### Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A)



# Welcome to the "How to Apply for Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A): Implementation Grants" webinar

#### **Audio**

- To listen via computer: Select "Computer Audio"
- To listen via phone:
  - Call: 669-254-5252
  - **Webinar ID:** 160 043 8970
  - **Passcode:** 200494
- All participants automatically join on mute, with cameras off

#### **Technical Support**

Email <u>Webconference@dot.gov</u>

#### **Questions for Presenters**

 Please type your questions in the Q&A box

#### **More Information**

- www.transportation.gov/SS4A
- Today's presentation slides and recording will be available on the SS4A website

#### **Presenters**



**Stephen Ratke**Federal Highway Administration
U.S. Department of Transportation



Paul Teicher
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation

### **SS4A Webinars**

1

#### **How to Apply for SS4A Grants: General Overview**

- 1. General overview of the SS4A program, the grant application process, and the available grant types.
- 2. Monday, June 13, 1:00-3:00 p.m. (EDT)

2

#### **How to Apply for SS4A: Action Plan Grants**

- 1. General overview of the SS4A program and the grant application process and provide a particular focus on applying for Action Plan Grants.
- 2. Wednesday, June 15, 1:00-3:00 p.m. (EDT)



#### **How to Apply for SS4A: Implementation Grants**

- 1. General overview of the SS4A program and the grant application process and provide a particular focus on applying for Implementation Grants.
- 2. Thursday, June 23, 1:00-3:00 p.m. (EDT)



### Are you in the right place?

- The SS4A program funds local, Tribal, and regional initiatives through grants to prevent roadway deaths and serious injuries.
- You're in the right place if you:
  - Have an existing, eligible Action Plan to apply for Implementation Grants.
  - Are ready to implement projects and strategies outlined in that Action Plan, with the potential for additional planning and analysis.
- If applicants do not have an existing Action Plan, they should apply for Action Plan Grants and **NOT** Implementation Grants.

### Safe Streets and Roads for All Grants

### Key program that supports the National Roadway Safety Strategy



Gorodenkoff - stock.adobe.com

Funding supports local initiatives to prevent death and serious injury on roads and streets, commonly referred to as "Vision Zero" or "Toward Zero Deaths" Initiatives.

\$5 billion in appropriated funding, FY22-26.

Up to \$1 billion for this FY22 Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO).

### SS4A NOFO Is Now Open



Notice of Funding Opportunity is now **OPEN** 



**Submit** technical questions by August 15, 2022

**Apply** by September 15, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. EDT on Grants.gov

(no late applications will be accepted)



Additional resources about SS4A and the NOFO can be found at

https://www.transportation.gov/SS4A



# Overview and Eligibility

### SS4A Overview: Eligible Applicants



- Metropolitan planning organization (MPO)
- Political subdivision of a State
  - A unit of government under the authority of State law, including cities, towns, counties, special districts, and similar units of local government.
  - A transit district, authority, or public benefit corporation if it was created under State law, including transit authorities operated by political subdivisions of a State.
- Federally recognized Tribal government
- Multijurisdictional groups comprised of the entities above
- May submit applications as an individual entity, or a joint application

### SS4A Overview: Joint Applicants vs. Partners

#### Joint applicants:

- Are each independently eligible entities
- Are each party to the grant
- May only be a joint applicant/individual applicant on one application

