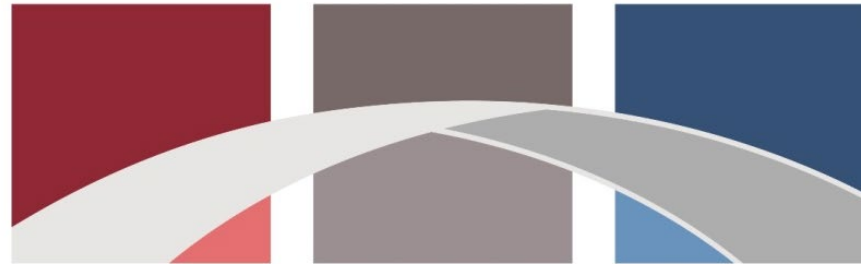


 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



BUILD AMERICA BUREAU

REGIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE ACCELERATORS (RIA) DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM

Notice of Funding Opportunity Informational Webinar

May 1, 2023



About the Build America Bureau

Advancing investment in America's transportation infrastructure by providing **financial** and **technical** assistance

Financial Assistance

Flexible, low-cost, long-term credit assistance (loans, loan guarantees, and lines of credit) – \$100 B available – for a wide range of eligible projects; and tax-exempt bonds – \$15 B available – for public-private partnerships.

Technical Assistance

Grants for project planning and development, community solutions, and advisory services; and opportunities for training and education on the use of innovative project planning, financing, and delivery techniques

