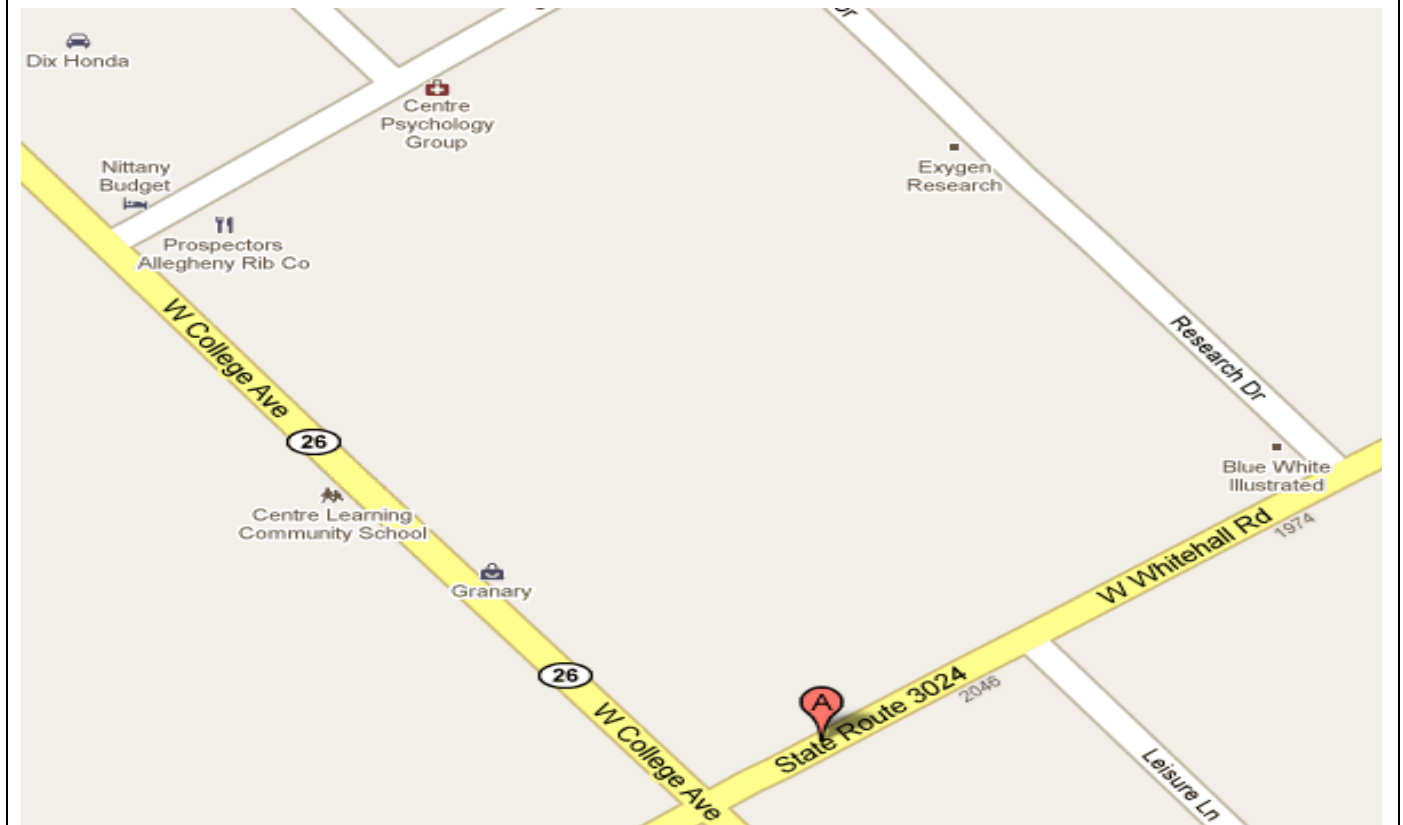


PROJECT REQUEST FORM

1) Project Name:	Operations and Maintenance Facility Expansion		
2) Project Location:	CATA's existing facility at 2081 West Whitehall Road in Ferguson Township		
3) Applicant:	Centre Area Transportation Authority (CATA)		
4) Contact Person:	Gregory M. Kausch		
5) Phone:	(814) 238-2282 x133		
6) Fax:	(814) 238-7643		
7) Email:	gkausch@crcog.net		
8) Mailing Address:	2081 West Whitehall Road		
9) City:	State College, PA	10) Zip Code:	16801

11) Project Type (please check only one):		
A) Bicycle/Pedestrian Facility		Route #:
B) Bridge – Local System		Route #:
C) Bridge – State System		Route #:
D) Highway		Route #:
E) Public Transportation	X	Route: N/A
F) Rail		Line:
G) Other		

12) Please attach a location map and photo(s).



13) Please provide a brief (one or two sentence) description of the project :

This project will expand and update CATA's bus maintenance, servicing and storage facilities in Ferguson Township, Centre County.

