



## FTA Authorization Fact Sheet Alternative Transportation in Parks and Public Lands



(in millions)

Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	Total
Mass Transit Account		\$22.0	\$23.0	\$25.0	\$26.9	\$96.9
General Fund						
<b>Total Alternative Transportation in Parks and Public Lands</b>		\$22.0	\$23.0	\$25.0	\$26.9	\$96.9

### Purpose

The new Alternative Transportation in Parks and Public Lands program (also known as Transit in the Parks) provides funds to support public transportation projects in parks and public lands. TEA-21 (Title III, Section 3039) authorized a study of transit needs in national parks and related public lands.

### Statutory References

Section 5320 of Title 49, United States Code

### Features

- Establishes a new Alternative Transportation in Parks and Public Lands Program, administered by DOT in consultation with the Secretary of the Interior.
- Provides grants for planning or capital projects in or in the vicinity of any federally owned or managed park, refuge, or recreational area that is open to the general public.
- Requires an annual program of projects to allocate funds.
- Requires DOT to develop cooperative arrangements with the Department of the Interior that provide for technical assistance in alternative transportation, provide teams to develop Federal land management agency alternative transportation policy, procedures and coordination, and develop procedures and criteria for the planning, selection, and funding of projects, as well as implementation and oversight.
- Applies sections 5307 and 5333(a) of Title 49, United States Code, to the extent the Secretary deems appropriate; Section 5333(b) labor protections are not extended in this new program
- Requires that qualified projects \$25 million and over be carried out through a full funding grant agreement, to the extent that the Secretary considers appropriate, and must have a project management plan.
- Allows projects receiving funds under this section also to be eligible for funding through a state infrastructure bank or innovative finance mechanism.
- Makes National Forest System lands explicitly eligible and includes bicycle, pedestrian and non-motorized watercraft projects in the definition of alternative transportation.

- In addition, language was added to ensure that projects carried out under this program are consistent with other transportation policies of the Department of the Interior and other federal land management agencies.