

## National Conference of State Legislatures Office of State-Federal Relations Feb. 4, 2013

## FTA Utilizes Hurricane Sandy Aid

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) <u>announced the availability of \$2 billion</u> in Hurricane Sandy emergency aid for transit agencies in the affected areas through its new <u>Emergency Relief Program</u>. This is the first installment of the \$10.9 billion that was appropriated to the agency in the <u>Disaster Relief Appropriations Act</u> (signed by the President, Jan. 29) which will go to reimburse state and local transportation services for expenses incurred during the Hurricane, including equipment damage, evacuation costs, rescue operations and more. For specific information related to the release of these funds please review the <u>notice of funding availability</u>.

Additionally, FTA noted that consistent with the requirements of the <u>Disaster Relief Appropriations Act</u>, the remaining disaster relief funds will be made available after FTA issues interim regulations. For the most part, the FTA will cover 90 percent of the cost of transit-related operating and capital projects undertaken in response to Hurricane Sandy.

FTA will begin accepting applications for response and recovery costs already paid, existing contracts and commitments, and contracts out for bid but not yet finalized. Applications for these categories are due by March 4.

If you have any questions or would like further information please contact <u>Ben Husch</u> (202-624-7779) or <u>Melanie Condon</u> (202-624-3597).