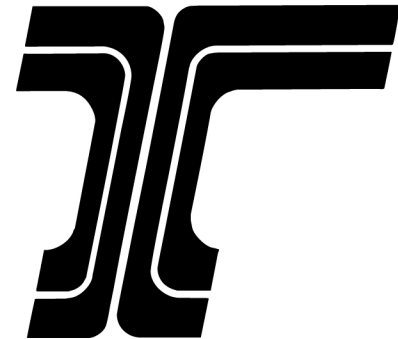


Oregon Department of Transportation



STIF Discretionary and Statewide Transit Network Application: FY 2023-25

Applicant Information

Agency Legal Name

Lane Transit District

Project Title

Rhody Express Bus Shelter Replacement Project

Agency Legal Address

3500 East 17th Avenue, Eugene, Oregon 97403

Application Contact Name

Gloria J Gallardo

Application Contact Title

Grant Manager

Application Contact Email Address

gloria.gallardo@ltd.org

Application Contact Phone Number

(626) 388-3332

Name of Person Signing Agreement

Jameson Auten

Title of Person Signing Agreement

Chief Executive Officer

Email Address of Person Signing Agreement

jameson.auten@ltd.org

Phone Number of Person Signing Agreement

(541) 682-6105

Agency Information

1. Transit Agency Type

Mass Transit District

1.A Does the agency have any existing grant agreements with ODOT?

Yes

2. What is the main type of service that will be supported by this award?

Fixed Route

3. Would this award support ongoing operations of an existing service?

No

Risk Assessment Information

4. Did your agency have any turnover of management or financial staff in the last two years?

Yes

5. Does your agency have an accounting system that allows you to completely and accurately track the receipt and disbursement of funds related to the award?

Yes

6. What type of accounting system does your agency use?

Combined

7. Does your agency have a system in place that will account for 100 percent of each employee's time?

Yes

8. Did your staff members attend required training and meetings during the previous biennium?

Yes

9. Was your agency audited by the federal government in the past two years?

No

10. Did your agency stay on budget in the past two years?

Yes

Agency Qualifications

11. Describe how your agency has the legal, managerial and operational capacity to perform and report on project progress within the scope, schedule and budget of the anticipated grant agreement. (Description of operational capacity should apply specifically for the workload of projects in this application.)

LTD has the legal, managerial and operational capacity to successfully implement this project. Since its creation in 1970, LTD has managed complex projects and developed innovative programs that have been recognized by the transit industry. LTD was the first transit district in the US to become fully accessible for people with disabilities and developed the first bus rapid transit project in the US. To that end, this Bus Shelter Replacement Project will enhance the amenities relative to the Rhody Express service, a system which services minoritized communities (elderly, low income, people of color, or people who report a disability), through timely and efficient investment.

LTD will manage the procurement of this project, as well as administer the grant. LTD has a long-term contract with a credentialed grants manager, an experienced procurement team, as well as Facilities and Fleet Directors who each have an extensive background in project management of infrastructure projects.

12. Certification of Compliance

By checking this box, the applicant certifies that if they are awarded funding, they will meet and ensure compliance for the term of the agreement with applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations including, and not limited to, those pertaining to passenger transportation, civil rights, labor, insurance, safety and health.

Yes

13. Do you plan to use a Sub-Recipient or contractor to implement the grant supported activity?

Yes

13.A If Yes, please list the Sub-Recipient(s) and describe how the applicant will provide sufficient Sub-Recipient/contractor oversight to ensure eligibility is maintained while receiving STIF Discretionary or Statewide Transit Network moneys.

As this request is for capital funds supporting an infrastructure project (Bus Shelter Replacement), there will be no sub-recipient; however, LTD will utilize a contractor for the acquisition and installation of the replacement bus shelters.

LTD will manage the procurement for this project, as well as administer the grant. LTD has Facilities and Fleet Directors who each have an extensive background in project management of infrastructure projects.

14. If you seek the 10 percent match reduction, does the project meet one or more of the four factors identified in OAR 732-044-0005(4)(a)? Select each factor that you believe is exemplified by the proposed project.

