

INFRA **A** INFRASTRUCTURE FOR REBUILDING AMERICA



Outline

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Introduction

- ▶ Discretionary Grant Program
- ▶ \$1.5 billion available for FY17 & FY18
- ▶ INFRA program preserves statutory requirements
- ▶ APPLICATIONS DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 2, 2017 8 PM EST

Eligible Applicants

- ▶ States
- ▶ MPOs with 200,000 population
- ▶ Local Government(s)
- ▶ Political subdivision(s) or State or Local government
- ▶ Public authorities (including port authorities) with a transportation function
- ▶ Federal land management agencies applying jointly with a State(s)
- ▶ Tribal government/consortiums
- ▶ Multi-State or multijurisdictional group of public entities

Eligible Projects

- Highway freight projects carried out on the National Highway Freight Network
- Highway or bridge projects carried out on the National Highway System, including:
 - Projects that add Interstate System capacity to increase mobility
 - Projects located in a national scenic area
- Grade crossing or grade separation projects
- Other freight projects that are:
 - Intermodal/rail freight project
 - Within the boundaries of a public or private freight rail, maritime (including ports) or intermodal facility

Eligible Project Costs

- Development phases
 - Including planning, feasibility analysis, revenue forecasting, environmental review, preliminary engineering, design work, and other pre-construction activities

- Construction activities
 - New construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, property or equipment acquisition, environmental mitigation, construction contingencies, and operational improvements

Minimum Project Size

- ▶ Large Projects
- ▶ The lesser of:
 - ▶ \$100 million
 - ▶ 30 percent of State's FY 2015 apportionment
 - ▶ 50 percent of larger participating State's FY 2015 apportionment
- ▶ Small Projects*
 - ▶ Doesn't meet large project minimum project size
 - ▶ *Previously incurred expenses may count toward meeting minimum project size requirement if they are eligible project costs and were expended as part of the project for which the applicant seeks funding.

Grant Amounts and Cost Share

- ▶ Minimum FASTLANE Grants
 - ▶ \$25 million for large projects
 - ▶ \$5 million for small projects

- ▶ Cost Share
 - ▶ Up to 60 percent FASTLANE grants
 - ▶ Up to 80 percent total Federal

Previously incurred expenses cannot count toward cost share

Requirements for Large and Small Projects

- Large Project Requirements
 - Generates national or regional economic, mobility, or safety benefits
 - Cost-effective
 - Contributes to one or more 23 U.S.C. 150 goals
 - Based on the results of preliminary engineering
 - One or more stable and dependable funding or financing sources
 - Cannot easily be completed without Federal funding
 - Reasonably expected to begin construction 18 months from obligation
- Small Project Considerations
 - Cost-effectiveness
 - Effect on mobility in the project's State or region

Selection Criteria

- ▶ Support for National or Regional Economic Vitality
- ▶ Leveraging of Federal Funding
- ▶ Potential for Innovation
- ▶ Performance and Accountability

Support for National or Regional Economic Vitality

- ▶ Supporting Economic Vitality:
 - ▶ Achieve a significant reduction in traffic fatalities and serious injuries
 - ▶ Improve interactions between roadway users
 - ▶ Eliminate bottlenecks in the freight supply chain
 - ▶ Ensure or restore the good condition of infrastructure that supports commerce and economic growth
 - ▶ Sustain or advance national or regional economic development in areas of need.
 - ▶ Reduce barriers separating workers from employment centers.

Leveraging of Federal Funding

- The Department seeks to leverage INFRA funding with non-federal contributions.
- An application which proposes a 20 percent federal share
- The Department will consider three additional pieces of information in assessing this criterion:
 - The Applicant's available resources or other broader fiscal constraints.
 - If the applicant is a regular recipient of federal funding
 - The Applicant's plan for future operation and maintenance costs associated with the project's life-cycle.

Potential for Innovation

- ▶ DOT is seeking to encourage innovation in three areas:
 - ▶ Environmental review and permitting (New Approach)
 - ▶ Use of experimental project delivery authorities (SEP-14/15)
 - ▶ Safety and technology

Performance and Accountability

- ▶ DOT seeks projects that allow :
 - ▶ Reaching project delivery milestones in a timely manner
 - ▶ Making specific State or local policy changes that advance desirable transportation outcomes
 - ▶ Achieve specific transportation performance objectives that support *economic vitality* or improve safety.

Other Considerations

- Geographic Diversity
 - The Department will consider the contributions to geographic diversity among recipients.
- Project Readiness
 - The Department will consider the risks to successful completion of a project.
 - The Department is required to determine that a large project is reasonably expected to begin construction within 18 months of obligation.

Suggested Application Format

- Application Cover Page
- Project Narrative (25 page limit)
 - I. Project Description
 - II. Project Location
 - III. Project Parties
 - IV. Grant Funds, Sources, and Uses
 - V. Merit Criteria
 - VI. Project Readiness
 - VII. Large/Small Project Requirements
- Appendix
 - Benefit Cost Analysis
 - Supplemental Information (If Applicable)

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- Applications must be submitted by 8:00 PM EDT on November 2, 2017. Applicants are strongly encouraged to make submissions in advance of the deadline.
- To register on Grants.gov, applicants must:
 1. Obtain a Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number;
 2. Register with the System for Award Management (SAM) at www.SAM.gov;
 3. Create a Grants.gov username and password; and
 4. The E-Business Point of Contact (POC) at your organization must respond to the registration email from Grants.gov and login at Grants.gov to authorize you as an Authorized Organization Representative (AOR). Please note that there can be more than one AOR for an organization.
- For complete information and instructions on each of these processes please see instructions on grants.gov registration.

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- For additional INFRA information and how to apply:
www.transportation.gov/buildamerica/INFRAgrants
- For technical questions, please email:
INFRAgrants@dot.gov.