Project 6.1 Transit Master Plan

Program Area: Transit Planning

Project Manager: Statewide Planning: Nancy Hess; RIPTA: Amy Pettine

Supporting Staff: Statewide Planning: Paul DiGiuseppe, Parag Agrawal, Lindsey Langenburg and Michael D’Alessandro; RIPTA: Greg Nordin and Sarah Ingle; RIDOT: Andy Koziol

Project Overview: The purpose of the Transit Master Plan will be to identify opportunities for transit network efficiencies, enhancement, and expansion, resulting in a list of clearly identified operational and capital transit projects to be implemented in the coming 5-20 years. The Transit Master Plan will involve significant public participation and analysis of ridership trends and development potential in order to create a clear direction for the growth of transit ridership in Rhode Island. Multiple modes will be evaluated, including bus, BRT, rail, ferry, and emerging alternatives, to determine those that best meet identified public transportation needs and build a culture of transit.

Funding opportunities such as Small Starts, New Starts, and statewide bond issuance will be identified for each project in the plan. Public-private partnerships, innovative funding strategies, and alternative service delivery models will be considered and, as with mode options, will be evaluated based on best fit and potential return on investment.

This project is distinct from the Long-Range Transportation Plan in that it specifically focuses on transit investment, establishing a work program for RIPTA and RIDOT’s Office of Transit to pursue. The planning process will address Rhode Island’s existing organizational structure governing transit planning, development, and operations, and will result in recommendations regarding clarity of roles and best options to ensure efficient project delivery and maintenance.

FY 18 Tasks by Quarter:

Quarter 1
• Form working group comprised of Statewide Planning, RIPTA, and RIDOT
• Conduct data collection and analysis
• Prepare scope of work and advertise RFP

Quarter 2
• Award contract and hold project kick-off
• Continue working group meetings
• Initiate preparation of draft study
Quarter 3
• Initiate study

Quarter 4
• Conduct public outreach

FY 19 Tasks by Quarter:

Quarter 1
• Conduct stakeholder outreach

Quarter 2
• Evaluate alternatives
• Begin drafting report

Quarter 3
• Review draft study and implementation plan

Quarter 4
• Present to TAC
• Complete final report

Products:
• Transit Master Plan

Project Cost (other than staff time): $600,000 ($354,740 FTA; FHWA $94,260; $20,000 RIPTA; RIDOT $131,000)