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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## CityBus Awarded Safety Grant by Federal Transit Administration

**Lafayette, Ind.:** CityBus is pleased to announce that it is the recipient of a Federal Transit Administration competitive grant award of \$485,760 for safety related projects. CityBus will use the funding to install pedestrian detection systems on its fleet of nearly seventy fixed route vehicles. The total amount of the project including local funds comes to \$607,200.

The funding comes from a Section 5339 Bus and Bus Facilities Infrastructure Investment program, which is dedicated to providing funding for capital projects that improve, rehabilitate or replace existing transit vehicles and vehicle equipment. CityBus applied for the grant with support from Senator Joe Donnelly, Representative Todd Rokita, Mayor Tony Roswarski of Lafayette, Mayor John Dennis of West Lafayette and the Area Plan Commission, the policy-making organization tasked with overseeing zoning issues in Tippecanoe County.

The system that CityBus will install will cost about \$8,000 per vehicle, with some money set aside for replacement parts. Bus operators are alerted any time a pedestrian enters a blind spot near the vehicle. CityBus applied for the funds in response to the growing population density in downtown Lafayette and West Lafayette. "We are keeping an eye on the increasing density of the urban development taking place near campus," said Bryce Gibson, manager of development. "Our drivers are always vigilant for potential vehicle-pedestrian conflicts. We want to make sure they have all the tools they need to avoid a tragic situation."

The agency operates hundreds of thousands of miles on some of the busiest streets in the Greater Lafayette area. The goal of this project is to add an extra layer of protection for pedestrians. "Safety is a key tenet at CityBus. It is baked into every aspect of everything we do here," said Martin Sennett, CityBus general manager. "With the reconfiguration of State Street and the addition of even more bicycle and pedestrian facilities, we knew it would be necessary for CityBus to take additional precautionary measures to ensure the safety of all. We are pleased that our local elected leaders and the Federal Transit Administration agree."

CityBus plans to begin upgrading its vehicles with the new technology this fall.

Riders are encouraged to stay current with the most up to date information by signing up for email and text alerts and using the CityBus real-time mobile bus tracker, DoubleMap. Sign up for email alerts at <http://bit.ly/CBemailalerts>. Sign up for text alerts by texting "gocitybus" to 64600. Standard rates apply.

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*CityBus, the operating name for Greater Lafayette Public Transportation Corporation, is a municipal corporation established in 1971. CityBus provides over 4.5 million rides annually for passengers in the Greater Lafayette area, including ADA paratransit services for people with disabilities.*  
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