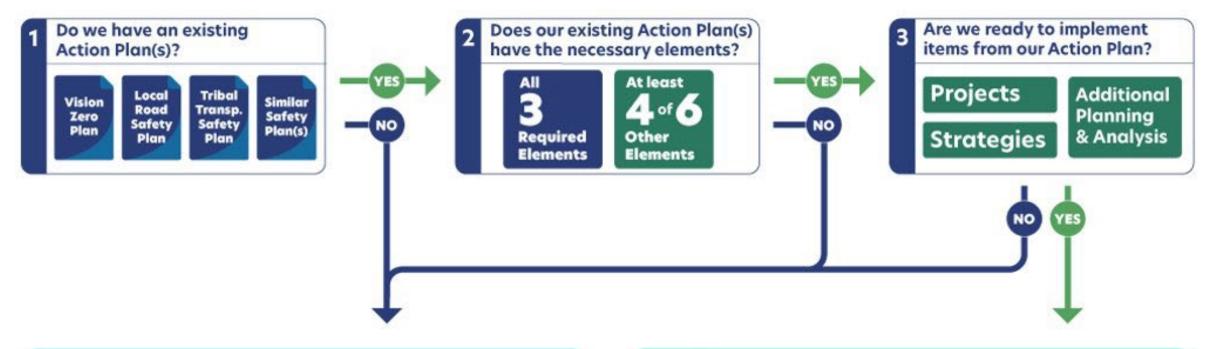
#### **Partners:**

- May include additional non-eligible entities (States, private companies, etc.)
- Are not party to the grant
- If an eligible applicant is a partner on an application (and not a joint applicant), being a partner on that application does not count as the one application for an eligible applicant
- You can partner on multiple applications

### Implementation Plan Grants: Considerations for Collaboration

- Who owns and maintains the roadways where the projects and strategies are to be executed?
- What expertise do you need to successfully execute the projects and strategies?
- How familiar and comfortable are you in administering Federal grant agreements and abiding by all applicable Federal requirements?
- Who directly benefits from the safety improvements as a result of the projects and strategies?
- Do you have, or can you get, agreements and Memorandum of Understanding in place to successfully execute the projects and strategies?

### **Implementation Grant or Action Plan Grant?**







### **SS4A Overview: Funding**



Grant Type	Political subdivision of a State	Federally recognized Tribal Government	MPO or joint application
Expected	\$5M - \$30M	\$3M - \$30M	\$5M - \$50M
Implementation		(also applies to rural	(\$3M - \$50M for
Grant Size*		applicants)	rural applicants)

<sup>\*</sup>Note these are expected sizes, and applicants may request more or less funding

#### **Cost share/match**

- 80% Federal | 20% local match
- In-kind contributions allowed
- Not more than 15% of funds can be awarded to projects in a single State in a given fiscal year
- Tribal applications are not counted toward the State cap
- No set-aside for rural areas or other grantee categories

### Specific Implementation Grant Eligibility Requirements

#### Existing Action Plan

- Meets criteria in NOFO Table 1 (<u>Action Plan Components</u>) and Table 2 (<u>Self-Certification Eligibility Worksheet</u>).
- Focused, at least in part, on the roadway network within the applicant's jurisdiction.
- o Identifies projects and strategies for Implementation Grant.
- Cannot use State-level action plan for SS4A applications.
- Must also have:
  - Ownership and/or maintenance responsibilities over a roadway network;
  - Safety responsibilities that affect roadways; and/or
  - An agreement from the agency that has ownership and/or maintenance responsibilities for the roadway within the applicant's jurisdiction.



### **Implementation Grant Reminders**

- Projects and strategies must be identified an existing, eligible plan.
- Projects and strategies outside of an eligible plan should not be included.
- Projects and strategies that cross multiple political subdivisions, safety issue areas, and corridors/roadway networks are permitted and can be bundled together as long as they are in an existing, eligible plan or plans.
- Implementation Grants may fund supplemental action plan activities in support of an existing plan. Implementation Grants do not fund the development of new Action Plans.
- Eligible applicants may not submit more than one application.



# Implementation Grant Activities

### Program Design: Grant Types



#### Eligible Activities (BIL):

- (A) Develop Comprehensive Safety Action Plan
- (B) Conduct planning, design, and development activities for projects and strategies identified in an Action Plan
- (C) Carry out projects and strategies identified in an Action Plan

#### Action Plan

Develop or complete a comprehensive safety action plan (A)

Conduct supplemental action planning activities (in support of an existing comprehensive safety action plan) (A)

### Implementation

- Implement projects and strategies (C)
- Conduct planning and design (B)
- Conduct supplemental action planning activities (in support of an existing comprehensive safety action plan) (A)

Applicant must already have established Action Plan in place. Activities must be tied directly to projects and strategies identified in Action Plan.



