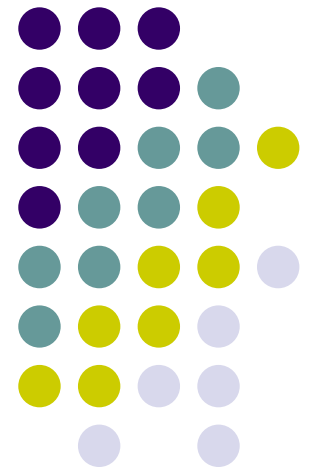
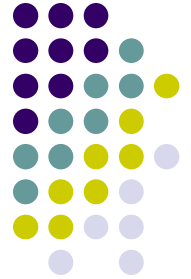


# FTA State Programs Meeting

“Beyond the Recession: Current Issues and the Road Ahead”



# Embracing Change

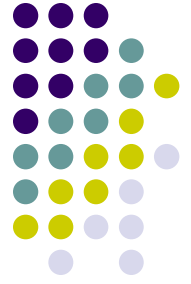


“We are committed to defining and benefiting from the New Normal”

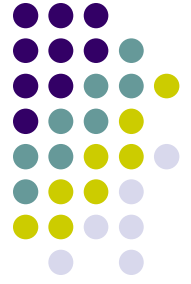
Because we at MDOT recognize that .....

“None of us is as smart as **ALL** of us”

# MS- Financial and Budgetary



- Budget challenges.... but no “crisis”
- Unemployment at 9.2%
- 10% reduction in state agency budgets
- Hiring freeze through June 2009
- Major economic development activities on hold (e.g. Toyota plant & casino expansions)



# Challenges

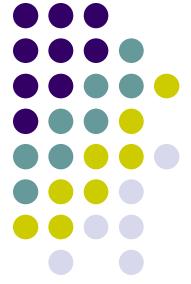
- Ridership reduced due to layoffs (e.g. casinos and other manufacturing destinations)
- DARTS service has seen 25% reduction in farebox revenue
- Local municipalities/government contributions stagnant
- Longer trip distances
- Lower wages

# Opportunities



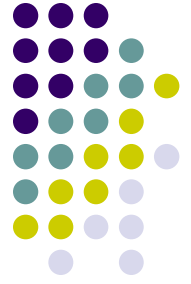
- Growth in job development and training programs means more potential riders
- Growth in healthcare /medical sectors means more demand for access to primary health care centers
- Coordination opportunities increasing( e.g. more contracts, increased collaboration and shared resources)

# Legislative Efforts



- Stabilize Multi-modal Capital Program Funding
- House Bill designed to establish a legislative taskforce to study and make recommendation to legislature and governor- died in committee
- Possible bill to develop government sponsored rideshare projects for State employees

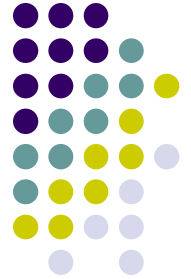
# General Updates-Initiatives



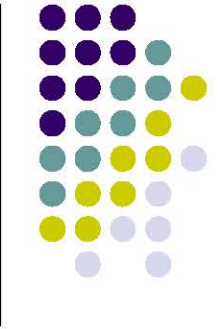
- Statewide Coordinated Planning Initiative
  - Statewide Coordination Plan
  - Statewide Summit
  - Regional Coordination Work Groups
  - MDOT funded regional planning grants
  - Increased public participation/out reach through series of “Town Hall Meetings”
  - Regional Call Center

# Other Initiatives

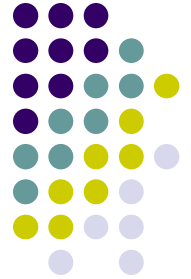
- Statewide ITS Workgroup
- Regional Transportation Centers
- Statewide Marketing/Promotion video







# Questions.....



- For additional Information:
  - Public Transit Division
  - MS Department of Transportation
  - P.O. Box 1850, Mail Code 61-01
  - Jackson, MS 39201-1850
  - 601-359-7800 (p)
  - 601-359-7777(f)