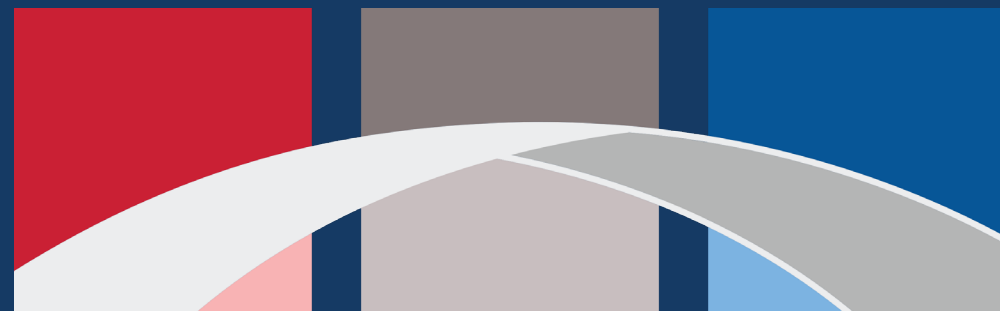




**U.S. Department
of Transportation**



BUILD AMERICA BUREAU

**Innovative Finance and Asset
Concession Grant Program: Expert
Services Grants Webinar**

March 21, 2024

Agenda

- Welcome and Meeting Logistics
- Innovative Finance and Asset Concession Grant Program Overview
- Expert Services Grants Overview
- Application Overview
- Questions and Answers
- Closing/Wrap Up*

*A link to the recorded webinar will be posted on the website

Meeting Logistics (Expert Services Webinar)

Audio/Video

- To listen via computer: Select “Computer Audio”
- To listen via phone:
 - US: +1 669 254 5252
 - Webinar ID: 160 885 0433
 - Passcode: 533026
- All participants will automatically join on mute with cameras off
- This webinar is being recorded

Technical Support

- Email Webconference@dot.gov

Questions for Presenters

- Please type your questions in the Q&A box
- Moderators will address during the webinar Q&A portion and in FAQ posts on the website

More Information

<https://www.transportation.gov/buildamerica/innovativefinancegrants>

U.S. Department of Transportation Strategic Goals



<https://www.transportation.gov/dot-strategic-plan>



U.S. Department of Transportation

Office of the Under Secretary of Transportation Build America Bureau

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| 👤 Outreach | 👤 Risk Management |
| 👤 Technical Assistance | 👤 Underwriting |
| 👤 Project Development | 👤 Portfolio Management |

Operating Administrations

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| • Federal Highway Administration | • Federal Aviation Administration |
| • Federal Transit Administration | • Maritime Administration |
| • Federal Railroad Administration | |

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| 👥 Regional staff, liaisons | 👥 Planning, environment,
construction experts |
| 👥 Grant money | |

Build America Bureau

Advancing Investment in America's Transportation Infrastructure

Point of contact and coordination for federal transportation expertise, credit programs, and ways to access private capital

Financial Assistance

Credit assistance for a wide range of eligible projects, \$100 billion available.

Tax-exempt bonds for public-private partnerships, \$15 billion available.

Technical Assistance

Grants for project planning and development, and community solutions.

Education on innovative project planning, financing tools, and delivery models.

Financing Programs

Low Interest Rates

4.43⁰%

35-year loan, 3/21/2024

TIFIA and RRIF Key Features

- Loans, loan guarantees, and lines of credit
- Negotiable terms and conditions to meet borrower needs and preferences
- Tailored repayment period
 - Up to 35 years (some projects up to 75 years)
 - Optional 5-year deferral after completion
- No pre-payment penalty

TIFIA

Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act of 1998

- Surface transportation and public infrastructure
- Finance up to 49% of eligible project costs

RRIF

Railroad Rehabilitation and Improvement Financing

- Passenger, freight, commuter rail and transit-oriented development
- Finance up to 100% of eligible project costs

Private Activity Bonds

State and local governments issue tax-exempt bonds

- Private entity responsible for debt service
- Can be used alone or in combination with TIFIA and RRIF