### What does an Implementation Grant fund?

- Implementation Grants **must** fund the execution of projects and strategies identified in an Action Plan that address roadway safety problems.
- Projects and strategies can be infrastructure, behavioral, and/or operationally focused.
- Implementation Grants **may** also fund:
  - o Planning, design, and development activities for projects and strategies (B).
  - Associated planning and design and supplemental Action Plan activities in support of an existing Action Plan (A).

### Implementation Grant: Illustrative Projects and Strategies













### Supplemental Action Plan Activities vs. Project-Level Planning

### Supplemental action plan activities in support of an Action Plan (A).

- Expanded analysis and/or data collection;
- Feasibility studies using quick-build strategies;
- Follow-up stakeholder engagement and collaboration;
- Targeted equity assessments;
- Action Plan progress report development;
- Complementary planning efforts such as speed management plans, accessibility and transition plans, racial and health equity plans, and lighting management plans.

# Planning, design, and development activities for projects and strategies identified in an Action Plan (B).

- Pre-construction design for an infrastructure project;
- Documentation to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act requirements for a specific project;
- Right-of-way acquisition and permitting for an infrastructure safety project;
- Developing advertising documents;
- Data collection for required reporting and evaluation.



### Ineligible Projects and Strategies

- Projects and strategies whose primary purpose is not roadway safety.
- Projects and strategies exclusively focused on non-roadway modes of transportation.
- Capital projects to construct new roadways used for motor vehicles. New roadways exclusively for non-motorists is an eligible activity if the primary purpose is safety-related.
- Infrastructure projects primarily intended to expand capacity to improve Levels of Service for motorists on an existing roadway, such as the creation of additional lanes.
- Maintenance activities for an existing roadway primarily to maintain a state of good repair.
   However, roadway modifications on an existing roadway in support of specific safety-related projects identified in an Action Plan are eligible activities.
- Development or implementation of a public transportation agency safety plan (PTASP) required by 49 U.S.C. § 5329.

### Project and Strategy Location

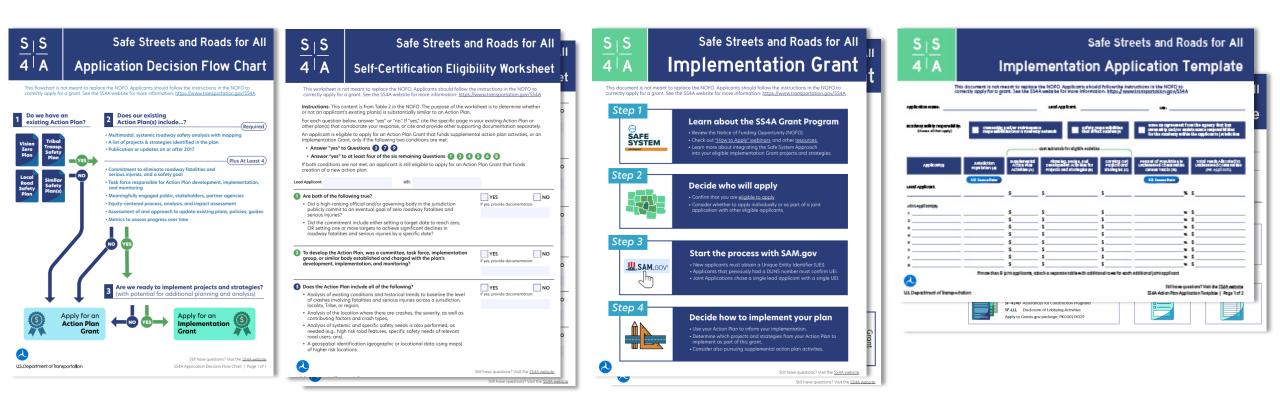


- Applications must identify the problems to be addressed, the relevant geographic locations, and the projects and strategies they plan to implement, based on the Action Plan or established plan.
- This should include specific intervention types to the extent practicable.
- An applicant may wait to specify specific site locations and designs, upon approval, so long as the identified site and locations and designs remain consistent with the intent of the award.
- We expect applications with more specific detail on project and strategy implementation to do better in the Project Readiness consideration when evaluating applications.