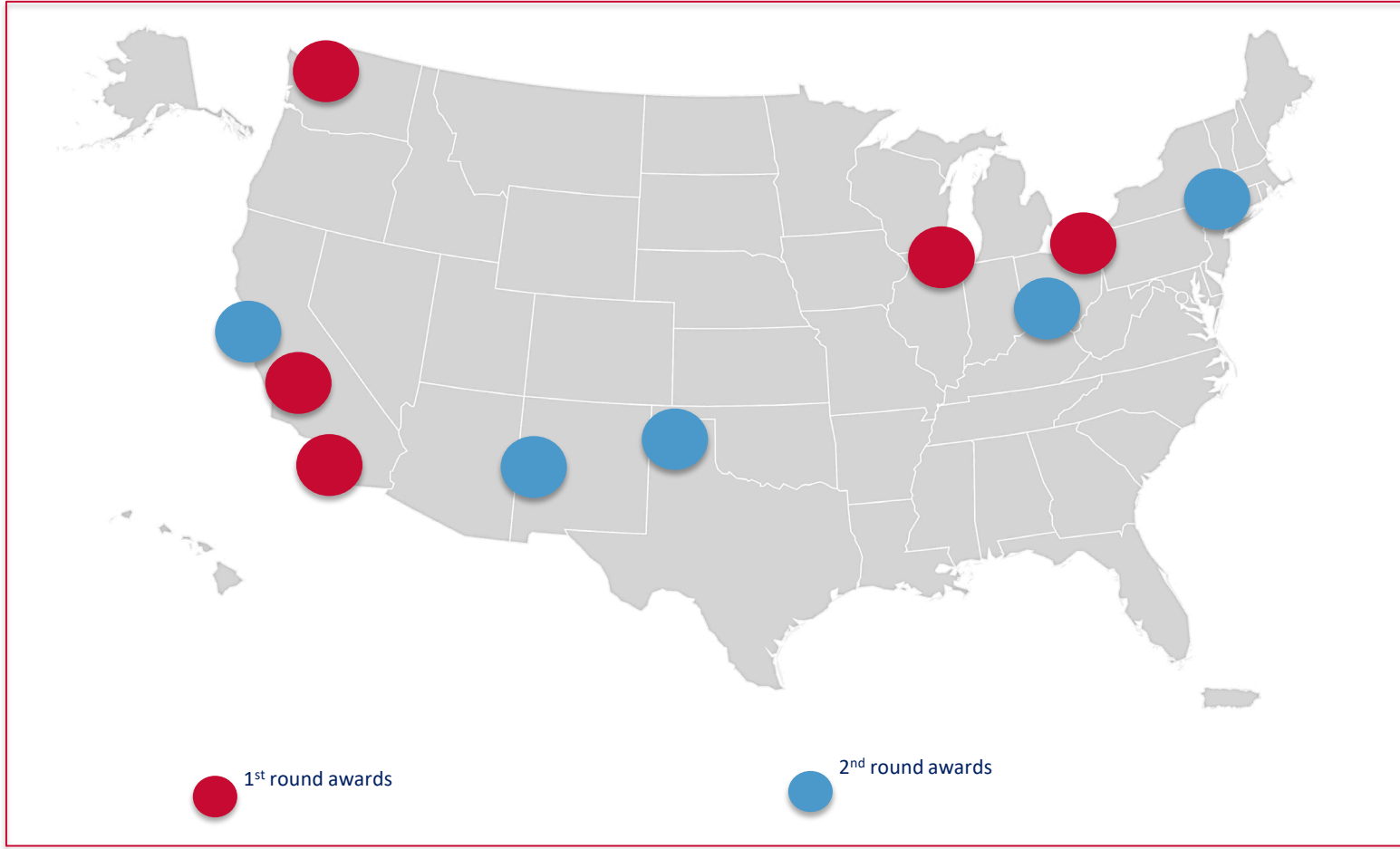


What is a Regional Infrastructure Accelerator (RIA)?

- Established under the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act
 - Part of the Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation (TIFIA) Program
- Regional Infrastructure Accelerators (RIAs):
 - Serve a defined geographic region
 - Act as a resource to the region



10 Regional Infrastructure Accelerators



- \$10M awarded to 10 accelerators in 2 rounds
- 2nd round included a Transit Oriented Development project and regional transit planning
- Additional \$24 M for 3rd NOFO



Program Components

Regional
Approach

Capability

Measures of
Success

Capacity

Pipeline and
Delivery



Program Goals

- ★ Promote innovative financing
- ★ Build capacity for investment of private capital
- ★ Provide technical assistance on best practices
- ★ Demonstrate transparency of project analysis
- ★ Create pipeline of projects
- ★ Bundle small-scale and rural projects
- ★ Reduce transaction costs



Award Timeline and Amounts



- Issued NOFO on April 27, 2023
- Applications due: May 30, 2023
- Award expected in early fall

Number of Awards:

TBD

Size of Award:

\$24 million
available

Funding Period:

2-3 years



Federal Involvement

Cooperative Agreement:

- Technical assistance and guidance
- Close monitoring of performance
- Involvement in technical decisions
- Participation in status meetings





THE NEXT ACCELERATOR COULD BE YOU!

Primary Applicant Public Entities' Potential Partners

- Academia
- Councils
- Councils of Governments
- Counties
- Metropolitan and Rural Planning Organizations
- Multi-State Organizations
- Municipalities
- Political Subdivisions of States or Local Governments
- Port Authorities
- Private Industry
- Regional Transportation Authorities
- Regional Transportation Planning Organizations
- State DOTs
- Special Purpose Districts
- Tribal Governments



Eligibility Requirements

1. U.S. public entity
 - Partnerships accepted if between at least one eligible applicant and another U.S. party
2. Domestic requirement
3. Eligibility for TIFIA and/or RRIF credit assistance
 - Requirements available at www.transportation.gov/BuildAmerica



Evaluation Criteria

- A. Experience and Qualifications
- B. Partnerships
- C. Business Model
- D. Pipeline
- E. Readiness
- F. Underserved Communities
- G. Self Sustainability
- H. Risk
- I. Alignment with Department Priorities



See E.1



A. Experience/Qualifications

- Promoting innovative financing methods
- Providing technical assistance on best practices
- Increasing transparency of project analysis
- Deploying predevelopment capital programs to create a pipeline of projects
- Bundling small-scale and rural projects
- Reducing transaction costs
- Accelerating eligible TIFIA projects

