



## NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY ("NOFA") FY21 MY RIDES PILOT PROGRAM

The Government of the District of Columbia, Department of For-Hire Vehicles (DFHV or "Department") is seeking to select DFHV-licensed taxicab companies or taxi network companies (TNCs) who have been granted operating authority as Digital Taxicab Solution (DTS) or Digital Dispatch Service (DDS) provider to implement the Department of Behavior Health's (DBH) transportation service, including ensuring Wheelchair Accessible Vehicles (WAVs) services for their My Rides Pilot Program.

The purpose of this project is to remove transportation as a barrier for people trying to access treatment services for opioid use disorder (OUD). Individuals with OUD may be ready for treatment but not have the time, resources, or energy to travel there via public transportation. This project will allow individuals to request transportation to treatment as soon as they're ready wherever they are (in the District).

Applicants are expected to provide a cost-effective, high-quality transportation services on behalf of DBH to DC residents seeking these services. This program will focus on connecting residents with their initial service appointments, which has shown to improve treatment outcomes. Providers are expected to offer curb-to-curb service, with up to two pickups (one for the passenger and one for an escort) to a list of pre-determined sites and provide rides 24 hours per day, 365 days per year. The Applicant must accept telephone bookings and be able to accept at least one additional booking option, for example: web booking, smart phone app, or text booking.

The My Rides trip shall be reimbursed at a trip rate plus a services fee of two dollars (\$2). Each trip must start and end within the District of Columbia and confirmed with the location lists provided by DBH Management or DFHV's Project Lead.

An applicant may propose a budget with costs that adheres to the annual budget but introduces a trip rate structure to expand transportation services to additional customers, which includes a detailed description of the formulated budget pertaining to trip rates, driver incentives, number of possible customers served per month, other detailed budget and operational designs.

The total value of the grant is not to exceed one hundred and fifty-six thousand six hundred dollars (\$156,600) for completed trips.

<u>Eligibility</u>: DFHV licensed Digital Taxicab Solution (DTS), Digital Dispatch Service (DDS) providers or Transportation Network Companies (TNC) only.

How to Apply: Visit DFHV's Zoomgrants portal: Click Here

**<u>RFA Release Date</u>**: The RFA will be available on Friday, December 11, 2020 on the DFHV website. To access the RFA click on <u>DFHV Grant Announcement Webpage</u>

Application Deadline: Monday, December 28, 2020, 5:00pm EST.

**<u>Period of Award:</u>** The performance period is January 1, 2021 up to September 30, 2021 for FY 2021. DFHV may elect to continue funding for an additional period of up to three years. Continuations would be determined based upon satisfactory program performance, grant compliance, operating authority status, and the availability of funding.

**Funding:** Funding will be a minimum of one hundred fifty-six thousand six hundred dollars (\$156,600) for one or more awards. For additional information regarding this announcement, please contact Gerald Kasunic at: <u>Gerald.kasunic3@dc.gov</u> or by calling: 202-671-1804.

**Information Session:** Applicants interested in learning more or who would like to ask questions about the RFA are strongly encouraged to participate in the information session scheduled on **December 16, 2020; 1:00 pm – 2pm EST.** The sessions will be held via Webex and participants my join by DFHV staffers via Video Call: <u>My Rides Pilot: Pre-Application</u> <u>Conference</u>

<u>Selection Process</u>: DFHV will select one or more grant recipients through a competitive application process. All applications will be forwarded to a review panel to be evaluated, scored, and ranked based on the selection criteria listed in the RFA in the requirements contained in this announcement. Selected grantee(s) may be awarded for one or more initiative(s) from the Business Transformative Grants under this NOFA.

**Reservations:** DFHV reserves the right to issue addenda and/or amendments subsequent to the issuance of the innovation grant announcement or any NOFA or RFA, or to rescind any innovation grant announcements, NOFA or RFA. All grant awards are subject to funding availability.