Eligible Project Types and Borrowers

	TIFIA	RRIF
Project Types	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roadways and bridges • Transit vehicles and facilities • Bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure • Intelligent transportation systems • Transit-oriented development • Intermodal connectors • Intercity rail and bus vehicles and facilities • Commercial seaports • Airports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Freight rail facilities • Freight transfer facilities • Passenger rail vehicles, stations, and equipment • Transit-oriented development • Intermodal equipment or facilities
Borrowers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State, tribal, county, municipal governments • State infrastructure banks • Private entities • Special purpose authorities • Transportation improvement districts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Railroads • State and local governments • Government-sponsored authorities and corporations • Interstate compacts • Joint ventures

Lending Capacity

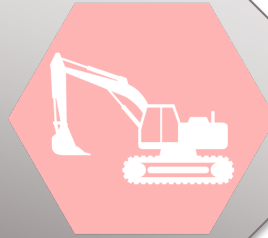
TIFIA
\$70 billion



RRIF
\$30 billion



PABs
\$15 billion



Technical Assistance Grant Programs

Thriving Communities Grants

- \$25 million in FYs 2022 and 2023 (\$50 million total)
- Support disadvantaged and lower-capacity communities across project planning and scoping, development and design, and delivery

Regional Infrastructure Accelerators

- \$34 million awarded to 24 recipients
- Build capacity to incubate good projects and accelerate delivery through innovative approaches
- Assistance in project planning, revenue forecasting, preliminary engineering and design, and statutory and regulatory compliance analyses

Rural and Tribal Assistance

- 5-year pilot program (\$10 million total)
- \$3.4 million awarded to 13 communities, including 7 Tribes
- Advance early project development by funding technical, legal and financial activities

Innovative Finance and Asset Concessions

- 5-year program (\$100 million total)
- Help project sponsors identify underutilized assets with potential to generate economic development
- Increase capacity to utilize innovative financing and project delivery and form partnerships with private sector



Technical Assistance Resources

Direct Technical Assistance and Strategic Partnerships

Comprehensive approaches to complex challenges

- Customer focused, place-based with local leaders, decisionmakers, and stakeholders
- Bureau-led with operating administrations
- Focus on innovative project delivery and financing and funding options

Build America Center

- Mobilize the use of innovative finance, funding, and project delivery for transportation infrastructure projects. With USDOT, lead cutting-edge research, deliver innovative training, and provide customized technical assistance

Reconnecting Communities Institute

- DOT's center for learning to restore and reconnect communities harmed, isolated, and cut off from opportunity by transportation infrastructure

Thriving Communities Network

- Knowledge sharing network of Thriving Communities recipients and Capacity Builders

DOT Navigator

- Internet resources to help communities understand how to apply for grants and plan for and deliver transformative infrastructure projects and services





Innovative Finance and Asset Concession Grant Program

- **\$100 million over five years**
- Technical, financial and legal advisory service costs for alternative project delivery
- Develop and evaluate innovative finance and delivery - including asset concessions

This presentation is a summary – refer to the [NOFO](#) for all details.



Purpose of the Grant Program

Facilitate and evaluate public-private partnerships
in which the **private sector partner** could assume
a **greater role** in project planning, development,
financing, construction, maintenance, and operation,
including by assisting eligible entities
with entering into **Asset Concessions**.

This presentation is a summary – refer to the [NOFO](#) for all details.

Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)

Issued: March 11, 2024

Due: May 10, 2024

Total Available: \$57.72 million

Maximum Award Amount: \$2 million

Match: No match up to \$1 million, 50/50 match after \$1 million.

Examples: Federal funds \$1M, match \$0
Federal funds \$2M, match \$1M
Federal funds \$1.5M, match \$0.5M

Maximum grant amount to any state: \$4 million to any one state during any 3-year period

This presentation is a summary – refer to the [NOFO](#) for all details.

Eligible Applicants

- States, Tribal governments, units of local government, agencies or instrumentalities of a State, Tribal government, or unit of local government, or special purpose districts or public authorities.
- Applicant must also **own, control, or maintain the Existing Asset.**
- Applicant must have the **legal authority or authorization to enter into a contract that transfers ownership, revenues, maintenance, operations, or other benefits** and responsibilities for the relevant asset(s)

This presentation is a summary – refer to the [NOFO](#) for all details.

Types of Cooperative Agreements

Technical Assistance

Hire staff and/or **hire advisors** to advance a **program of Existing Assets** to develop, review, or enter into Asset Concessions.

Expert Services

Hire advisors to conduct studies/analysis for a **specific Existing Asset** for public-private delivery.