## Implementation Grant Application

### **SS4A Application Aids**



Available at <a href="https://www.transportation.gov/grants/SS4A/resources">https://www.transportation.gov/grants/SS4A/resources</a>

### Implementation Grant Application Example

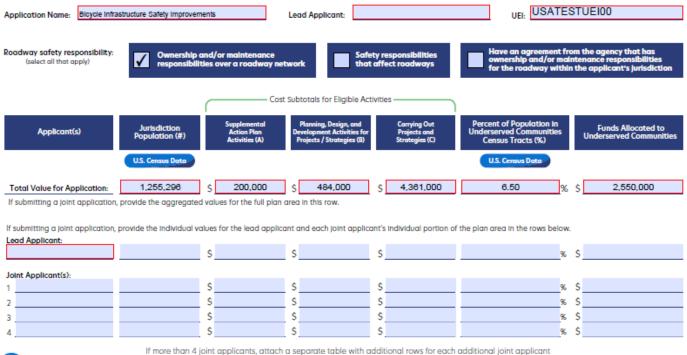




#### Safe Streets and Roads for All

#### Implementation Application Template

This document is not meant to replace the NOFO. Applicants should follow the instructions in the NOFO to correctly apply for a grant. While using this template is not required, DOT encourages its use to provide elements of the required application information. Additional information is required, to be submitted separately. See page 2 of this template and the SS4A website for more information about required materials: https://www.transportation.gov/SS4A







Still have questions? Visit the SS4A website SS4A Implementation Application Template | Page 1 of 2



### Implementation Grant Application Example



#### Safe Streets and Roads for All

#### Implementation Application Template

#### Lead Applicant's State:

Mark "NA" if a Federally recognized Tribal government

Funding request for Lead Applicant's State (\$): Provide total cost if a Federally recognized Tribal government

MO		

\$ 4,036,000

Additional State #1 that this Implementation grant will serve:

Funding request for Additional State #1 (\$):

Additional State #2 that this Implementation grant will serve:

Funding request for

Additional State #2 (S):

#### Link to Action Plan or Equivalent Plan(s):

(Note here if submitting a PDF copy with application)

www.appleseedmpo.com/bicycleinfrastructuresafety.pdf

#### Provide Required Narrative Separately: (10 page limit)



#### II. Location



#### III. Response to Selection Criteria



Self-Certification



#### IV. Project Readiness



#### Supplemental Estimated Budget ("Table 3")



Provide Additional **Documents Separately:** 



Required Forms

SF-424 Application for Federal Assistance

SF-424C Budget Information for Construction Programs

SF-424D Assurances for Construction Programs

SF-LLL Disclosure of Lobbying Activities

Apply to Grants.gov package: PKG00274329



U.S. Department of Transportation

Still have questions? Visit the SS4A website SS4A Implementation Application Template | Page 2 of 2



### NOFO Section D: Application and Submission Information

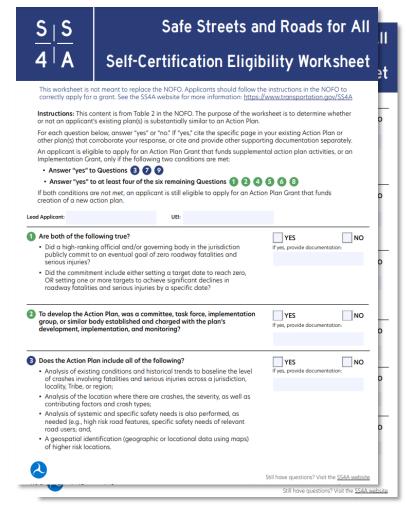


- Standard Forms (SFs):
  - Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424)
  - Budget Information for Construction Programs (SF-424C)
  - Assurances for Construction Programs (SF-424D)
  - Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL)
- Key Information
- Narrative
- Self-Certification Eligibility Worksheet
- Budget



