

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**Oklahoma DOT Continues the Development of Locally Coordinated Public Transit/Human Service Transportation Plan**

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma USA – February 11, 2009

ODOT receives an annual allocation of Job Access Reverse Commute (JARC) and New Freedom funds from the Federal Transit Administration. The JARC grant program funds transportation services to transport welfare recipients and eligible low-income individuals to and from jobs and activities related to their employment. For the program year 2009, ODOT has apportionments of \$381,067 for small urban projects and \$847,284 for rural projects. The New Freedom grant program provides improved public transportation services, and alternatives to public transportation, for people with disabilities, beyond those required by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA). For program year 2009, ODOT has apportionments of \$157,287 for small urban projects and \$532,027 for rural projects.

JARC and New Freedom grants are competitive. Applicants may include state or local government authorities including tribal governments; private non-profit organizations; and operators of public transportation services including private operators of public transportation services.

JARC and New Freedom program funds are intended to fund innovative and flexible programs that address the transportation needs of individuals with disabilities, older adults, and individuals with limited incomes. Funds may be used for planning, capital or operating costs of providing access to jobs, or for services and facilities that improve mobility for persons with disabilities but not limited to persons who are ADA-certified.

The Safe Accountable Flexible Efficient transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) requires that beginning in FFY 2007, projects selected for funding under the JARC and New Freedom programs must be derived from the Oklahoma Locally Coordinated Public Transit/Human Service Transportation Plan. The Plan outlines transportation gaps and issues as well as potential strategies. Applications for JARC and New Freedom funds will be scored based on how the project directly addresses the issues identified in the Plan.

ODOT is holding a call for projects for funds noted above. The deadline for applications is May 1, 2009. Applications will be made available during **mandatory** training sessions to be conducted during the week of March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at the locations listed in the table on the next page. **Applications will not be accepted from project proponents who did not attend a training workshop.**

If you require an alternative format for any of these documents please contact Roger Eaton at (405)521-2584 or email your request to [odot\\_plan@urscorp.com](mailto:odot_plan@urscorp.com).

<p>TRAINING SESSIONS TIME AND LOCATIONS</p>	<p><b>3/10/09 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm</b> <b>Ponca City</b> FACILITY: City Hall - Barnes Room 2nd Floor ADDRESS: 516 East Grand Avenue Ponca City, OK 74601 PHONE: 580-767-0336</p>
<p><b>3/11/09 9:00 am - 11:00 am</b> <b>Woodward</b> FACILITY: Woodward Public Library ADDRESS: 1500 Main Woodward, OK 73801 PHONE: 580-254-8544</p>	<p><b>3/11/09 10:00 am - 12:00 pm</b> <b>Sand Springs</b> FACILITY: Charles Page Library ADDRESS: 551 East 4th Street Sand Springs, OK 74063 PHONE: 918-591-4585</p>
<p><b>3/11/09 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm</b> <b>Lawton</b> FACILITY: Museum of the Great Plains LDM Hall ADDRESS: 601 NW Ferris Lawton, OK 73507 PHONE: 580-581-3460</p>	<p><b>3/11/09 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm</b> <b>McAlester</b> FACILITY: SE EXPO Center Room 209 ADDRESS: 4500 W Highway 270 McAlester, OK 74501 PHONE: 918-420-3976</p>
<p><b>3/12/09 9:30 am - 11:30 am</b> <b>Norman</b> FACILITY: Norman City Library Lowry Room ADDRESS: 225 North Webster Norman, OK 73069 PHONE: 405-701-2600</p>	

**For More Information Contact:**

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