Applicants may request either type of grant but may not pursue both.

This presentation is a summary – refer to the [NOFO](#) for all details.

Existing Assets

Existing Assets are physical infrastructure, real property, or mineral/air rights to real property that could be improved using TIFIA credit assistance. Examples of Existing Assets include:

Public transportation facilities and infrastructure

Private freight rail

Public freight rail

Intermodal freight transfer facilities

Airport terminal facilities and transportation infrastructure

Intercity passenger bus or rail facilities and vehicles

An existing highway

Bridges and tunnels

A street

Vacant or underutilized parcels or right-of-way

Inland ports

Ports

This presentation is a summary – refer to the [NOFO](#) for all details.

TIFIA-eligible Projects

The Proposed Activities must explore developing an **Existing Asset** into an **Enhanced Asset** with a **TIFIA-eligible Project**.



This presentation is a summary – refer to the [NOFO](#) for all details.

Expert Services Cooperative Agreements

Hire advisors to conduct studies/analysis for a **specific Existing Asset** for public-private delivery.

Expert Service Grants may be used to advance the development of more than one Existing Asset as long as the Proposed Activities pertain to specific projects and are not programmatic in scope.

This presentation is a summary – refer to the [NOFO](#) for all details.



Expert Services – Potential Proposed Activities

- i. Project planning, feasibility studies, revenue forecasting, economic assessments and cost-benefit analyses, public benefit studies, value-for-money analyses, business case development, lifecycle cost analyses, risk assessment, financing and funding options analyses, procurement alternatives analyses, statutory and regulatory framework analyses, meaningful public involvement and other pre-procurement and pre-construction activities;
- ii. financial and legal planning (including the identification of statutory authorization, funding, and financing options);
- iii. early assessment of permitting, environmental review, and regulatory processes and costs;
- iv. assistance with entering into an Asset Concession;
- v. impact analysis of Existing Asset development on issues in the public interest, including worker displacement and equitable investment.

This presentation is a summary – refer to the [NOFO](#) for all details.