Not applying for 10% match reduction

15. Will federal funds be used to complete this project?

No

Project Information

16.A Project Title

Rhody Express Bus Shelter Replacement Project

16.B Describe the project to be funded. Clearly describe what the requested fund award would be used to accomplish, detailing the specific tasks and deliverables. Where relevant, identify the origin and destination of the proposed service as well as each municipality visited along the route. Please see page 7 of the application instructions for additional guidance on writing a project description.

LTD is requesting funds for the Rhody Express Bus Shelter Replacement Project in support of this fixed route service. The Rhody Express service operates an hourly north and south loop, Monday through Friday, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m (Attachment 1 – Rhody Express Service Brochure). This essential service provides the rural coastal community with access to health care; as well as connects major destinations such educational institutions, shopping and entertainment venues (e.g., casino).

The Rhody Express Bus Shelter Replacement Project will provide a designated waiting space that will ensure relief from inclement weather and physical relief from standing for long periods of time. This Bus Shelter Replacement Project is anticipated to foster increased ridership with the enhanced transit stop amenities, as well as improved lighting.

Moreover, providing funding for this Capital Project will ensure the continued delivery of public transportation in an effective and safe manner. In addition, offering riders more comfort and safety will make public transit more appealing to current, as well as potential new riders.

LTD is requesting grant funds in the amount of \$100,000. This represents the total project cost which is essential for the replacement of approximately four bus shelters, in poor condition, at locations along the Rhody Express routes that have exceeded their useful life. The locations of the routes are identified in Project Details section of this application.

17. What is the minimum project cost that will still allow your project to proceed?

\$75,000.00

18. Select the fund source(s) for which you would like to compete and that you believe your project is eligible to receive. Check all that apply.

STIF Discretionary

19. Why is this an important project? What are the consequences of this project not receiving funding?

LTD is a key stakeholder in the transportation industry and is cognizant of its role and responsibility relative to the Lane Coordinated Public Transit - Human Services Transportation Plan 2019 Update (Attachment 2). Moreover, LTD consistently strives to improve upon the attributes of accessibility for this targeted population, especially as it pertains to safety. The Rhody Express services a community comprised of older residents, as well as 17.3% of Florence residents identified as having a disability according to the US Census Bureau (Table V2021).

Providing funding for the Rhody Express Bus Shelter Replacement Project will provide a designated waiting space that will ensure relief from inclement weather and an alternative to standing for long periods of time.

Not receiving the funding could potentially impact the continued delivery of the Rhody Express service to this older community in an effective and safe manner; whereas providing the funding will address stated mitigating factors.

20. Will this project involve breaking ground or any other activity that might require environmental review per federal requirements?

No

Oregon Transportation Commission Investment Priorities

Equity and Public Transportation Service to Low-Income Households

21. Describe how this project would support and improve access for vulnerable populations and/or historically marginalized communities.

The impacts and benefits of this project are significant, particularly as it pertains older adults, people with disabilities, and low income populations. The Rhody Express provides services to a community comprised of older residents, 44.6% aged 65 and above, compared to 18.2% statewide, as well as 17.3% of Florence residents identified as having a disability according to the US Census Bureau (Table V2021). Moreover, 15.6% of residents are identified as having an income below the poverty level in 2019.

The Rhody Express service provides the community with access to health care; as well as connects major destinations such educational institutions, shopping and entertainment venues (e.g., casino).

The Rhody Express Bus Shelter Replacement Project will provide a designated waiting space that will ensure relief from inclement weather and provide an alternative to standing for long periods of time. This Bus Shelter Replacement Project is anticipated to foster increased ridership with the enhanced transit stop amenities, as well as improved lighting. The Rhody Express service, coupled with the improved amenities, will provide significant benefits to disadvantaged/low-income populations relative to transportation accessibility by ensuring the continued delivery of public transportation in an effective, efficient and safe manner.

Moreover, the Lane Coordinated Public Transit - Human Services Transportation Plan 2019 Update reports that evidence supports the connection between access to affordable and appropriate transportation options and successful health outcomes; essentially, synergy exists between health and transportation availability.