14) Please describe the project being requested, specifically what issues/problems are present and how this project will improve conditions:

CATA constructed its current operating and maintenance facility in 1990. Over the ensuing twenty years, growth in the State College area and the increasing utilization of public transportation have caused CATA's fleet to more than double in size, to our current roster of 62 buses, four paratransit vans, and 22 vanpool vans, plus over a dozen service vehicles. As a result our vehicle maintenance, servicing and storage areas have become completely inadequate. CATA has programmed funding in the current fiscal year to begin the architectural and engineering work; when this is completed, the actual facility will be constructed.

At a minimum, the facility expansion is expected to:

- Include space for the indoor storage of 80 forty-foot buses and 10 service vehicles.
- Provide outdoor storage space for a total of 20 vanpool vans and support vehicles.
- Be able to support nightly bus servicing at the rate of ten buses per hour.
- Accommodate the future maintenance, servicing and storage of 60' articulated buses.
- Include a parts room sufficient to support a total fleet of 140 assorted vehicles.
- Include office, locker room and restroom space as appropriate.
- Incorporate environmental features sufficient to achieve a silver LEED certification.

SAFETY & SECURITY

Do you believe this project will:

15) Reduce crash rate?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A
<i>If yes, please explain:</i>			

16) Reduce conflicts between motorized and non-motorized transportation modes (Pedestrian/Bicycle/Buggy)?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A
<i>If yes, please explain and note if a pedestrian/bicycle/buggy amenity will be maintained or added as part of the project:</i>			

17) Improve intersection(s) and/or roadway alignment(s)?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A
<i>If yes, please explain and note the intersection(s) that will be affected:</i>			

18) Improve the security of the traveling public (Ex. Improves upon incident response, establishes detour/evacuation routes, implements security features on public transportation vehicles and facilities)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
<i>If yes, please explain:</i>			
<p>By virtue of improving the space available for vehicle maintenance activities, and expanding capability for these activities, we believe that this expansion will contribute favorably to the safety of CATA vehicles and the passengers who ride them. Moreover, mass transportation plays a documented, vital role in response to, and evacuation from, natural and man-made disasters.</p>			

PRESERVATION OF THE EXISTING TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

Do you believe this project will:

19) Prolong the useful life of the transportation system and infrastructure through reconstruction, rehabilitation and preventative maintenance?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
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If yes, please explain:

By expanding the space available for maintenance activities, allowing for increased maintenance capabilities, and including sufficient space for all vehicles to be stored under one roof, we believe that this project will result in a fleet that reflects a better overall state of maintenance and a longer expected useful life.

20) Rehabilitate and modernize public transportation facilities or fleet?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
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If yes, please explain:

This project would clearly modernize CATA's operations and maintenance facility, which has not been upgraded since its initial construction in 1990. Moreover, as mentioned earlier in this document, by expanding the space available for maintenance activities, allowing for increased maintenance capabilities, and including sufficient space for all vehicles to be stored under one roof, we believe that this project will result in a fleet that reflects a better overall state of maintenance and a longer expected useful life.

21) Improve ride quality?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A
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If yes, please explain and provide current International Roughness Index:

EFFICIENT SYSTEM MANAGEMENT & OPERATION

Do you believe this project will:

22) Reduce congestion, improve Level of Service and reduce travel times within the project area?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
<i>If yes, please explain and note how this project may impact adjacent routes/travel patterns:</i>			
<p>The foundation of any safe, reliable, valuable mass transportation system is its fleet of vehicles. By enhancing CATA's maintenance capabilities and allowing the agency to cut turnaround time on routine and unexpected maintenance tasks, we believe that this project will contribute favorably towards its goals of reducing congestion and travel times. Moreover, the project will allow CATA to continue to grow, and therefore play an increased role in meeting these challenges.</p>			

23) Increase public transportation service frequency and capacity?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
<i>If yes, please explain:</i>			
<p>Again, by enhancing CATA's maintenance capabilities and allowing the agency to cut turnaround time on routine and unexpected maintenance tasks, we believe that this project will contribute favorably towards its goals of adding to service frequency and capacity. Moreover, the project will allow CATA to continue to grow, and therefore play an increased role in meeting these challenges.</p>			

24) Improve system functionality through improvements such as signal upgrades, Intelligent Transportation System applications and access management approaches?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A
<i>If yes, please explain:</i>			

INTEGRATION & CONNECTIVITY OF THE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

Do you believe this project will:

25) Eliminate/overcome barriers (Ex. Closures, detours & delays, weight restrictions) in key corridors?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A
<i>If yes, please explain and note official detour distances based on factors such as weight restrictions:</i>			

26) Establish/maintain intermodal connections?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
<i>If yes, please explain:</i>			
CATA's existing facility already provides linkages between fixed route public transit, demand responsive services, vanpools, bicyclists, and pedestrians. These linkages will remain unchanged by the project.			