### Self-Certification Eligibility Worksheet

- Applicants are also required to attach a completed Self-Certification Eligibility Worksheet.
- The worksheet can be found on the SS4A website, on Grants.gov, or by using this link: <a href="https://www.transportation.gov/grants/ss4a/self-certification-worksheet">https://www.transportation.gov/grants/ss4a/self-certification-worksheet</a>



### Self-Certification Eligibility Worksheet

Leadership

Commitment

official or govening

#### Safe Streets and Roads for All

#### Self-Certification Eligibility Worksheet

This worksheet is not meant to replace the NOFO. Applicants should follow the instructions in the NOFO to correctly apply for a grant. See the SS4A website for more information: https://www.transportation.gov/SS4A

Instructions: This content is from Table 2 in the NOFO. The purpose of the worksheet is to determine whether or not an applicant's existing plan(s) is substantially similar to an Action Plan.

For each question below, answer "yes" or "no." If "yes," cite the specific page in your existing Action Plan or other plan(s) that corroborate your response, or cite and provide other supporting documentation separately.

An applicant is eligible to apply for an Action Plan Grant that funds supplemental action plan activities, or an Implementation Grant, only if the following two conditions are met:

- Answer "yes" to Questions 3 7 9
- Answer "yes" to at least four of the six remaining Questions 1 2 4 5 6 8









Evaluation and Transparency



#### Three MUST be YES Questions:

- Analysis
- List of projects and strategies
- Plan completed and last updated 2017-2022
  - Plan must be complete on or before **September 15, 2022**



#### At least 4/6 YES Questions:

- Leadership commitment and goal setting
- Committee/taskforce led Action Plan development
- Engagement and collaboration
- Equity considerations
- Policy and process changes
- Evaluation and transparency



#### **Narrative Guidelines**



- May not exceed 10 pages in length, excluding cover pages and table of contents, Key Information, Self-Certification Eligibility Worksheet, Budget, or appendices.
- Website links to support documentation should be provided, when possible.
- If supporting materials are submitted, applicants should clearly identify within the narrative the relevance of each supporting document.

### **Narrative Components**

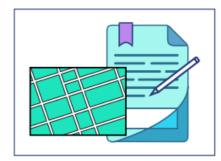
#### I. Overview



See NOFO D.2.ii.b.I

Provide an introduction, describe the safety context, jurisdiction, and any high-level background information that would be useful to understand the rest of the application.

#### II. Location



See NOFO D.2.ii.b.II

Describe the jurisdiction's location, the jurisdiction's High-Injury Network or equivalent geospatial identification of higherrisk locations, and locations and corridors of the projects and strategies.

#### III. Response to Selection Criteria



See NOFO D.2.ii.b.III and Section E.1.ii

Respond to the criteria for evaluation and selection in Section E.1.ii of this Notice and include compelling narrative to highlight how the application aligns with each of the four criteria.

#### **IV. Project Readiness**



See NOFO D.2.ii.b.IV

Provide information to demonstrate the ability to substantially execute and complete the full scope of work in the application proposal within five years of when the grant is executed.



### **Budget Component**



#### Documentation must include:

- **SF-424C** (provides most of the budget information).
- Brief budget summary and high-level overview of estimated activity costs.
- Itemized estimate of the costs of the proposed projects and strategies at the individual component level.
- Breakdown of SS4A funding Federal share and non-Federal share funds.
- **NOFO Table 3** cost breakdown of the 3 types of eligible activities (A), (B), and (C).
- Estimated costs or value of in-kind matches.



### **Agreement Funding: Cost Sharing and Matching Reminders**

- Recipients are required to contribute a non-Federal matching share of no less than 20 percent of eligible activity costs.
- Local match may only be used once and may not be used as match for multiple Federal awards.
- Other Federal funds cannot be used toward the local match requirement.
- Funds from other entities such as partners may count towards the match as long as they are using non-Federal funds.
- Grant agreements are expected to be administered on a reimbursement basis, and recipients will be reimbursed for up to 80 percent of their eligible expenses.