In consideration of the population that is served, LTD has a well-established partnership with the City of Florence who fully supports this project as evidenced by the attached letter of support (Attachment 3 - Florence Letter of Support). In today's environment of limited resources, it is not only advantageous to collaborate from a public transportation perspective; it is also fiscally responsible to encompass multi-disciplinary strategies to promote transit to those groups which may otherwise be overlooked.

Funding the LTD Rhody Express Bus Shelter Replacement Project will ensure the continued availability of mobility options to the transportation disadvantaged; more importantly, it will facilitate improved quality of life and social equity.

Coordination of Public Transportation Services

22. Describe how this project would improve the passenger experience, benefit multiple transit providers, or involve consolidation, coordination, or resource sharing between agencies, including use of transportation data and technology.

LTD has a long and proud tradition of providing reliable transportation and connecting the community. Moreover, the District has an outstanding and deeply caring staff committed to creating a more sustainable and equitable community.

LTD is also a vested stakeholder in the Planning and Local/Regional Prioritization process. Furthermore, LTD has conducted studies to evaluate long-term transit system investments and service delivery strategies as part of its Transit Tomorrow initiative. This effort, involving technical analysis and broad public engagement, identifies tradeoffs and options in LTD's system design; and choices and decisions that will define the region's public transportation system.

LTD consistently strives to develop innovative methods to improve upon the attributes of customer service, accessibility and convenience for this targeted population; as well as enhanced efficiency. The Rhody Express Bus Shelter Replacement Project will provide a designated waiting space that will ensure relief from inclement weather and provide an alternative to standing for long periods of time. This Bus Shelter Replacement Project is anticipated to foster increased ridership with the enhanced transit stop amenities, as well as improved lighting. Accordingly, funding this bus shelter replacement project will ensure the continued availability of mobility options to the transportation disadvantaged; more importantly, it will facilitate improved quality of life and social equity.

Environmental and Public Health

23. Describe how this project would go beyond providing an alternative to personal car use to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, reduce pollution, and/or support positive health outcomes. How does this project support applicant's climate planning efforts?

Since 1970, awareness of the relationship between automobile traffic and quality of life has increased. Not

only does the community desire alternatives to relieve problems associated with poor air quality and increased traffic, federal and state governments demand it.

LTD has responded to the challenge and has become an innovative leader in shaping local and regional transportation strategies. LTD has adopted a Climate Action Statement and Fleet Procurement Goals that will reduce community greenhouse gas emissions by taking steps to maximize public transit ridership and support low-carbon active transportation modes (Attachment 4 – LTD Climate Action Statement).

Intercity public transit service reduces the number of vehicles on the road and consolidates trips that would otherwise potentially be inefficient. Reliable transportation facilitates utilization of public transportation which can permit riders to spend their commute time reading, working or studying without having the burden of watching the road.

Moreover, transit service is a core component of the Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and Transportation Safety Action Plan (Attachment 5 - MPO RTP and Transportation Safety Action Plan - excerpts). LTD is an integral and committed stakeholder; and has worked with the MPO in this regard. The RTP includes provisions for meeting the transportation demand for a 20-year planning cycle and addresses transportation issues and changes that can contribute to improvements in the region's quality of life, economic vitality and sustainability; the attainment of which is directly related to an efficient and effective transportation system.

Public transportation is also linked to healthier lifestyles, as people who use public transportation increase their daily amount of physical activity either walking or bicycling to and from their transit stops and their final destination. They are also able to avoid the stress that comes from daily driving in highly congested areas.

Safety, Security, and Community Livability

24. Describe how the project would increase use and participation in active transportation, and support connections between transit and other travel modes like biking and walking.

As previously stated, the service operates an hourly north and south loop, Monday through Friday, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. This essential service provides the community with access to health care; as well as connects major destinations such educational institutions, shopping and entertainment venues (e.g., casino).

The Rhody Express Bus Shelter Replacement Project will provide a designated waiting space that will ensure relief from inclement weather and provide an alternative to standing for long periods of time. This Bus Shelter Replacement Project is anticipated to foster increased ridership with the enhanced transit stop amenities, as well as improved lighting.

