Go for a two year period.

Community Travel Training was identified through the Coordinated Public Transit-Human Service Transportation Plan process as a priority project for 2010-11. While there are individual agencies providing travel training to their clients, currently the County lacks a coordinated approach for professional development of trainers, using volunteers, using the Internet for public access of training videos, and broadening the scope of travel training to include all mobility modes. Our rural residents, especially persons with disabilities and seniors have limited access to travel training and are vulnerable to the life-limiting impacts of isolation.

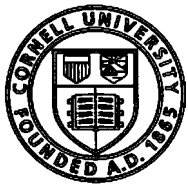
This project will increase access for resident access to TCAT and other mobility services and therefore provide people with accessible, convenient, reliable and safe transportation, without regard for disability, age or economic status.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Patricia Carey", is written over the word "Sincerely".

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER *for:*
Patricia Carey, Commissioner
Tompkins County Department of Social Services

Cc: J. Mareane, County Administrator



Cooperative Extension Tompkins County

Education Center
615 Willow Avenue
Ithaca, NY 14850-3555
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tompkins@cornell.edu
www.cceetompkins.org

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Thomas M. Vaughan, Special Assistant
Public Transportation Bureau
New York Department of Transportation
50 Wolf Road – POD 54
Albany, NY 12232

Re: Tompkins County's FTA Sec 5317 Rural Request - 2010


Dear Mr. Vaughan:

On behalf of Cornell Cooperative Extension of Tompkins County, I am writing to express support for Tompkins County's request for FTA Section 5317 New Freedom funding to launch a coordinated travel training program. Over the past two years, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Tompkins County has created a county-wide coordinated transportation education program known as Way2Go, and is interested in expanding this program to include travel training. We have the resources and commitment to develop an effective travel training program if funding is received.

Community Travel Training was identified through the Coordinated Public Transit-Human Service Transportation Plan process as a priority project for 2010-11. While there are individual agencies that provide some travel training to their clients, the County lacks a coordinated approach that reaches all potential audiences and includes all mobility modes, the use of volunteer trainers, public access to training videos, and standardized, comprehensive training to ensure the quality and success of travel training.

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Tompkins County is experienced in building successful and innovative programs from the ground up. This includes the development of Way2Go as an educational center that connects transportation planners, service providers, consumers and advocates. The resources and relationships established by Way2Go will lend themselves to the efficient creation of a complementary program that coordinates professional, hands-on travel training. Centralized coordination and expansion of travel training in Tompkins County under Way2Go will enable us to provide a seamless continuum of transportation support services to a diverse range of clients and service professionals. Cornell Cooperative Extension of Tompkins County will provide the \$25,000 non-FTA match for the \$100,000 grant over the project's two-year term.

Sincerely,



Ken Schlather

Executive Director
Cornell Cooperative Extension of Tompkins County

Cc: D. Mengel, DSS



Ithaca-Tompkins County Transportation Council

121 East Court Street, Ithaca, New York 14850 • Phone: (607) 274-5570 • Fax: (607) 274 5578 • e-mail: ITCTC@tompkins-co.org
On the web at: www.tompkins-co.org/itctc

Policy Committee:
Herb Engman, Chair
Dooley Kiefer, Vice Chair
Carl Ford, Secretary

Executive Director:
Fernando de Aragón, AICP

Planning Committee:
Sue Poelvoorde, Chair
Dan Kwasnowski, Vice Chair

May 17, 2010

Thomas M. Vaughan, Special Assistant
Public Transportation Bureau
New York Department of Transportation
50 Wolf Road – POD 54
Albany, NY 12232

Re: Tompkins County's FTA Sec 5317 Rural Request - 2010

Dear Mr. Vaughan:

On behalf of the Ithaca-Tompkins County Transportation Council, I am writing to support Tompkins County's request for FTA Section 5317 New Freedom funding. New Freedom funds will be used to establish a coordinated community travel training program under the County's Way2Go program (<http://ccetompkins.org/community/way2go>).