See E.1.A



B. Partnerships

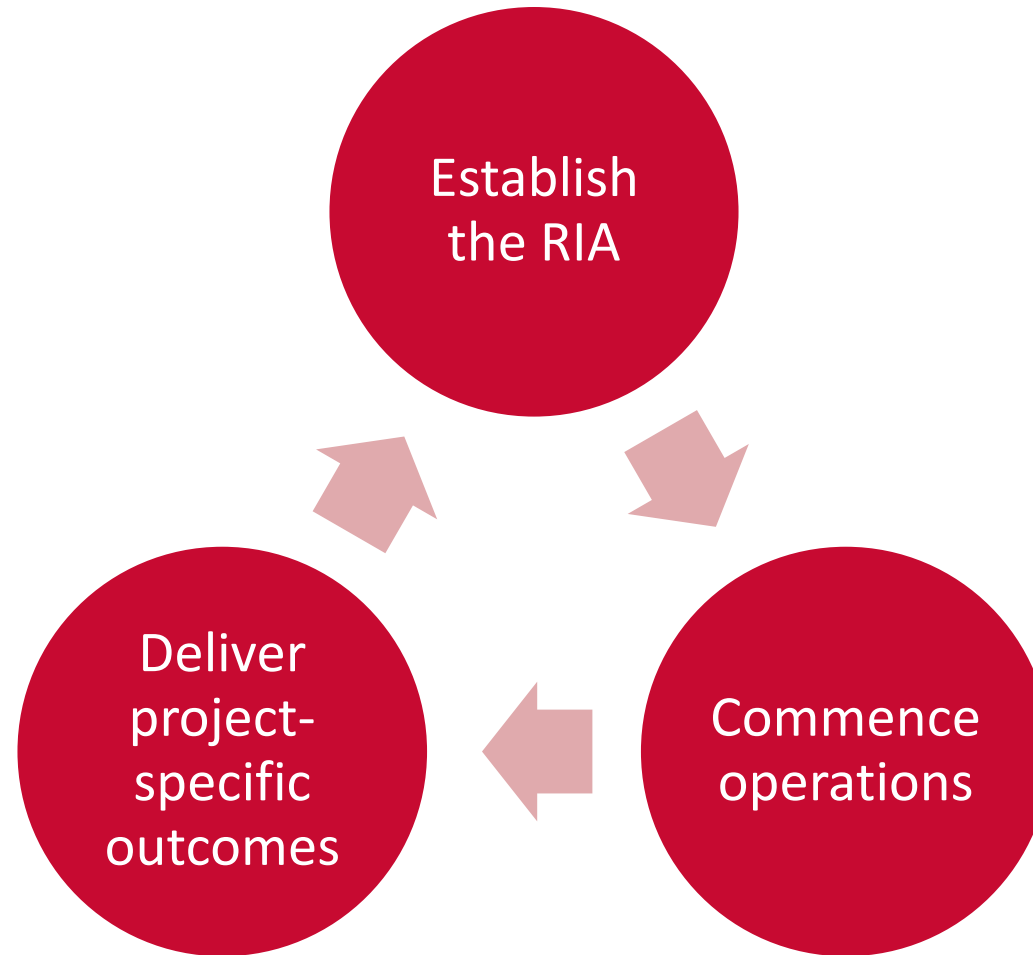
- Demonstrate strong collaboration
- Involve multiple partners
 - Public Sector
 - Private Sector
 - Academic Entities
- Quickly and effectively develop projects



See E.1.B



C. Business Model

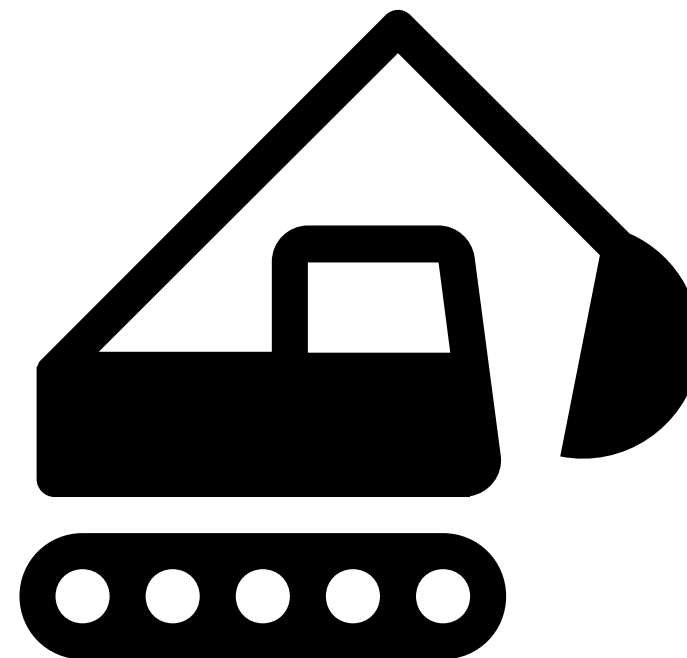


See E.1.C



D. Pipeline

- Propose a pipeline of projects
 - At least one project must be eligible for TIFIA credit assistance
- Number of eligible projects in pipeline
- Local and regional support of the projects