Expert Services – Proposed Activity Example



Existing Asset

Rail line with parking lot and minimal station facility



Grant Activity

Economic analysis, design study, and public engagement to prepare for permits

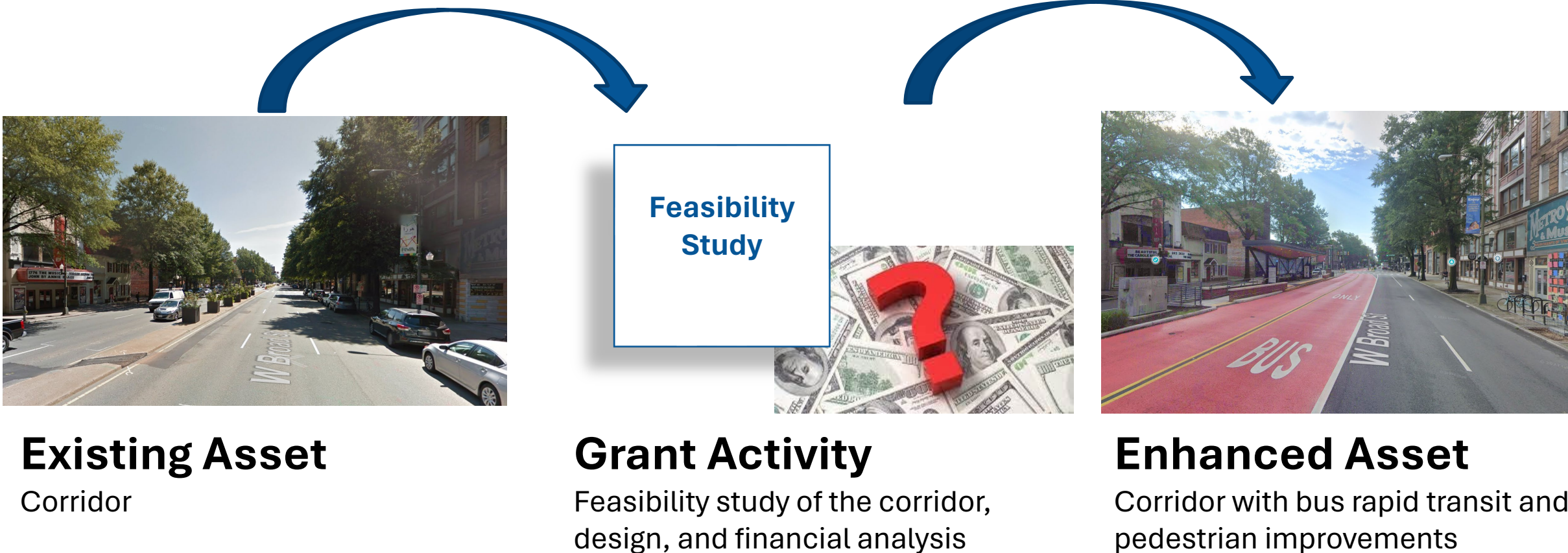


Enhanced Asset

Transit Oriented Development and improved station

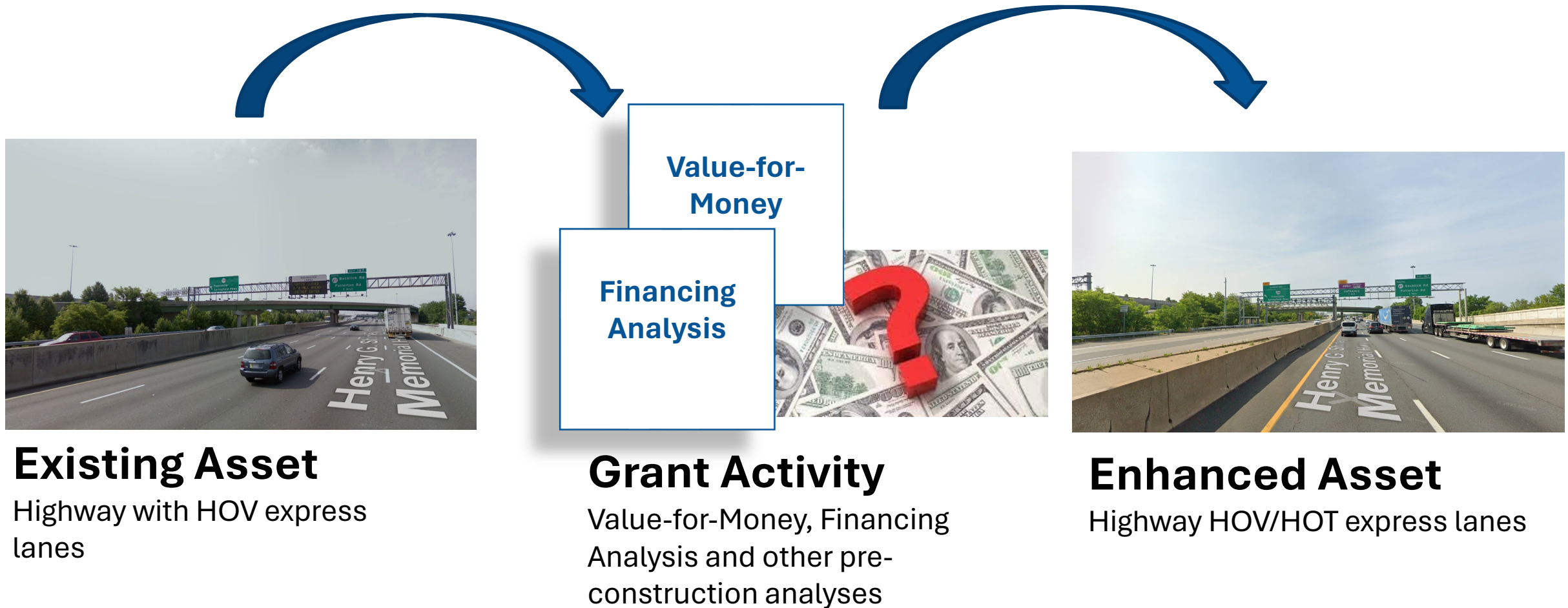
This presentation is a summary – refer to the [NOFO](#) for all details.

Expert Services – Proposed Activity Example



This presentation is a summary – refer to the [NOFO](#) for all details.

Expert Services – Proposed Activity Example



This presentation is a summary – refer to the [NOFO](#) for all details.

