In Pursuit of Federal Funding:
Should I Stay or Should I Go?

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If I were you, I’d wonder.....

• Who are these Fed’s? *And why do they do what they do?*

• How do I decide if the money is worth it? *Do I really want to play with them?*

• Hasn’t someone been thru this before? *Can anyone help me?*

• What’s up with these rules I hear about? *Is there any hope?*
The New Starts Environment

315 Projects
16 FFGAs, 22 FD/PE, 100 AA

Office of the Secretary

Press

FTA

Inspector General

Govt Accounting Office

Senate Authorizing Majority/Minority

Senate Appropriations Majority/Minority

House Authorizing Majority/Minority

House Appropriations Majority/Minority

Individual Senate and House Members

White House

OMB
Key Factors in Local Decision to Pursue Federal Funding

- Impact on project schedule and cost
- Project “competitiveness” in New Starts rating
- Staging within regional program of projects
- Congressional support and commitment
- Local support and commitment
Lessons Learned

- Good projects emerge from good planning
- Don’t rush into decisions
- Be realistic in costs, ridership, funding estimates
- Secure needed financing and governing commitments
- Maintain strong public and business support
- Tie up all the loose ends
Key Schedule and Cost Risks

- Utility locations and conditions
- Real estate and right-of-way
- Third party agreements
- Scope creep and design changes
- Government and regulatory approval schedule
- Vehicles and systems
- Market conditions
Industry Comments to Proposed Rule

- Simplify rating and project development process
- Increase emphasis on land use and economic development benefits
- Consider mix of quantitative and qualitative measures
- Reduce emphasis on current measure of cost effectiveness in ratings and funding decisions
- Save time and cost in project delivery