See E.1.D



E. Readiness



- Demonstrate preparedness to commence operations
 - Availability of facilities and equipment
 - Existing governance structure
 - Existing relationships
- Provide proposed budget
- Provide proposed milestones

See E.1.E

F. Underserved Communities

- Addressing challenges of underserved communities
 - Rural areas
 - Areas of persistent poverty
- Overcome common barriers to using TIFIA and RRIF credit assistance
- Identify and address challenges



See E.1.F



G. Self-Sustainability



- Achieve self-sustainability to continue program beyond initial grant
 - Describe how the termination of the RIA might deliver long-term benefits

See E.1.G



H. Risk

- Address the risk to successful implementation and operation
 - How mitigation activities might offset those risks



See E.1.H



I. Alignment with Department Priorities

- Foster a safe transportation system
- Consider climate change and environmental justice
- Increase equity and accessibility
- Deploy innovative technologies and practices
- Maintain and upgrade existing transportation systems



See E.1.I

Assessment of Criteria

- Qualitative rating of criteria
- All equal weight
- Three Ratings:
 - strong
 - moderate
 - marginal



See E.2



Overall Assessment

Application ratings:

“High”

receives a **strong**
rating in at least 6
criteria

“Medium”

receives a rating of
moderate or a
combination of **strong**
and **moderate** in at
least 6 criteria

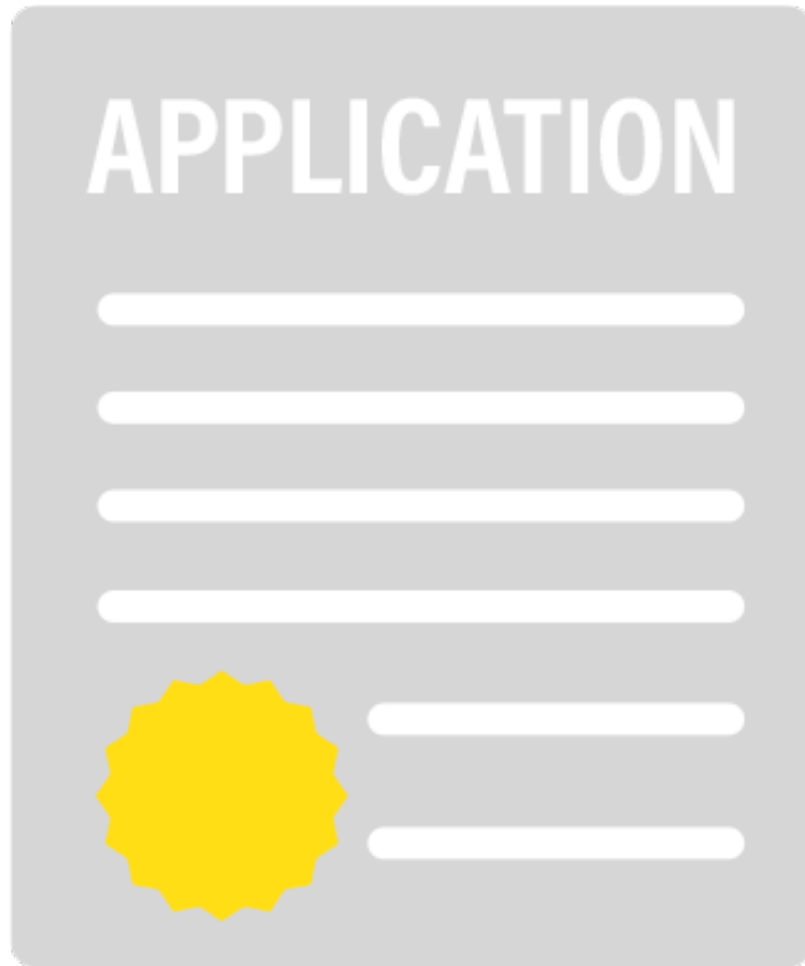
“Low”

receives 5 or more
marginal ratings

See E.2



Application Requirements



- Standard Form 424 on Grants.gov
- Cover page
 - Name of applicant and sponsor
 - Location
 - Region of designation
 - Category of designation
 - Budget amount
- Application narrative