27) Introduce new connections between existing travel patterns (Ex. Street connectivity, linking bicycle/pedestrian routes, connections between transit routes and providers)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
<i>If yes, please explain:</i>			
By increasing CATA's maintenance capacity and capabilities, this project would contribute favorably toward the agency's ability to establish new linkages between modes in areas currently not served, or underserved, by mass transportation.			

28) Align residents with their destinations?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
<i>If yes, please explain:</i>			
In a similar manner, by increasing CATA's maintenance capacity and capabilities, this project would contribute favorably toward the agency's ability to establish new services in areas currently not served, or underserved, by mass transportation.			

ACCESSIBILITY & MOBILITY OPTIONS FOR PEOPLE & FREIGHT

Do you believe this project will:

29) Improve public transportation services: routes, ride share opportunities, vanpools, and park & ride lots?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
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If yes, please explain and include projected ridership:

By enhancing CATA's maintenance capabilities and allowing the agency to cut turnaround time on routine and unexpected maintenance tasks, we believe that this project will contribute favorably towards the efficiency and effectiveness of mass transportation services. Moreover, the project will allow CATA to continue to grow.

30) Improve pedestrian and bicycle facilities?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A
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If yes, please explain:

31) Improve access to airports, freight distribution facilities or major industrial districts?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
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If yes, please explain:

Increased storage and maintenance capacity will allow CATA to expand existing service to the University Park Airport, as well as industrial districts within the Centre Region, including the Science Park Road and Cato Park areas, as appropriate.

32) Implement Complete Streets principles?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A
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If yes, please explain:

CONSISTENCY WITH PLANNED GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT AREAS

Do you believe this project will:

33) Be consistent with the following documents?			
A) County Comprehensive Plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
B) Regional Comprehensive Plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
C) Municipal Comprehensive Plan	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A
D) Municipal Zoning Ordinance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
E) Municipal Official Map	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
<i>If yes to any of the above, please explain:</i>			
<p>This project is fully consistent with the Centre County Comprehensive Plan (Pages E-2 and E-3, Figure 2) and Centre Region Comprehensive Plan (pages 75-76). Moreover, it does not conflict with relevant municipal zoning ordinances or official maps.</p>			

34) Improve/support the existing transportation infrastructure in existing & planned growth areas?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
<i>If yes, please explain:</i>			
<p>This expansion will not promote new growth areas, but rather will take place in an already-existing area of current and planned development activity.</p>			

35) Promotes Smart Growth Principles (Ex. walkable communities, fosters distinct communities & sense of place, supports integration of mixed land uses into communities)?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A
<i>If yes, please explain:</i>			

36) Avoid negative impacts on communities and the environment?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
<i>If no, please explain:</i>			

ENVIRONMENT & AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY

Do you believe this project will:

37) Improve air quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
<i>If yes, please explain:</i> By increasing storage and maintenance capacity and capability, and allowing CATA to grow, this project will allow the agency to consolidate an increasing number of single-occupant vehicle trips into mass transportation trips, and therefore will clearly have a beneficial effect on air quality within the region. Moreover, this project will allow CATA to expand its existing compressed natural gas (CNG) program.			

38) Promote energy conservation?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
<i>If yes, please explain:</i> Again, by increasing storage and maintenance capacity and capability, and allowing CATA to grow, this project will allow the agency to consolidate an increasing number of single-occupant vehicle trips into mass transportation trips, and therefore will clearly have a beneficial effect on air quality within the region. Moreover, this project will allow CATA to expand its existing compressed natural gas (CNG) program.			

39) Avoid impacts on endangered or threatened species, key natural habitats, agricultural lands and historic & cultural resources?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
<i>If no, please explain:</i> 			

40) Avoid impacts upon water resources (Ex. water recharge areas & exceptional value/high quality streams?)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
<i>If no, please explain and note which water resources may be affected:</i> 			

ECONOMIC VITALITY

Do you believe this project will:

41) Improve access and/or enhance freight movement to regional & national economic centers?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A
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If yes, please explain:

42) Encourage tourism?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
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If yes, please explain:

Increased storage and maintenance capacity will allow CATA to expand existing service for visitors to the Centre Region, as appropriate.

43) Encourage infill development, the redevelopment of brownfield sites within reach of existing infrastructure & the overall redevelopment of core communities?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
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If yes, please explain:

Again, this expansion will not promote new growth areas, but rather will take place in an already-existing area of current and planned development activity.

PRIORITY

44) Is this your highest priority (#1) project?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
<i>Highest priority projects will be granted a half-point (0.5) bonus. Entities requesting projects may submit only one highest priority project.</i>			

45) If this is not your #1 priority, what rank did you assign this project?	N/A
<i>Municipalities may submit as many projects as they wish. The CCMPO requests that you rank all of your candidate projects.</i>	

COST

46) What is the total estimated cost?	\$5,500,000
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47) What is the cost by project phase, if known?	
A) Preliminary Engineering	\$500,000
B) Final Design	N/A
C) Utilities	N/A
D) Right of Way	N/A
E) Construction	\$5,000,000 split between two construction phases