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U.S. Department of Transportation's Build America Bureau Makes Up to \$10 Million Available to Accelerate Regional Infrastructure Projects

Fourth round of grant funding will help expedite local and regional transportation infrastructure projects through innovative finance and delivery methods

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Transportation's [Build America Bureau](#) (Bureau) today issued a [Notice of Funding Opportunity](#) (NOFO) announcing the availability of up to \$10 million in grants for participants in the [Regional Infrastructure Accelerators Program](#) (RIA). The program funds Accelerators to provide technical resources, planning and project development to expedite regional transportation infrastructure through innovative financing and delivery methods, including public-private partnerships.

“We are pleased to expand this program further and are proud of the work that our Accelerators are doing, including securing grant funding and identifying possible private sector support while gaining momentum to accelerate millions in transportation projects,” said **Build America Bureau Executive Director Morteza Farajian**. “We encourage regional organizations to apply and join this successful program that has become a thriving network to share best practices and leverage innovative delivery strategies.”

The Bureau previously awarded \$34 million to 24 Accelerators across the country. The Accelerators serve an essential project development role to focus resources, funding, and expertise to expedite planning, development, and delivery at the local and regional levels. One Accelerator, the Central Ohio Transit Authority, is using its funding to develop the \$8 billion [LinkUS Mobility Initiative](#) (LinkUS), a comprehensive regional transportation and development plan. LinkUS will accommodate population growth and expand transportation options including increasing service hours by 45 percent and investing in crosswalks, sidewalks, trails, and transit-supportive infrastructure.

“The RIA program has provided the [Resilient SR 37 Program](#) funding for key finance and technical studies as well as direct technical support through the Build America Bureau and Build America Center. Both have been extremely valuable to us, helping us advance our understanding of operational outcomes, equity strategies, and financing and funding opportunities,” said **Jenette Weisman, State Route 37 Corridor Program Manager, and an RIA recipient from the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Commission in California**. “The RIA grant helps infrastructure projects navigate the complicated realm of project delivery to build technical understanding and to develop and fulfill your funding plan. In a world with many infrastructure needs and limited funding, the RIA program helps get the job done.”

“The Regional Infrastructure Accelerator program was instrumental in supporting SANDAG’s efforts to develop innovative finance strategies for the Los Angeles-San Diego-San Luis Obispo (LOSSAN) rail corridor, a critical artery that connects the San Diego region to the rest of the county,” said **SANDAG Chief Financial Officer Dawn Vettese**. “Funding for this vital program created the space for SANDAG to assess our current corridor projects and identify new opportunities to convene stakeholders and leverage partnerships with the goal of delivering meaningful projects along the LOSSAN corridor.”

The deadline for applications is Thursday, Jan. 9 at 11:59 p.m. ET. The Bureau will host a free webinar for interested applicants on Wednesday, Nov. 13 at 2 p.m. ET, with registration available [here](#). Those interested in participating and in need of accommodations may email their request to RIA@dot.gov by Thursday, Nov. 7 at 5 p.m. ET. Please email RIA@dot.gov or visit [Regional Infrastructure Accelerators](#) to learn more about the program and the Build America Bureau, which administers multiple technical assistance programs to build capacity at local and regional levels to explore innovative funding, financing, and delivery solutions.

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The Build America Bureau advances investment in transportation infrastructure by lending Federal funds to qualified borrowers; clearing roadblocks for credit worthy projects; providing technical assistance grants and services; and encouraging best practices in project planning, financing, delivery, and operations. The Bureau draws on expertise across DOT to serve as the point of coordination for states, municipalities, private partners, and other project sponsors seeking Federal financing.