



**PROGRAM OF PROJECTS - READING
FFY 2024-2025**

The Reading proposed Program of Projects for FFY 2024-2025 is attached. The proposed Program of Projects was introduced to the SCTA Board at its meeting held on May 21, 2025. A public hearings will be held regarding the proposed Program of Projects at 5:00 PM on Monday, June 16, 2025 at the SCTA Reading Office, 1700 North Eleventh Street, Reading, PA.

SOUTH CENTRAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY
FY 2025-26 CAPITAL PROJECTS AND FFY 2024-2025 PROGRAM OF PROJECTS
(5/21/2025)

Background Information

On November 12, 2014 and on November 13, 2014, the Lancaster County Board of Commissioners and the Berks County Board of Commissioners, respectively, approved organizing the South Central Transit Authority (SCTA) under the Municipalities Authorities Act of 2001. SCTA was formed as a result of the consolidation of the management and administrative functions of the Red Rose Transit Authority (RRTA) in Lancaster County and the Berks Area Regional Transportation Authority (BARTA) in Berks County. Both RRTA and BARTA remain in existence as operating agencies providing the service in their respective counties. SCTA signed Management, Administrative and Support Services Agreements with both BARTA and RRTA to provide all executive, management, administrative and support services to BARTA and RRTA. SCTA assumed the management and administrative responsibilities for the operation of BARTA and RRTA as of January 1, 2015.

SCTA is the designated recipient of the federal Section 5307 and 5339 funds apportioned to the Reading, PA Urbanized Areas. As the designated recipient and based on federal guidelines, SCTA is required to draft a Program of Projects identifying the proposed projects to be advanced with the apportioned funds. The proposed Program of Projects is publicly advertised and is the subject of a public hearing for the purpose of receiving public input in the development of the Program of Projects.

Since the funds are apportioned to the Reading Urbanized Area, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) is requiring SCTA to develop the Program of Projects identifying the proposed projects funded with the Reading apportionment.

In FFY 2025, SCTA is projected to receive an apportionment of \$5,170,610 in federal Section 5307 funds and an apportionment of \$457,501 in federal Section 5339 funds from the Reading Urbanized Area.

The proposed FFY 2024-2025 Reading Program of Projects follows.

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Reading, PA Urbanized Area

1. ADA Services (\$256,688 Federal) (\$320,860 Total) (Section 5307)

This project funds the cost of providing ADA paratransit service for persons with disabilities that complements the existing fixed route service operated in Berks County. As provided for under federal guidelines, an amount up to ten percent (10%) of the annual federal funding allocation to the Reading Urbanized Area is allowable to be used to fund ADA Services.
- 2a. Purchase One (1) Fixed Route Bus (\$583,639 Federal) (\$729,549 Total)(Section 5307)

SCTA will implement a program providing for the regular replacement of buses used in its Reading operation that have met their useful service life of 12 years. This project provides for the purchase of one (1) 40 foot Fixed Route bus. This bus will replace one (1) 2015 Gillig hybrid electric-diesel bus in FY 2028. SCTA will continue the program to purchase alternative fueled buses.
- 2b. Purchase One (1) Fixed Route Bus (\$457,501 Federal) (\$571,876 Total)(Section 5339)

SCTA will implement a program providing for the regular replacement of buses used in its Reading operation that have met their useful service life of 12 years. This project provides for the purchase of one (1) 40 foot Fixed Route bus. This bus will replace one (1) 2015 Gillig hybrid electric-diesel bus in FY 2028. SCTA will continue the program to purchase alternative fueled buses. The Section 5339 Bus and Bus Facilities program is continued under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law: Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act federal transportation authorizing legislation.
- 2c. Purchase Sixteen (16) Shared-Ride Cutaway Buses (\$1,255,184 Federal) (\$2,058,532 Total)(Sections 5307 & 5310)

SCTA will implement a program providing for the regular replacement of shared-ride vehicles used in its Reading operation. This project provides for the purchase of sixteen (16) shared-ride cutaway buses. These cutaway buses will replace sixteen (16) 2021 Ford Phoenix cutaways that have met their useful service life of 5 years. This project is funded with state funds received from PennDOT that includes federal section 5310 funds in the amount of \$391,641 and state 1516 CTC funds in the amount of \$411,707.
3. Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (\$38,780 Federal) (\$48,475 Total)(Section 5307)

As provided for under federal guidelines of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, 0.75% of the annual federal funding allocation to the Reading Urbanized Area will be used to fund elements of the Agency Safety Plan including but not limited to establishing a risk reduction program; establishing performance targets; purchasing replacement rolling stock; modifications to rolling stock; and preventive maintenance activities that ensure SCTA's fleet is safe and in a state of good repair.
4. Facilities/Equipment Rehab, Upgrades & Improvements (\$2,596,319 Federal) (\$3,245,399 Total)(Section 5307)

SCTA will implement a program providing for the rehab, upgrades and improvements to its facilities and equipment. This project provides for upgrades and improvements to the N 11th Street Operations Center in the total amount of \$2,445,399.00 that includes, but not limited to, replacement of the underground unleaded fuel tank to an above ground fuel tank; replacement of the oil-water separator; completion of the solar panel project; rehab the driver breakroom and shop bay; and associated miscellaneous facility updates and improvements. This project also includes the installation of a rooftop solar panel array at the BARTA Transportation Center in the total amount of \$800,000.00.

5. Purchase Fare Collection Equipment (\$440,000 Federal) (\$550,000 Total)(Section 5307)
SCTA will implement a program providing for the upgrading and replacement of equipment used in its Reading operation. This project includes the purchase of mobile ticketing fare collection equipment for the shared-ride vehicles; an upgrade to the fixed route bus mobile ticketing fare collection equipment; and miscellaneous hardware components and software to ensure the authority is operating at its most efficient.