# Implementation Plan Review and Selection Process

### Implementation Grants Application Narrative



- Four criteria:
  - 1. Safety Impact *highest priority*
  - 2. Equity, engagement, collaboration
  - 3. Effective practices and strategies
  - 4. Climate and sustainability, and economic competitiveness
- Two considerations:
  - 1. Project readiness rating
  - 2. Funds in underserved communities
- Implementation Grant Applications should draw upon the foundation of the Action Plan





## **Criteria: Safety Impact Criterion**



- Safety impact is the most important criterion and will be weighed more heavily in the review and selection process.
- DOT will assess whether the proposal is likely to:
  - Significantly reduce or eliminate roadway fatalities and serious injuries;
  - o Employ low-cost, high-impact strategies over a wide geographic area; and
  - Include evidence-based projects and strategies.
- Department will assess the applicant's description of the safety problem, safety impact assessment, and costs as part of the safety impact criterion.

### **Breaking Down the Safety Impact**

# Describe the Safety Problem

- Connect the safety problem(s) to your projects and strategies
- Use the analysis from your Action Plan
- Multiple ways to show the safety problem(s)

# Safety Impact Assessment

- Projects and strategies address the problem
- Evidence-based solutions
- Measurable safety benefits

### **Implementation Costs**

- Project and strategy costs are itemized and summarized
- Use SF-424C plus a summary in the application
- Are costs reasonable?

### Criteria: Equity, Engagement, Collaboration



- DOT will assess the extent to which projects and strategies:
  - Ensure equitable investment in underserved communities in preventing roadway fatalities and serious injuries, including rural communities.
  - Consider key population groups to ensure the impact to these groups is understood and addressed.
  - Include equity analysis, both quantitative and qualitative, as well as stakeholder engagement in underserved communities.
  - o Include meaningful engagement activities.
  - Leverage partnerships to achieve safety benefits and minimize unintended consequences.

### Criteria: Effective Practices and Strategies



- The response to this criterion needs to address, at a minimum, one of the following effective practices and strategies:
  - 1. Create a safer community
  - 2. Safe System Approach
  - 3. Complete Streets
  - 4. Innovative practices and technologies
- If the applicant responds to more than one option, the option with the highest rating will be used for scoring (no combined rating).

### Focus on 1 of 4 Effective Practices and Strategies

#### (1) Create a Safer Community

Evidence-based, proven, and effective safety countermeasures

- Improve safety for all road users
- Basic evidence-based roadway infrastructure
- Apply systemic safety practices over a wide area

#### (2) Safe System Approach (SSA)

Incorporates multiple elements:

- Safer people
- Safer roads
- Safer speeds
- Safer vehicles
- Post-crash care

Addresses SSA principles:

- Human-centric
- Limit kinetic energy
- Humans make mistakes

# Focus on 1 of 4 Effective Practices and Strategies (cont.)

### (3) Complete Streets

- Solutions focused on multiple road users
- Accessibility and multimodal networks
- Complete Streets policy or similar roadway safety policies to remove barriers to multimodal safety

# (4) Innovative Practices and Technologies

- Innovative technologies and/or practices to promote safety and equity
- Efficiency within the planning and road management lifecycle
- Projects and strategies based on integrated data analysis
- Applied research and experimentation

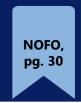
# Criteria: Climate and Sustainability, and Economic Competitiveness



- Demonstrate support of Departmental goals
- Examples include:
  - Reduce motor vehicle-related pollution such as air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions.
  - Increase safety of lower-carbon travel modes such as transit and active transportation.
  - o Incorporate lower-carbon pavement and construction materials.
  - o Includes climate resilience measures (e.g., storm water management practices, etc.).
  - o Increased economic activity, as well as improved mobility and connectivity.
  - Workforce benefits.