Application Process

Application

- 60-day window
- Apply through grants.gov
- SF-424, SF-424A, SF-424B, SF-LLL, Key information Table, Narrative, Asset and Project Information
- Requires completed SAM.gov registration and possession of UEI

Merit Criteria and Evaluation

- 7 criteria, including three technical merit criterion, four readiness selection criteria
- Policy alignment consideration
- Evaluation process includes eligibility review, merit review and senior review team selection

This presentation is a summary – refer to the [NOFO](#) for all details.

Application Information: Forms and Key Information

- Standard Forms:
SF-424, SF-424A,
SF-424B, SF-LLL
- Key Information
Table

IFACGP Key Information Table Template

Title	Instructions
IFACGP Cooperative Agreement Name	Enter the same title used in the Grants.gov SF-424 submission and the application narrative.
Applicant Name	Enter the same name used in the Grants.gov SF-424 submission Question 8.a.
State	Indicate State or territory or District of Columbia in which applicant is located.
Applicant Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)	See Section D.3 below for information about obtaining a UEI from SAM.gov.
Eligible Entity Type	Enter the letter corresponding to the Eligible Entity type for your application: A. State; B. Tribal government; C. unit of local government; D. agency or instrumentality of a State, Tribal government, or unit of local government; or E. special purpose district or public authority. Applicants should provide evidence of their qualification as an Eligible Entity.
Certification of Applicant's Authority to Transfer Benefits and Responsibilities for Relevant Assets	Yes, <u>Yes</u> with limitations, or No Specify any limitations on authority
Certification of Applicant's Asset Ownership/Control	Yes or <u>No</u>
Name or Description of Existing Asset(s)	Narrative discussion that includes place names, extant facility names, mile markers, addresses, geo-location, or other identifying characteristics. The applicant should identify at least 2 Existing Assets for a Technical Assistance Cooperative Agreement and at least 1 Existing Asset for an Expert Services Cooperative Agreement.
Type of Grant Requested	Enter the letter corresponding to the grant type you are applying for: A. Technical Assistance Cooperative Agreement or B. Expert Services Cooperative Agreement
If Applying for a Technical Assistance Cooperative Agreement, Which Category of Funding Requested?	Asset Scan or Program of Existing Assets (Select One)
Was federal funding previously received for	Yes or <u>No</u>

any Existing Asset in this cooperative agreement application?	If yes, indicate the amount of federal funding received and the relevant grant number and program.
Brief Application Description	Using no more than 250 words: Please do not include detailed lists or describe background or alignment with the selection criteria in this field. Do not include classified, proprietary, or confidential information, as USDOT might publish this Brief Application Description. You may provide a longer, narrative description in the Proposal Narrative (see ii. below for Proposal Narrative instructions). For Technical Assistance Cooperative Agreements, explain how grant funds will be used to build organizational capacity and the expanded capacity being sought. For Expert Services Cooperative Agreements, explain how grant funds will be used to leverage public and private funding in connection with the development of a specific Existing Asset.
Funding Requested	Total dollar amount requested. If requesting more than \$1 million, indicate amount and source of the 50 percent non-federal matching funds for the Proposed Activities.
Proposed Duration (in months)	Indicate requested cooperative agreement period of performance up to 36 months.

This presentation is a summary – refer to the [NOFO](#) for all details.

Application Information: Proposal Narrative

A. Proposal Overview

- Introduce the Eligible Entity and its proposed use of funding
- Identify type of Cooperative Agreement: Technical Assistance (including if applying for an Asset Scan or for a Program of Existing Assets) OR Expert Services
- Provide any background information useful to understand the rest of the application.

B. Proposed Activities, Need, and Goals

- Introduce the Proposed Activities and describe the need and goals for the Proposed Activities (Technical Criterion #1 and #2)
- Approach to build organizational capacity to advance early-stage TIFIA-eligible Projects by leveraging public and private funding (Technical Criterion #3).
- Describe how the Proposed Activities align with the USDOT's strategic goals and priorities as described in Section A.1 (Policy Alignment Selection Consideration).

This presentation is a summary – refer to the [NOFO](#) for all details.

