

## ICCT Clearinghouse Overview

### **History:**

The Interagency Coordinating Committee on Transportation (ICCT) was created by Public Act 93-0185 in July 2003.

### **Purpose:**

Find ways to help transit disadvantaged citizens of Illinois (older adults, individuals with disabilities, people with low income, and those living in rural areas) access jobs, education, and other activities important to their health and well-being.

The ICCT works at both the state agency and local level and is chaired by the Office of the Governor.

### **Top Down:**

State agencies that fund transportation programs for disadvantaged populations, as well as related non-government service agencies, meet to discuss mutual needs of agencies and stakeholders, leading to policy changes aimed at satisfying those needs.

### **Bottom Up:**

In 2005, the ICCT Clearinghouse was established at the Rural Transit Assistance Center, a unit of the Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs at Western Illinois University. The clearinghouse provides technical assistance to rural counties which wish to develop new public transportation systems or enhance existing systems. Via coordinating the existing resources within the county, the new or enhanced systems are designed to serve all populations.

## **ICCT Clearinghouse and the Primer Process**

When the ICCT Clearinghouse was formed in 2005, 35 of 96 rural Illinois counties did not have a public transportation grant. In 2006 the clearinghouse created the Transportation Coordination Primer Process to help counties pull together stakeholders, assess needs and resources, and develop countywide public transportation systems to meet individual needs. The step-by-step process is facilitated by clearinghouse staff to ensure a standard delivery methodology is used statewide.

### **The Primer Process**

There are three phases of the Primer Process:

1. Create a Transit Partnership Group (TPG).
2. Complete a broad-based needs and resource assessment.
3. Develop an action plan and system model, create a budget, and apply for funding.

Community input is encouraged and TPG meetings are open to all. Although the Process is long term and takes a minimum of two years to complete, by the end of Phase Three the group will have created local support for the public transportation grant and will have developed a transit system that meets local needs and reduces duplication of services.

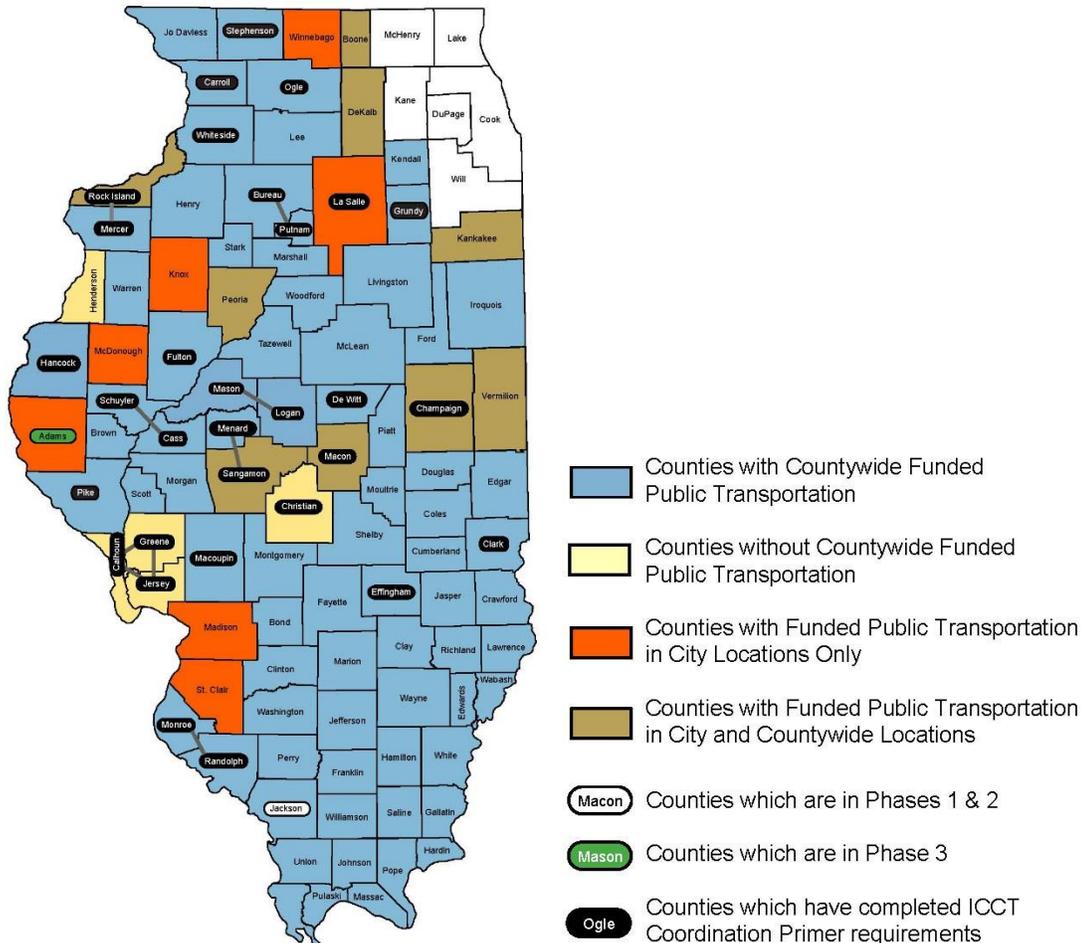
## Results of the Primer Process

### State:

In March 2007, the IDOT Division of Public and Intermodal Transportation (DPIT) announced an expansion program for rural public transportation. IDOT DPIT mandated that all counties seeking a rural public transportation grant had to complete the Primer Process before being awarded a grant. Furthermore, IDOT DPIT has provided support for the Clearinghouse to continue their technical assistance efforts.

### National:

Also in 2007, the ICCT Coordination Primer received an Excellence in Regional Transportation Award from the National Association on Developmental Organizations.



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