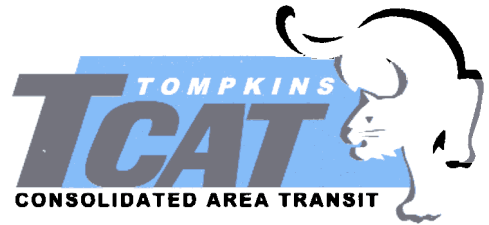
Community Travel Training was identified through the Coordinated Public Transit-Human Service Transportation Plan process as a priority project for 2010-11. While there are individual agencies providing travel training to their clients, currently the County lacks a coordinated approach for professional development of trainers, using volunteers, using the Internet for public access of training videos, and broadening the scope of travel training to include all mobility modes. Our rural residents, especially persons with disabilities and seniors have limited access to travel training and are vulnerable to the life-limiting impacts of isolation.

This project will increase access to TCAT and other community mobility services and therefore provide people with accessible, convenient, reliable and safe transportation, without regard for disability, age or economic status.

Sincerely yours,

Fernando de Aragón, AICP, Staff Director
Ithaca-Tompkins County Transportation Council

cc: D. Mengel, DSS



**Tompkins Consolidated
Area Transit, Inc.**

737 Willow Avenue
Ithaca, NY 14850-3214
Phone: 607 277-9388
TDD/TTY: 607 277-9766
Fax: 607 277-9551
E-mail: tcat@tcatmail.com
Web: www.tcatbus.com

May 19, 2010

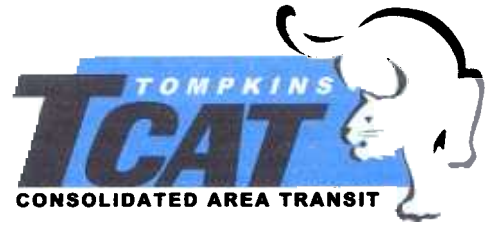
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Albany, NY 12232

Re: Tompkins County's FTA Sec 5317 Rural Request – 2010

Dear Mr. Vaughan:

On behalf of the Tompkins County Department of Social Services, I am writing to support Tompkins County request's FTA Section 5317 New Freedom funding. New Freedom funds will be used for a mobility management programs to establish a coordinated community travel training program under the county's Way2Go.

Community Travel Training was identified through the Coordinated Public Transit-Human Service Transportation Plan process as a priority project for 2010-11. While there are individual agencies providing travel training to their clients, currently the county lacks a coordinated approach for professional development of trainers, using volunteers, using the Internet for public access of training videos, and broadening the scope of travel training to include all mobility modes. Our rural residents, especially persons with disabilities and seniors have limited access to travel training and are vulnerable to the life-limiting impacts of isolation.



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Area Transit, Inc.**

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E-mail: tcat@tcatmail.com
Web: www.tcatbus.com

As Tompkins Consolidated Area Transit Inc. (TCAT) is the county's chief public transit agency, we heartily support a coordinated community travel training program that will empower potential riders with knowledge of their transportation options.

This project will increase residents' access to TCAT and other mobility services and therefore provide more people with convenient, reliable and safe transportation, without regard for disability, age or economic status.

Sincerely,

Joe Turcotte

General Manager, TCAT, Inc

Cc: D. Mengel, DSS



May 19, 2010

Thomas M. Vaughan, Special Assistant
Public Transportation Bureau
New York Department of Transportation
50 Wolf Road – POD 54
Albany, NY 12232

Re: Tompkins County's FTA Sec 5317 Rural Request - 2010

Dear Mr. Vaughan:

As Director of the Tompkins County Office for the Aging, I am writing to support Tompkins County's request for FTA Section 5317 New Freedom funding. New Freedom funds will be used for a mobility management program to establish a coordinated community travel training program under the County's Way2Go.