Application Information: Proposal Narrative

C. Workplan

- Discuss the work plan of the Proposed Activities.
- Discuss the required labor hours to complete the Proposed Activities. Discussion of plans to hire staff (Technical Assistance Cooperative Agreements only) or procure Advisors to complete the Proposed Activities.
- Include a timeline with key milestones to execute the Proposed Activities (Readiness Criterion #1).
- Identify opportunities for the private sector to assume a role in project development, financing, construction, maintenance, and/or operations (Readiness Criterion #2).
- Describe its public engagement and partnership activities in the work plan, including describing channels for potentially impacted communities to express their concerns and meaningfully influence infrastructure decision making (Readiness Criterion #1).

This presentation is a summary – refer to the [NOFO](#) for all details.

Application Information: Proposal Narrative

D. Budget

- Provide a budget plan that corresponds to and describes the information in the applicant's SF-424A.
- Describe all planned activity costs and how they relate to the workplan (Readiness Criterion #4).
- Describe all funding sources (non-federal, IFACGP, and other federal amts) and how they share in each activity in the workplan in dollars in percentages. Additional federal funds are not required to participate.

E. Oversight and Staffing

- Detail the staffing and oversight of the Proposed Activities, including a discussion of proposed leadership, staff expertise required, expected levels of effort, institutional controls, and policies.
- Discuss applicant's ability to carry out the proposed scope of work based on relevant and necessary expertise, and its capability to oversee and manage the procurement of expert services under the Program. (Readiness Criterion #3).

This presentation is a summary – refer to the [NOFO](#) for all details.

Application Information: Proposal Narrative

F. Appendices

- i. Resumes: submit abbreviated resumes of key individuals and information on known expert service contractors who will be involved in the Proposed Activities
- ii. Asset Information: provide the Existing Asset Information form for each Existing Asset included in the Proposal. Maximum of 2 pages per Existing Asset.

Existing Asset Information Template
(Maximum 2 pages per Existing Asset)

Asset Name: _____ Submission # ____ of ____	
Asset Location	Address, geo-location, or other identifying information for the Asset. Include the name of the jurisdiction where the Asset is located.
Asset Location Primary Census Tract Information	Identify the primary and any other census tracts that contain or adjoin the Asset.
Is the Asset located (entirely or partially) in, or adjacent to, an Historically Disadvantaged Community?	Yes or No If yes, state which designation method are you using (see Definitions)
Asset Description	Describe the current condition, use, and operation of the Asset. Include any utilization or other descriptive and operational information available.
TIFIA-eligible Project Description	Provide project description, scope, cost, and other information, if known, sufficient to determine that the TIFIA-eligible project is a project as defined in 23 U.S.C. § 601(a)(12) [Note: this is optional for entities applying for an Asset Scan.]
Innovative Finance or Delivery Methods being Considered	Describe the innovative financing or delivery method being evaluated to design, build, finance, operate, and/or maintain the Enhanced Asset, its governance structure, partnerships, and a brief explanation of why the applicant seeks to evaluate this approach.

This presentation is a summary – refer to the [NOFO](#) for all details.

Application Information: Page Limits

Document(s)	Page Limit
Key Information Table	N/A
Proposal Narrative	10
A. Proposal Overview	
B. Proposed Activities, Needs and Goals	
C. Workplan	
D. Budget	
E. Oversight and Staffing	
F. Appendices	N/A
i) Resumes (no limit)	
ii) Asset Information (2 pages per asset)	

This presentation is a summary – refer to the [NOFO](#) for all details.

Merit Criteria

Technical Merit Criteria

1. Identification of Need

2. Desired Goals and Outcomes

3. Development Strategy

Readiness Selection Criteria

1. Feasibility of Workplan

2. Private Sector Investment Viability

3. Capacity to Deliver Proposed Activities

4. Feasibility of Budget Plan

Other Considerations

Policy Alignment Selection Consideration

This presentation is a summary – refer to the [NOFO](#) for all details.

Questions and Answers

- Please submit questions through the Q&A box
- Recordings of webinars and PDFs of the presentation will be available on the Bureau's website:
<https://www.transportation.gov/buildamerica/innovativefinancegrants>
- An FAQ document will be posted to the Bureau's website
- The deadline to submit technical questions is Wednesday, April 10, 2024. Submit questions via email to InnovativeFinanceTA@dot.gov

**Submissions must be
submitted via grants.gov
by 11:59pm E.T. on May 10, 2024**

Innovative Finance and Asset Concession Grant Program

(202) 941-7491

InnovativeFinanceTA@dot.gov

<https://www.transportation.gov/BuildAmerica/innovativefinancegrants>

