

FEDERAL DISCRETIONARY GRANT PROGRAM (TIGER)

DESCRIPTION

The department has identified candidate transportation projects for submission to the USDOT for grants under the National Infrastructure Investment Program, referred to as TIGER Discretionary Grants (TIGER grants).

This discussion item provides an update to the commission on the development of grant applications.

ISSUES:

- The USDOT is authorized to award \$527 million in TIGER grants under the federal FY 2011 Appropriations Act. Funds will be awarded on a competitive basis for projects that will have a significant impact on the nation, a metropolitan area or a region. The maximum amount that will be awarded to projects in a single state is \$131.7 million.
- The FY 2011 Continuing Appropriations Act allows for up to \$150 million of the \$527 million to be used under the Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act of 1998 (TIFIA) Federal credit assistance program. The USDOT is calling these grants “TIGER TIFIA Payments.” The USDOT reserves the right to offer these payments to a TIGER grant applicant even if it chooses not to fund the grant and the applicant did not request a TIGER TIFIA Payment.
- TxDOT applications for TIGER grants will focus on rail, port and intermodal facilities
- Project list
 - Each public entity is limited to three applications as lead agency
 - \$140 million reserved for rural projects
 - 9 potential projects have been initially identified
 - One multi-state project, that does not count toward the three application limit
 - Some identified projects may fall out as the deadlines near for the commitment of local matching funds or as the cost/benefit ratios are further analyzed
- Pre-application requirements
 - Qualifies applicant to submit TIGER grant application
 - Must be submitted electronically to USDOT by October 3, 2011
 - Must include applicant information, project information and description, funding information and assurances, and NEPA assurance.
 - USDOT will inform project sponsors if eligibility, NEPA and funding assurances are not adequate and must be adjusted as part of the application
- Final applications due October 31, 2011. Projects will be selected no sooner than January 2012. Applicants for TIGER TIFIA Payments need to submit a separate TIFIA letter of interest.

REFERENCES:

- Federal Register, Vol. 76, No. 127, July 1, 2011, Interim Notice of Funding Availability for the Department of Transportation’s National Infrastructure Investments Under the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for 2011; and Request for Comments
- Federal Register, Vol. 76, No. 156, August 12, 2011 Notice of Funding Availability for the Department of Transportation’s National Infrastructure Investments under the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for 2011

DESIRED RESULTS:

Receive direction from the commission regarding candidate projects for TIGER grant applications.

TIGER Discretionary Grants

	Sponsoring Entity	Rural/ Urban	Project Type	Project Name	TIGER Funding Request (million)	Total Project Cost (million)	Status of Environ Clearance	Proposed Lead Agency	Anticipated Project Completion Date
CRP	TxDOT Corpus Christi District / Port of Corpus Christi	Urban	Port/Rail	Joe Fulton corridor upgrades	\$10.0	\$16.0	Corps of Engineers permitted	TxDOT	Aug-14
ODA	TxDOT Odessa District	Rural	Rail	SORR rehabilitation	\$10.0	\$15.0	Completed	TxDOT	Sep-14
FTW	TxDOT Finance Division	Urban	Hwy	North Tarrant Expressway TIFIA	\$537	\$1110	Pending	TxDOT	Jan-18
DAL PAR	TxDOT / Oklahoma DOT / Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department	Urban	Rail	DGNO / TNER KRR rehabilitation	\$21.3	\$28.3	Pending	TxDOT ¹	Jun-14
PAR ATL	North East Texas Rural Rail District	Rural	Rail	NETEX rehabilitation	\$10	\$10	Pending	NETEX Rural Rail District	Jul-14
AUS	TxDOT Austin District City of San Marcos	Urban	Rail/Hwy	Loop 82 San Marcos	10.0	31.4	Pending	City of San Marcos	Feb-14
DAL	TxDOT Finance Division	Urban	Hwy	IH 35 E TIFIA	\$200	\$1500	Pending	NCTCOG	Jul-18
BMT	TxDOT Beaumont District / Liberty County Rural Rail District	Urban	Rail/Hwy	US 90 Dayton	\$50.0	\$50.0	Not started	Liberty County Rail District	Jun-17
SAN	VIA Metropolitan Transit	Urban	Transit	Multi-modal facility	\$6.6	\$11	Pending	VIA Metropolitan Transit	Sep-14

¹ Multistate – does not count against three application limit