



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Transit
Administration**

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January 28, 2008

Region I Advisory No. 2008-05

Subject: 2008 Public Real Estate Education Symposium (PRES)

Dear Colleague:

The purpose of this letter is to encourage transit agencies to send employees involved in real estate activities to the International Right of Way Association's (IRWA) 2008 Public Real Estate Education Symposium (PRES) scheduled for February 12-14, 2008 in Dallas, Texas. This three-day event offers over twenty transportation educational sessions.

These sessions promise to be timely and educational. Added to this year's conference will be an extensive review of lessons-learned from recent FTA project reviews, and a discussion of the proposed real estate changes to FTA Circular 5010.1C. Additional topics include the following:

- The Role of Real Estate Consultants on Project Management Oversight (PMO) contracts;
- Buy Real Estate not Trouble on FTA projects;
- Federal Transit Administration Joint Development Projects;
- Dedications, Donations, and In-Kind Contributions;
- Relocation Planning and Advisory Services; and,
- FTA "Stump the Chumps" – A Panel will discuss questions on Acquiring Land for FTA Projects.

This is an excellent opportunity for our grantees learn what is required on federally supported projects. As in the past on FTA-related training, grantees can bill a Federal project for the cost of their attendance. For additional information, registration and hotel accommodations go to the PRES page on the IRWA web site at:

<http://www.irwaonline.org/eweb/dynamicpage.aspx?webcode=annsymp>.

Whether you have an established real estate program or propose starting one, Region I encourages all its grantees to take advantage of this valuable resource, so we hope to see many of you there. If you have general questions about the PRES program, please call Matt Keamy of my staff at (617) 494-3038.

Sincerely,

Richard H. Doyle
Regional Administrator