

COMMITTEE TO EVALUATE FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION-FUNDED
PROJECTS UNDER THE AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT (ARRA)

Minutes for Meeting – April 7, 2009

Committee Members: Michael Lewis (RIDOT Director /Committee Chair), Robert Shawver (RIDOT), Al Moscola (RIPTA), John Rupp (RIPTA), Rochelle Lee (RIPTA), Kevin Flynn (DOA-Planning), Frances Shocket (Transportation Advisory Committee Chair), Dan Beardsley (RI League of Cities and Towns).

At the request of Governor Carcieri, RIDOT Director Michael Lewis convened this committee to evaluate and prioritize projects eligible for FTA funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, for the purpose of making a recommendation to the Governor on how the funding can best be allocated.

Director Lewis began by providing an overview of the ARRA program requirements, noting that the available funding can only be applied to capital projects. Robert Shawver (RIDOT) and Mark Therrien (RIPTA) then reviewed the program specifics for FTA projects.

Mark Therrien presented RIPTA's capital project needs to the committee. A summary table listing the 12 projects proposed for funding and descriptions of each of the proposed projects are shown in Attachments 1 and 2.

Stephen Devine presented RIDOT's capital project needs for the South County Commuter Rail program. This information is shown in Attachment 3.

The committee concurred that the priorities for the FTA-funded projects are: 1. Utilization of all of the available ARRA funding; 2. Support for the capital program needs of RIPTA; and 3. Support for the capital program needs of the RIDOT South County Commuter Rail program. Although the ARRA funds available to Rhode Island for FTA-funded projects is \$4.1 million less than the total estimated cost of the RIPTA and RIDOT projects that were presented, the committee felt ARRA funds from other programs and a favorable bidding environment will allow all of the identified projects to be implemented. The committee was in agreement that all of the projects proposed by RIPTA and RIDOT should be recommended to the Governor for funding.