See D.2



Application Format

Section I - Applicant

- Organizational structure
 - Formal/informal relationships
 - Eligibility requirements
- History, qualifications, and experience of key individuals
- Broader context of transportation infrastructure investments



See D.2.b.I



Application Format

Section II - Description of Proposed Geographic/Jurisdictional Region

- Geographic region, jurisdictions, and agencies
 - Rural/urban categorization
- Rationale for constructing the region
 - Regional affiliations
- Unique challenges facing rural transportation networks addressed by the proposal

See D.2.b.II



Application Format

Section III - Accelerator Proposal

- RIA establishment
 - How it would operate
 - Project-specific services
 - Proposed timeline
 - Key milestones
 - Performance targets
- Approach to identifying and building a pipeline of projects
 - Experience and expertise
 - Projects eligible for credit assistance

See D.2.b.III

List of projects

- Name and location
- Sponsor
- Description
- Bureau program most likely to apply (TIFIA, RRIF, PABs)
- Support activities
- Costs
- Timeline



Application Format

Section IV - Budget, Sources, and Uses for Accelerator Funds

- Proposed financial plan and budget
 - Federal grant amount requested
 - Non-Federal matching funds
 - In-kind contributions
 - Other sources
- List of activities, projects, and costs
- Supporting documentation for non-Federal matching funds
- Self-sustainability
 - Description
 - Long-term funds



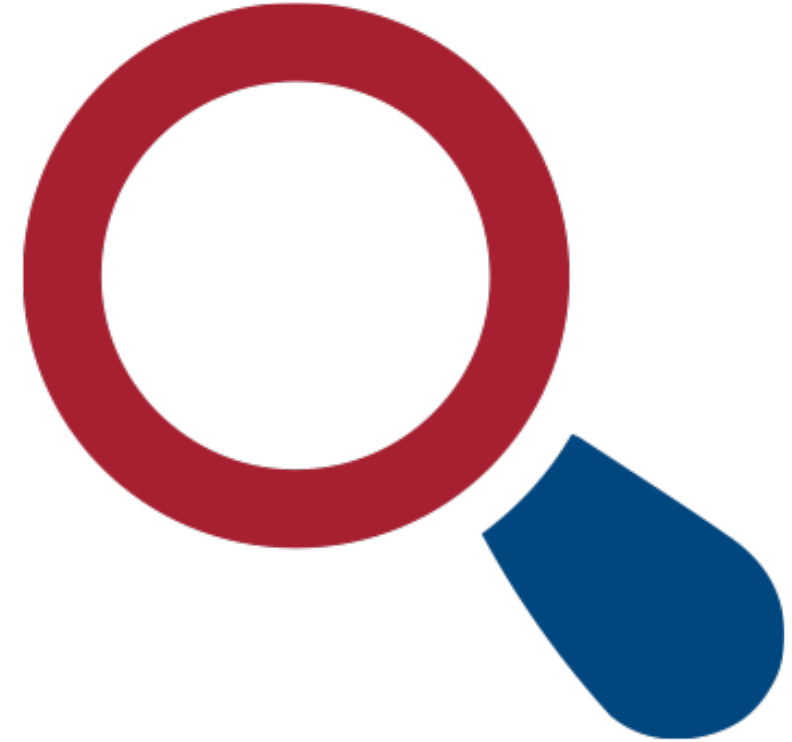
See D.2.b.IV



Application Format

Section V - Selection Criteria

- Alignment with criteria
 - Promote investment in eligible projects
 - Develop a pipeline of regional transportation projects
 - Implement projects with innovative financing methods
- Explicit statements addressing each criterion
- No required format



See D.2.b.V



Participant Agreement

- Conflict of interest
- Disclosure of non-public information
- Use of non-public information for private gain



Conclusion

Questions?
Please post in chat box

Our team will do our best to respond now
and will post all questions and answers on the website.



Contact Us

Questions? Call or email – we are available to help



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