Examples of Transit System Funding by Governance Model

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<th>Composition of Transit System Funding</th>
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<td><strong>State Transit Agency</strong></td>
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| **Massachusetts** MassDOT’s Rail and Transit Division includes Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) and 15 Regional Transit Authorities (RTAs)** | MBTA’s primary operating budget funding sources (2014 Operating Budget):  
  - Dedicated statewide sales tax (43%)  
  - Farebox (32%)  
  - State assistance, portion contractually required (15%)  
  - Dedicated local assessments (8%)  
  - Non-fare operating revenues (3%)  
    - Advertising  
    - Other real estate operations  
    - Parking fees  
Primary capital budget funding sources (2014-18 Capital Investment Program):  
  - State funding (57%)  
  - FTA grants (33%)  
  - MBTA Revenue Bonds (9%)  
  - Homeland security funding (1%) |  
  - Dedicated local assessments on the 175 cities and towns served by MBTA. Assessments are determined according to a weighted population formula and MBTA level of service.  
  - Dedicated sales tax from a 1% statewide sales tax, equivalent to 16% of statewide tax receipts based on 6.25% tax rate. MBTA also is provided a minimum dollar amount guarantee of sales tax revenues by the State if receipts decline. |
| **Sample RTA: Worcester RTA (WRTA), a political subdivision of MassDOT, provides bus and paratransit services via contracted providers in city of Worcester and 34 surrounding communities.** | WRTA’s primary operating funding sources (2012 CAFR):  
  - State assistance (49.5%)  
  - Federal assistance (21.7%)  
  - Member municipality assessments (20.8%)  
  - Farebox (7.3%)  
  - Advertising (0.7%)  
Primary capital funding sources (2012 CAFR):  
  - Federal grants (95%)  
  - State grants (5%) |               |
| **NJ Transit** is the nation’s third largest provider of bus, rail and light rail transit. The agency operates a fleet of 2,027 buses, 711 trains and 45 light rail vehicles.** | NJ Transit’s primary operating budget funding sources (2014 budget):  
  - Farebox (47.4%)  
  - State and federal funding (43.0%)  
  - Commercial revenue (advertising, other) (5.8%)  
  - State operating assistance (3.8%)  
**NJ Transit’s primary capital budget funding sources (2014 budget):  
  - State funds (40.4%)  
  - Federal funds (38.1%)  
  - Federal FHWA flexible funds (18.5%)  
  - Other (3.0%) | NJ Transit’s farebox and commercial revenues cover over 50% of operating expenses. |
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<td><strong>General Purpose Transit Authority/District</strong></td>
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<td>• <strong>1% Sales and Use Tax</strong>, within the boundaries of Cuyahoga County, approved by County voters in 1975 &amp; of unlimited duration.</td>
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| **Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority (GCRTA),** an independent political subdivision of the State, provides virtually all mass transportation within Cuyahoga County delivering bus, paratransit, heavy rail and light rail services. | **Primary operating budget** funding sources (2013 Operating Budget):  
• Sales & Use Taxes (71%)  
• Passenger Fares (19.6%)  
• State and Federal grants (8.5%)  
• Advertising and concessions (0.4%)  
**Primary capital budget** funding sources (2013 CIP):  
• Federal grants (74%)  
• Cleveland general funds (24%)  
• State grants (2%)  
• Debt proceeds – occasional use | |
| **Port Authority of Allegheny County** provides public transportation services throughout Pittsburgh and Allegheny County including bus, light rail, incline, and paratransit services. | **Primary operating budget** funding sources (2013 Budget):  
• Farebox (29%)  
• State operating assistance (largely via Act 44 transfer of tolls from Turnpike) (50%)  
• County operating assistance (alcoholic beverage and rental vehicle tax receipts and portion of 1% County sales and use tax) (9%)  
• Federal & State operating grants (12%)  
**Primary capital budget** funding sources (2013 Budget):  
• State Act 44 funding (47%)  
• Federal grants (47%)  
• County local matching funds (6%) | • **$2 rental car fee** enacted in County to support Port Authority transit services  
• Under Act 44 of the Pennsylvania General Assembly (2007), the **Pennsylvania Turnpike** was mandated to provide annual funding for broader Commonwealth transportation needs. |
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| *Denver Regional Transportation District (RTD)* provides bus, light rail, and commuter rail services across eight counties in the Denver metropolitan area. | Primary *operating* budget funding sources (2013 budget):  
  - Sales and Use Tax (68%)  
  - Farebox (17%)  
  - Federal Grants (12.5%)  
  - Advertising (0.5%)  
  - Other (2%)  
Primary *capital* budget funding sources (2013 budget):  
  - Private and local financing (45%)  
  - Federal grants (39%)  
  - Bonds (15%)  | 1% *sales tax*, collected by State for RTD, with 0.4% dedicated to expansion program (FasTracks).  
