

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
DIVISION OF RAIL AND MASS TRANSPORTATION MS 39  
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*Serious drought.  
Help save water!*

February 8, 2016

TO: MPOs AND RTPAs,

The Division of Rail and Mass Transportation (DRMT) is pleased to announce the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2016 Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5311 "call for projects" funded by the new Transportation Legislation, Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST). An estimated amount of \$21.8 million will be allocated to California to enhance public transportation in rural areas. This amount excludes the amount allowable for administration and Section 5311(f) discretionary funding. The apportionment amount is based on the 2010 decennial census and represents the full funding amount for FFY 2016. The amount allocated to each region and balance sheets including pre-award letters is attached.

For the 2016 application cycle, the DRMT is implementing the BlackCat web based electronic grants management system. The DRMT will only accept all section 5311, 5311(f) and Rural Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) applications through the new BlackCat system.

**FTA Sections 5311, 5311 (f) and rural CMAQ applications are due by April 15, 2016.**

To access the BlackCat system, complete and submit your application, please use the confidential log in information that should be sent to you after the BlackCat training sessions. If you did not receive a log in, please contact the BlackCat Grants Support Center at 1-888-238-9707. We have a follow-up web training for those who were not able participate in the statewide training last week or have more questions on the BlackCat electronic grants management system. The webinar will take place on Friday, February 12, 2016 from 12:00 p.m. -2:00 p.m. Pacific Standard Time. Please join the meeting at: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/282054549>. You can also dial in using your phone at 1 (408)-650-3123. The Access Code is 282-054-549. The webinar also will be recorded and accessible as well on the California Department of Transportation's DRMT website.

The DRMT is excited about the new online application as we believe it will allow us all to "work smarter" and deliver your projects more efficiently. We hope that you share our enthusiasm in the new system and will find it rewarding.

If you have any questions on the use of BlackCat or have problems submitting your application, please contact the BlackCat Grants Support Center at 1-888-238-9707.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "James Ogbonna".

JAMES OGBONNA  
Branch Chief  
Rural Transit and Intercity Bus