The Rhody Express service, coupled with the improved amenities, will provide significant benefits to disadvantaged/low-income populations relative to transportation accessibility by ensuring the continued delivery of public transportation in an effective, efficient and safe manner. Public transportation is also linked to healthier lifestyles, as people who use public transportation increase their daily amount of physical activity either walking or bicycling to and from their transit stops and their final destination.

25. Describe how the project would support and improve safety of passengers in transit vehicles and safety of other roadway users.

Since 1970, awareness of the relationship between automobile traffic and quality of life has increased. Not only does the community desire alternatives to relieve problems associated with poor air quality and increased traffic, federal and state governments demand it.

LTD has responded to the challenge and has become an innovative leader in shaping local and regional

transportation strategies. Transit service is a core component of the Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and Transportation Safety Action Plan (Attachment 5 - MPO RTP and Transportation Safety Action Plan - excerpts). LTD is an integral and committed stakeholder; and has worked with the MPO in this regard. The RTP includes provisions for meeting the transportation demand for a 20-year planning cycle and addresses transportation issues and changes that can contribute to improvements in the region's quality of life and economic vitality; the attainment of which is directly related to an efficient and effective transportation system.

Moreover, transit is identified as a tool for improving safety on Lane County roads, which are among the most dangerous in the state. Lane County's first ever Transportation Safety Action Plan was adopted in 2017 to combat the epidemic of roadway deaths in the county. Throughout this plan, improved and reliable transit service, and safety enhancements to improve access to transit service, are identified as necessary investments.

To that end, studies indicate that taking the bus is safer than driving a car, not only in terms of the safety of the vehicles but also in terms of the driving and extensive training of the respective operators.

Statewide Transit Network Connections

26. Describe how this project would support and improve the utility and connectivity of the Statewide Transit Network and/or create a foundation for future Statewide Transit Network improvements.

As indicated above, LTD has become an innovative leader in shaping local and regional transportation strategies. Transit service is a core component of the Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and Transportation Safety Action Plan. The RTP includes provisions for meeting the transportation demand for a 20-year planning cycle and addresses transportation issues and changes that can contribute to improvements in the region's quality of life and economic vitality; the attainment of which is directly related to an efficient and effective transportation system.

Moreover, LTD has conducted studies to evaluate long-term transit system investments and service delivery strategies. This effort, involving technical analysis and broad public engagement, identifies tradeoffs and options in LTD's system design; and choices and decisions that will define the region's public transportation system. Accordingly, LTD has considered a number of planning documents, with respect to this project, including but not limited to the following:

- Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization Regional Transportation Plan and Transportation Safety Action Plan
- Eugene Climate Action Plan
- Oregon Transportation Safety Action Plan
- Lane County Transportation System Plan

Relevant sections from the various planning documents are included as Attachments 5-8 respectively.

As previously stated, the Rhody Express service operates Monday through Friday, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and provides this rural coastal community with access to critical health care; as well as connects major destinations such educational institutions, shopping and entertainment venues (e.g., casino).

Funding and Strategic Investment

27. Describe why investment in this project makes sense from both the perspective of current need and long term Oregon transit needs.

In consideration of the population that is served, LTD has a well-established partnership with the City of

Florence who has fully supports this project as evidenced by the attached letter of support. In today's environment of limited resources, it is not only advantageous to collaborate from a public transportation perspective; it is also fiscally responsible to encompass multi-disciplinary strategies to promote transit to those groups which may be otherwise overlooked.

Moreover, LTD will manage the procurement of this project, as well as administer the grant. LTD has a long-term contract with a credentialed grants manager, an experienced procurement team, as well as Facilities and Fleet Directors who each have an extensive background in project management of infrastructure projects. As such, this project will be implemented in a timely manner.

The Bus Shelter Replacement Project will provide a designated waiting space that will ensure relief from inclement weather and physical relief from standing for long periods of time for the transit dependent community. In addition, this Bus Shelter Replacement Project is anticipated to foster increased ridership with the transit stop amenities and improved lighting, thereby facilitating the continued availability of mobility options to the transportation disadvantaged; as well as improved quality of life and social equity.

28. If this project will last beyond the 2023-25 biennium, describe the plan for ongoing funding including match. If not applicable, type N/A.

N/A.

