

## Use of 5310 Funds for Public Transportation Projects

Section 5310 funds support the provision of transportation services to meet the specific needs of seniors and individuals with disabilities. As stated on page III-9 of [FTA Circular 9070.1G](#), Section 5310 projects must be targeted toward meeting the transportation needs of seniors and individuals with disabilities, although they may be used by the general public.

## Coordination and Vehicle Use

Section 5310 subrecipients are encouraged to the extent feasible to provide service to seniors and people with disabilities not affiliated with their agency, and on an incidental basis to the general public, if such service does not interfere with transportation services for seniors and people with disabilities (page VI-4 of FTA Circular 9070.1G).

FTA encourages maximum use of Section 5310-funded vehicles. Page VI-4 of FTA Circular 9070.1G states that the subrecipient “must, when practicable, make the vehicle itself available to provide transportation service to other seniors and people with disabilities at times the agency is not using the vehicle for grant-related purposes. The recipient shall use the vehicle in the project or program for which it was acquired as long as needed, even if the project does not continue to receive federal funding.” The circular also states, “During the period the vehicle is used to serve the project or program needs for which it was acquired, the recipient or subrecipient shall make it available for use on other projects or programs, as long as such other use does not interfere with the service for which the vehicle was originally acquired. First preference for such other use will be given to other projects or programs sponsored by FTA, and second preference will be given to projects or programs sponsored by other federal agencies. Finally, vehicles may be used by non-federally funded providers, first to meet the needs of seniors and people with disabilities, and then to serve the transportation needs of the general public on an incidental basis.”

Page VI-4 of FTA Circular 9070.1G also states that subrecipients “may coordinate and assist in providing meal delivery services for homebound people on a regular basis if the meal delivery services do not conflict with the provision of transit services or result in a reduction of service to transit passengers.” However, FTA funding will not fund vehicles and equipment needed for meal delivery capacity.

## Coordinated Planning Requirement

Section 5310 projects must be included in a locally developed, coordinated public transit-human services transportation plan. More information about this requirement can be found in the Planning and Evaluation section of the toolkit, as well in Chapter V of FTA Circular 9070.1G.