

# Budget Unit Brief

## FY 2017



## Public Transit Infrastructure Grant Program

### Purpose and History

Appropriations are made from the infrastructure budget for the Public Transit Infrastructure Grant Program managed by the Department of Transportation (DOT). Appropriated funds support infrastructure improvements at Iowa transit agencies.

In 2006, the General Assembly created the Public Transit Infrastructure Grant Fund to assist public transit agencies with facility needs. At the time, state public transit assistance funds authorized under Iowa Code section [324A.6](#) and federal funds provided for vehicle replacement and operating costs, but the transit agencies did not have a resource for infrastructure funding. House File 2782 (FY 2007 Infrastructure Appropriations Act) added the Public Transit Infrastructure Grant Fund in Iowa Code section [324A.6A](#) and provided the initial appropriation from the infrastructure budget.

### Public Transit Infrastructure Grants and Projects

Applications for grants from the Public Transit Infrastructure Grant Program are submitted by the transit agencies to the [DOT Office of Public Transit](#) and approved by the Transportation Commission. State matching funds may provide up to 80.0% of the cost of the project, and the local agency must fund the remaining 20.0% in cash or value of real property. Regional and urban public transit systems, as defined in Iowa Code section [324A.1](#), are eligible to apply for funding. There are [35 public transit systems](#) around Iowa that may apply for funding in the Program.

Projects in the Program and eligible expenses include construction, expansion, or renovation of various types of facilities, or relocation of facilities if necessary to correct safety or design violations. Projects have included improvements and construction for bus storage buildings, administrative buildings, maintenance facilities, storage buildings, reconstruction of steam-cleaning areas, and improvements to vehicle storage and wash bays. Projects in the Program must meet the definition of vertical infrastructure in Iowa Code section [8.57\(5\)](#).

### State Funding

This appropriation is typically funded from the Rebuild Iowa Infrastructure Fund (RIIF). However, appropriations were also made from the Endowment for Iowa's Health Restricted Capitals Fund (RC2), the Revenue Bonds Capitals Fund (RBC), and the Revenue Bonds Capitals II Fund (RBC2).

Between FY 2007 and FY 2015, appropriations from all funding sources totaled \$17.4 million, averaging \$1.7 million annually for those years. Since FY 2012, funding levels have remained consistent at \$1.5 million annually.

### Related Statutes and Administrative Rules

Iowa Code section [324A.6A](#)  
[761](#) Iowa Administrative Code chapter [924](#)

Revised September 8, 2016

### More Information

Office of Public Transit – Department of Transportation: <http://www.iowadot.gov/transit/>

Iowa General Assembly: <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/index.aspx>

LSA Staff Contact: Adam Broich (515-281-8223) [adam.broich@legis.iowa.gov](mailto:adam.broich@legis.iowa.gov)