29. Does this project depend on other funding sources including other discretionary grants whose outcomes are uncertain? If yes, please list those fund sources. If not applicable, type N/A.

N/A.

30. Capital Asset Purchases

Describe proposed capital purchases. If no capital assets are included in your application, type N/A.

Replacement and installation of approximately four (4) bus shelters, that are in poor condition, supporting the Rhody Express service is long overdue. ODOT provided funding (#26519) for the replacement of six passenger shelters in 2010. Due to the salty coastal environment in the city of Florence, these shelters are anticipated to have a useful life of ten years which has been exceeded.

The Bus Shelter Replacement Project will provide a designated waiting space that will ensure relief from inclement weather and physical relief from standing for long periods of time. In addition, this Bus Shelter Replacement Project is anticipated to foster increased ridership with the transit stop amenities and improved lighting.

LTD is requesting a total project cost of \$100,000 for the replacement and installation of approximately four (4) bus shelters that have exceeded their useful life. LTD's Letter of Interest had indicated the replacement of five (5) shelters for \$100,000; however, based on the increased cost of labor, supplies and materials, LTD is anticipating to replace four (4) shelters. This request represents LTD's Priority #3 of three applications.

Project Details

Task Category

Signs/Shelters Purchase

Signs/Shelters Purchase

Signs/Shelters Request

Item Description	Quantity	Cost Each (Project Cost)	Total Cost	Est. Order Date	Est. Delivery Date
8th Street Shelter	1	\$25,000.00	25,000.00	8/31/2023	6/30/2024
Oak Street Shelter	1	\$25,000.00	25,000.00	8/31/2023	6/30/2024
Grocery Outlet Shelter	1	\$25,000.00	25,000.00	8/31/2023	6/30/2024
Middle School Shelter	1	\$25,000.00	25,000.00	8/31/2023	6/30/2024
Total: 4			Grand Total: 100,000.00		

Total Task Cost (Grant Amount + Match Amount)
\$100,000.00

Project Task and Match Amounts

20% Match Rate Calculations

**Grant Amount - STIF Discretionary/STIF
Intercommunity/5311f (80% State/Fed Share)**
\$80,000.00

**Match Amount - STIF Discretionary/STIF
Intercommunity/5311f (20% Local Share)**
\$20,000.00

Application Totals

Match Sources

Match Sources	Amount
State	\$20,000.00

**Are matching funds of at least 20% of project
costs available if the project is awarded?**
Yes

**What percent of funds will be used for demand
response transportation?**
0%

**Percent of funds used for fixed route
transportation**
100%

Note on Application Totals: If applying for 5311(f) Operating, a 50% match rate is applied to identified Operating costs. However, the application form automatically applies a 20% match rate to the full Project Cost, including Operating costs. Therefore, Section 5311(f) applicants should ensure the accuracy of the Total Task Cost for each Task Category, as the 20% match rate will only apply to non-Operating costs in a 5311(f) grant award. The form is unable to calculate an accurate application total using two different match rates.

Application Totals Summary By Task - 20% Match Rate

Task Category	Task Project Cost	Task Grant Amount	Task Match Amount
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Vehicle Expansion	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Vehicle Replacement	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Equipment Purchase	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Facility Purchase	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Signs/Shelters	\$100,000.00	\$80,000.00	\$20,000.00
Planning	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Project Administration	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Operating	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Preventive Maintenance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Mobility Management	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Total Project Cost: \$100,000.00	Total Grant Amount: \$80,000.00	Total Match Amount: \$20,000.00

Document Upload (Optional)

LTD_Rhody Express_Attachment List.pdf

Attachment 1_Rhody Express Service Brochure.pdf

Attachment 2_2019 Public Transit Human Services Coordinated Plan.pdf

Attachment 3_Florence_RhodyExpress_Letter of Support_Nov 21 2022.pdf

Attachment 4_LTD Climate Action Policy Statement and Goals.pdf

Attachment 5_CLMPO RTP_Transp Safety Action Plan.pdf

Attachment 6_Eugene Climate Action Plan.pdf

Attachment 7_OR Transp Safety Action Plan.pdf

Attachment 8_Lane Co Transp System Plan.pdf