**Private and local financing,** funding from an entity other than RTD, e.g., Eagle project’s public-private partnership includes private financing of some project costs. |
| *New York MTA,* North America’s largest transportation network, serving 15.1 million people in the 5,000-square-mile metropolitan New York area. MTA operates subways, buses and commuter railroads and bridges and tunnels. | Primary *operating* budget funding sources (2014 Prelim budget):  
  - Farebox revenue (40%)  
  - Dedicated taxes (36%)  
    - Metropolitan Mass Transportation Operating Assistance (MMTOA)  
    - Petroleum business tax receipts  
    - Mortgage recording tax  
    - Urban Tax  
    - Metropolitan Commuter Transportation Mobility Tax  
  - Toll revenue (12%)  
  - State & Local subsidies (7%)  
  - Other (5%)  
Primary *capital* budget funding sources (2010-14 capital plan amendment):  
  - Bonds (39%)  
  - Federal grants (25%)  
  - Super Storm Sandy insurance and federal reimbursement (27%)  
  - City funds (2%)  
  - State funds (2%)  
  - Other (5%)  | *Portion of statewide taxes/fees:*  
  petroleum business privilege tax;  
  gas/diesel tax ($0.04/$0.08/gal),  
  motor vehicle registration & driver license fees  
**Metropolitan Commuter Transportation Mobility Tax:** Between 0.11% & 0.34% on payroll expenses in MCTD*  
**MTA aid taxes:** 5% on car rentals;  
$0.50 per ride originating in City;  
$50 auto registration fee, $1 learner’s permit fee  
**Mortgage Recording Taxes:** 0.30% recording tax & 0.25% institutional lender tax in MCTD*  
**Commercial Real Estate Transaction Taxes:** In City, 5/8 of 1% mortgage recording tax & 1% real estate transfer tax (commercial prop. over $500k)  
*Metropolitan commuter transportation district: Counties of New York (Manhattan), Bronx, Kings (Brooklyn), Queens, Richmond (Staten Island), Rockland, Nassau, Suffolk, Orange, Putnam, Dutchess, and Westchester.*
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| **Virginia Railway Express (VRE), a partnership of two political subdivisions of Virginia (Northern Virginia Transportation Commission & Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission), provides commuter rail service from Northern Virginia to Alexandria, Crystal City and Washington, D.C., operating 32 trains from 18 stations** | Primary operating and capital budget funding sources include (2012 CAFR):  
- Passenger revenue (38%)  
- Federal grants (29%) (largely for capital)  
- Virginia grants (16%) (roughly even split between capital and operating)  
- Jurisdiction contributions (17%)* (operating)  
- Equipment rentals (0.3%)  

*Prince William County, Fairfax County, Stafford County, Manassas, Spotsylvania County, Manassas Park, Fredericksburg, Arlington County, Alexandria | A significant portion of VRE’s funding is from **jurisdictional contributions** apportioned through a formula based on ridership, supplemented by voluntary donations from contributing jurisdictions (Arlington County and the City of Alexandria). |
| **Trinity Railway Express (TRE) provides commuter rail service between Fort Worth and Dallas. The Fort Worth Transportation Authority (The T) and Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) cooperatively own and operate TRE.** | Primary operating and capital funding sources include:  
- Freight railroad operating agreement fees  
- Right of way lease revenues  
- Remaining costs are split by The T and DART via agreement. Both The T and DART are primarily funded via a combination of:  
  o Dedicated sales tax revenues  
  o Federal and state assistance | **Track use agreements with four freight railroads** under which the railroads operate on the TRE corridor for a fee. The revenues offset O&M costs. |
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| Charlotte Area Transit System (CATS), a department within the City of Charlotte, operates bus, light rail and paratransit services. | **Primary operating** budget funding sources include (2013 budget):  
  • Sales Tax (49%)  
  • Passenger fares (24%)  
  • Local operating assistance (15%)  
    o City of Charlotte (99%)  
    o Mecklenburg County (0.9%)  
    o Huntersville (0.1%)  
  • State operating assistance (11%)  
  • Advertising (1.3%)  
  • Other (0.7%)  
**Primary capital budget funding sources include (2013 budget):**  
  • Federal grants (67%)  
  • State grants (21%)  
  • Contribution from operating (7%)  
  • Other (5%) | • Operated as an **enterprise fund of the City**  
  • North Carolina General Assembly passed legislation in 1998 to allow citizens of Mecklenburg County to enact a **local sales tax** dedicated to public transit; sales tax was reaffirmed in 2007  
  • Legislation requires **local operating assistance** be maintained |
| Arlington Transit (ART) operates bus services within Arlington County, VA, supplementing Metrobus with cross-County routes and neighborhood connections to Metrorail. | Primarily funded out of County general funds. Some capital funded via commercial real estate tax | In 2008, County Board adopted a **commercial real estate tax rate of $0.125 per $100 of assessed value of commercial and industrial real property**. Expected to generate $24M in 2013, serves as a funding source for County’s investments in transportation infrastructure (not just transit). |