

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
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DATE: August 15, 2006

SUBJECT: Proposed Streamlining of Small
Transit Vehicle Procurement Process

TO: BPT Grantees

FROM: Toby L. Fauver, A.I.C.P., Director
Bureau of Public Transportation

As you may know, the Administration is looking for opportunities to save money through the pooled procurement of goods and services by the Pennsylvania Department of General Services (DGS). The Department has discussed this approach with DGS for the procurement of selected vehicles administered by the Bureau (BPT) for Section 5310 and Community

Transportation Capital (CTC) grantees. DGS has indicated that it can accommodate our pooled procurement of the most commonly purchased vehicles using the following standard technical specifications: Spec Codes J, K, L, A/J, A/K, and A/L. DGS will allow grantees to select the optional equipment and seating layouts that Section 5310 and CTC grantees regularly use under our current process. Our goal is to have grantees avoid the current lengthy and complex BPT procurement procedures by simply issuing a purchase order for vehicles through a DGS contract.

The specifications being developed jointly by DGS and BPT will be used by DGS to solicit bids. The contracts awarded will be in effect for an extended period of time. To ensure the most competitive pricing, the DGS Invitation for Bids (IFB) will state an approximate number of vehicles that will be purchased during the term of the contract. Since that approximate number will be primarily based on the latest round of CTC and Section 5310 funding approvals, CTC and Section 5310 grantees purchasing a vehicle that is available under a DGS contract will be required to use the DGS contract.

It is our intention to begin this new streamlined process with just the Spec Codes listed above in order to test the concept and make any modifications necessary with succeeding DGS contracts. If successful we intend to expand beyond the initial six Spec Codes to make all small transit vehicles currently purchased by CTC and Section 5310 grantees available under DGS contracts.

BPT is seeking comments during the next thirty days regarding this proposed streamlined procurement process. Comments on the above should be sent to the following address and received no later than September 15, 2006:

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