

FEDERAL DISCRETIONARY GRANT PROGRAM (TIGER II)

DESCRIPTION

This discussion item focuses on candidate transportation projects for submission to the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) under the National Infrastructure Investment Program, referred to as TIGER II Discretionary Grants.

The USDOT is authorized to award \$600 million in TIGER II Discretionary Grants pursuant to the federal FY 2010 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. On June 8, 2010 the commission directed staff to work with other sponsoring entities to prepare applications for specific projects. This agenda item will allow staff to update the commission on the development of these applications.

ISSUES:

- TIGER II state applications will focus on rail, port and intermodal facilities
- Updated project list
 - Seven out of the ten original projects remain on the list
 - Port of Brownsville and Sabine Pass Port Authority have withdrawn their proposals, others may fall out as the deadlines near for the commitment of local matching funds or as the cost/benefit ratios are further analyzed
 - The siding project on the South Orient Railroad has been withdrawn, since the timing of the monies, if awarded, does not coincide with needs. Local funds are being pursued instead.
- Pre-application requirements
 - Qualifies applicant to submit TIGER II application
 - Submitted electronically to USDOT by July 26, 2010
 - Includes the following:
 - Applicant information
 - Project information and description
 - Funding information and assurances
 - 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 August 23, 2010
 - Projects will be selected no sooner than September 15, 2010

REFERENCES:

- Federal Register, Vol. 75, No. 79, April 26, 2010 Notice, 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 2010; and Request for Comments
- TIGER II Fact Sheet, Federal Highway Administration
- Federal Register, Vol. 75, No. 125, June 30, 2010 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 2010.

DESIRED RESULTS:

Receive direction from the commission regarding candidate projects for TIGER II.

DIST	Sponsoring Entity	Project Type	Project Name	TIGER Funding Request (million)	Total Project Cost (million)	Status of Environ Clearance	Status of STIP	Anticipated Project Completion Date
FTW	North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG)	Rail	Tower 55	40.0	\$91.2	Pending	Included	Oct-12
HOU	Gulf Coast Freight Rail District	Rail	UP Englewood - HBT	\$1.0	\$1.3	Planning	Revision required	Dec-12
CRP	Ports of Corpus Christi and Brownsville	Port/Rail	Strengthen bridges - UP Angleton Subdivision	\$13.2	\$16.5	Approved	Revision required	Dec-12
ELP	TxDOT / El Paso District	Rail	Plan yard relocation – acquire ROW	\$3.0	\$3.6	Planning	Revision required	Jun-12
DAL PAR	TxDOT / Oklahoma DOT / Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department	Rail	DGNO/TNER KRR rehabilitation	\$17.1	\$21.3	Pending	Revision required	Dec-11
PAR ATL	TxDOT / Atlanta and Paris Districts	Rail	NETEX rehabilitation	\$14.3	\$14.3	Pending	Revision required	Jul-12
ODA SJT	TxDOT / Odessa and San Angelo Districts	Rail	SORR rehabilitation	\$19.3	\$25.9	Approved	Included	May-12