The Advisory Group of the Office for the Aging is enthusiastic about this initiative, believing that one-to-one travel training would be a resource likely to be utilized by older adults who are otherwise reluctant to use buses, especially those transitioning from driving.

Community Travel Training was identified through the Coordinated Public Transit-Human Service Transportation Plan process as a priority project for 2010-11. While individual agencies provide travel training to their clients, currently the County lacks a coordinated approach for professional development of trainers, using volunteers, using the Internet for public access of training videos, and broadening the scope of travel training to include all mobility modes. Rural residents, especially seniors and persons with disabilities have limited access to travel training and are vulnerable to the life-limiting impacts of isolation.

This project will increase access for resident access to TCAT and other mobility services and therefore provide older adults and others with accessible, convenient, reliable and safe transportation, without regard for disability, age or economic status.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lisa A. Holmes".

Lisa A. Holmes, Director

Cc: D. Mengel, DSS



May 19, 2010

Thomas M. Vaughan, Special Assistant
Public Transportation Bureau
New York Department of Transportation
50 Wolf Road – POD 54
Albany, NY 12232

Re: Tompkins County's FTA Sec 5317 Rural Request - 2010

Dear Mr. Vaughan:


On behalf of the Finger Lakes Independence Center, I am writing to support Tompkins County request's FTA Section 5317 New Freedom funding. New Freedom funds will be used for a mobility management programs to establish a coordinated community travel training program under the County's Way2Go.

Community Travel Training was identified through the Coordinated Public Transit-Human Service Transportation Plan process as a priority project for 2010-11. While there are individual agencies providing travel training to their clients, currently the County lacks a coordinated approach for professional development of trainers, using volunteers, using the Internet for public access of training videos, and broadening the scope of travel training to include all mobility modes. Our rural residents, especially persons with disabilities and seniors have limited access to travel training and are vulnerable to the life-limiting impacts of isolation.

Travel training is essential for our consumers with disabilities. The training will assist our consumers with learning about using the fixed route buses, when possible, instead of always relying on Gadabout or ADA Paratransit. This training can open up an easy way for individuals with disabilities to move around the county and become more involved in social activities.

This project will increase access for resident access to TCAT and other mobility services and therefore provide people with accessible, convenient, reliable and safe transportation, without regard for disability, age or economic status.

Sincerely,


Lenore Schwager
Executive Director

Cc: D. Mengel, DSS



SUNY Bridge Program
Displaced Homemakers Program

315 N. Tioga Street
Ithaca, NY 14850

phone: (607) 272-1520
www.womensopportunity.org
info@womensopportunity.org

Thomas M. Vaughan, Special Assistant
Public Transportation Bureau
New York Department of Transportation
50 Wolf Road – POD 54
Albany, NY 12232

May 19, 2010

Re: Tompkins County's FTA Sec 5317 Rural Request - 2010

Dear Mr. Vaughan:

On behalf of The Women's Opportunity Center, I am writing to support Tompkins County request's FTA Section 5317 New Freedom funding. New Freedom funds will be used for a mobility management programs to establish a coordinated community travel training program under the County's Way2Go.

Community Travel Training was identified through the Coordinated Public Transit-Human Service Transportation Plan process as a priority project for 2010-11. While there are individual agencies providing travel training to their clients, currently the County lacks a coordinated approach for professional development of trainers, using volunteers, using the Internet for public access of training videos, and broadening the scope of travel training to include all mobility modes. Our rural residents, especially persons with disabilities and seniors have limited access to travel training and are vulnerable to the life-limiting impacts of isolation.

Many of the clients that we assist with employment and training at our agency have no or limited internet access, live in a rural area, and/or have barriers with learning. All of these factors prevent them from fully utilizing public transportation to improve their economic situation. This project will increase access for residents to TCAT and other mobility services and therefore provide people with accessible, convenient, reliable and safe transportation, without regard for disability, age or economic status.

Sincerely,

Dammi Herath, PhD.
Executive Director

Strengthening the Community by Strengthening Families!