# "Highly Recommended" Application Scenarios



<b>Selection Criteria</b>	Scenario (a) Criteria Rating	Scenario (b) Criteria Rating
Safety Impact	High	Medium
Equity, Engagement, and Collaboration	Medium or High	High
Effective Practices and Strategies	Medium or High	High
Climate Change Sustainability, and Economic Competitiveness	Low, Medium, or High	High
Overall Rating	Highly Recommended	Highly Recommended



# Consideration: Project Readiness



- Applications rated as "Highly Recommended" or "Recommended" are reviewed for Project Readiness.
- Assesses whether an applicant could reasonably execute and complete the projects and strategies within 5 years. Three possible ratings:
  - 1. Very Likely
  - 2. Likely
  - 3. Unlikely
- Applications with an "unlikely" project readiness may be removed from consideration or scoped down to remove some projects and strategies.

# How Do I Demonstrate Project Readiness?



- Detailed activity schedule that identifies all major project and strategy milestones, including but not limited to:
  - Design and construction standards
  - Environmental processes (National Environmental Policy Act)
  - Permits
  - Approvals
- Clear, detailed, and realistic milestones help evaluators determine the project readiness.
- You must be able to complete all required design and construction standards, as well as environmental, permitting, and approval processes, within 5 years.



### Consideration: Funds in Underserved Communities



- Underserved community is aligned with the Interim Guidance for the Justice 40 Initiative and the Historically Disadvantaged Community designation.
- The percentage of Implementation Grant funds that will be spent in, and provide safety benefits to, locations in census tracts designated as underserved communities.
- Higher percentages of funding in underserved communities will be generally viewed favorably.

Areas of Persistent Poverty Project (APP) and Historically Disadvantaged Community (HDC) Status Tool: <a href="https://datahub.transportation.gov/stories/s/tsyd-k6ij">https://datahub.transportation.gov/stories/s/tsyd-k6ij</a>



### Implementation Grant Award Selection



### Considerations before the Secretary selects:

- No more than 15 percent of the FY 2022 funds made available may be awarded to eligible applicants in a single State.
- At least 40 percent of FY 2022 funds will be awarded for Action Plan Grants and supplemental action plan activities.
- Applications with an "unlikely" project readiness may be removed.
- DOT may choose to award lesser amounts than requested in applications.



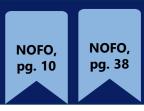
# Post-Award Requirements

### Administrative and National Policy Requirements



- Equity and Equal Employment Opportunity
- Labor and Workforce
- Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience
- Build America, Buy America
- National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA)
- 2 CFR Part 200
- Other Administrative and Policy Requirements

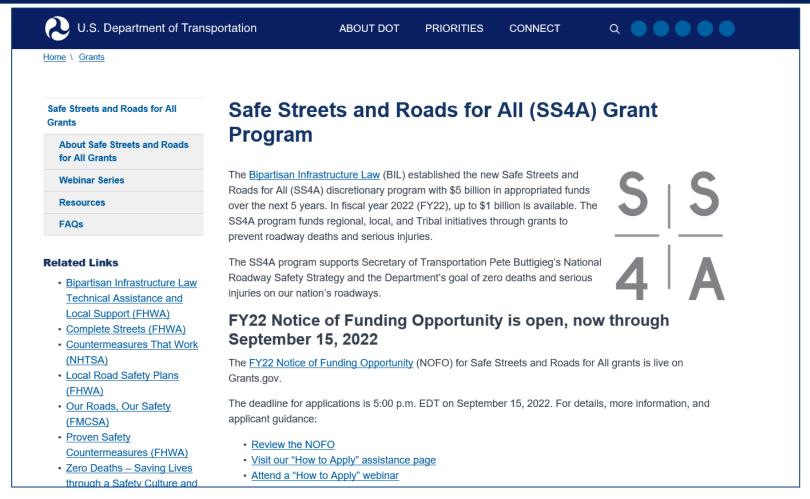
### **Data Reporting Requirements**



- Progress Reporting on Grant Activity
  - Quarterly program performance reports using SF-PPR and quarterly financial status using the SF-425
- Post Award Reporting Requirements/Reporting of Matters Related to Integrity and Performance
- Program Evaluation



### **SS4A** Website



### www.transportation.gov/SS4A



Q&A