

PB Washington Update - Interim Report - June 30, 2011 - FY'11 US DOT NII/TIGER Grant Solicitation Notice

In the July 1, 2011 Federal Register US DOT published the interim FY'11 NII/TIGER Grant application solicitation notice. This notice announces the availability of \$527M in FY'11 TIGER Grant funds, as well as the (mandatory) pre-application and application requirements and the selection criteria. The FY'11 TIGER Grant program is largely the same as last year's TIGER II Grant program with the exception of the following key differences:

1. Although an entity cannot apply solely for planning and design funding because no funding was made available for TIGER Planning grants in FY'11, these activities may be eligible if they are part of an overall construction project.
2. Each applicant may be the lead applicant for no more than three TIGER grant applications. An applicant can, however, be a partnering agency on additional applications or submit additional multi-state applications.
3. An applicant applying for a TIGER TIFIA Payment must also submit a TIFIA letter of interest with their TIGER application.

Like TIGER II, an economic benefit-cost analysis in conformance with US DOT's guidelines is generally required for all TIGER Grant applications.

The Department will accept comments on the Interim NOFA until July 18, 2011. DOT intends to publish a FINAL NOFA on August 1, 2011. In addition, as last year, the Department will require all applicants to submit a pre-application prior to submitting a final application. The pre-application system will open on August 22, 2011. All pre-applications should be submitted by October 3, 2011 at 5:00 PM EST. Final applications will be due on or before October 31, 2011.

Below is the text of US DOT Secretary Ray LaHood's press release on the FY'11 NII/TIGER program.

Secretary LaHood Announces \$527 Million in Funding for New Round of Popular TIGER Grant Program

Competitively Chosen Projects Will Create Jobs, Lay Foundation for Growth

U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood today announced that \$527 million will be available for a third round of the highly successful TIGER (Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery) competitive grant program, which funds innovative transportation projects that will create jobs and have a significant impact on the nation, a region or a metropolitan area.

“Through the TIGER program, we can build transportation projects that are critical to America's economic success and help complete those that might not move forward without this infusion of

funding,” said Secretary LaHood. “This competition empowers local communities to create jobs and build the transportation networks they need in order to win the future.”

In the FY11 budget President Obama signed in April, \$527 million was directed to the Department of Transportation for critical investments in the nation’s transportation infrastructure. States, cities, local governments, and other partnerships and groups will have until this fall to prepare their applications for the popular TIGER program, which has funded high-impact projects including roads, bridges, freight rail, transit buses and streetcars, ports, and bicycle and pedestrian paths.

The previous two rounds of the TIGER grant program provided \$2.1 billion to 126 transportation projects in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Demand for the program has been overwhelming, and during the previous two rounds, the Department of Transportation received more than 2,500 applications requesting more than \$79 billion for transportation projects across the country.

Projects will be selected based on their ability to contribute to the long-term economic competitiveness of the nation, improve the condition of existing transportation facilities and systems, improve energy efficiency and reducing greenhouse gas emissions, improve the safety of U.S. transportation facilities and improve the quality of living and working environments of communities through increased transportation choices and connections. The Department will also focus on projects that are expected to quickly create and preserve jobs and spur rapid increases in economic activity.

For more information, please visit <http://www.dot.gov/tiger/>.
