

BUILD Grants

Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development Transportation Discretionary Grants Program

How to Compete for FY 2019 BUILD Transportation Discretionary Grants

Presented by:
Office of the Under Secretary
for Policy
United States Department of
Transportation



Welcome: FY 2019 BUILD How to Compete Webinar

Audio

Via Computer – No Action Needed

Via Telephone - Call 1-888-808-6929

Passcode: 1203007

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BUILD Grants

Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development Transportation Discretionary Grants Program

\$900 million multimodal, merit-based discretionary grant program

Modal and geographic equity requirements

Not more than 50 percent of funds will be awarded to projects located in urban and rural areas, respectively

Project narrative, SF 424, and project information form required





What are the Advantages of the BUILD Program?

- Significant Local or Regional Impact
- Competitive Discretionary Grants
- Encourages Partnership
- Public Entity Eligibility
- Merit-Based Awards





BUILD Basics

Eligible Applicants

State governments

Local and tribal governments

U.S. territories

Transit agencies

Port authorities

MPOs

Other public subdivisions of State or local governments

Eligible Projects*

Highway, bridge, or other road project

Public transportation projects

Passenger and freight rail projects

Port infrastructure investments

Intermodal projects

*Include but not limited to



+ BUILD Basics Cont'd

Eligible Cost Share/Match

Federal cost share up to 80% in urban areas

Federal cost share up to 100% in rural areas

Minimum Awards

\$5 million for projects in urban areas

\$1 million for projects in rural areas

No minimum for planning grants

Maximum Award

\$25 million per project

\$90 million per State

Not more than 50% of funding will be awarded to projects located in urban and rural areas, respectively





BUILD Urban & Rural Definitions

Change from FY18 definitions



URBAN:

Urbanized Area
Population Greater
than 200,000

RURAL:

Urbanized Area
Population Less
than 200,000

OR

Outside an
Urbanized Area
(including
Urban Cluster)





2019 BUILD Application

- Application – www.Grants.gov
- Applications – Must be submitted before 8:00 PM E.D.T. on **July 15, 2019**





What Projects Compete Well?

Demonstrated strength in merit criteria

Project will enter construction within the period of obligation (Sept. 30, 2021)

Planning grants will be less competitive than capital grants

Project has specific timeline for completion

Presents a clear story and details project impact





What Projects Compete Well?

Emphasizes improved access to reliable, safe, and affordable transportation, including concurrently investing in broadband or promoting energy independence

Incorporates innovations in technologies, project delivery and/or financing

New partnerships, multi-jurisdictional cooperation, including public-private partnerships





BUILD Evaluation Considerations

Does the project align well with the selection criteria?

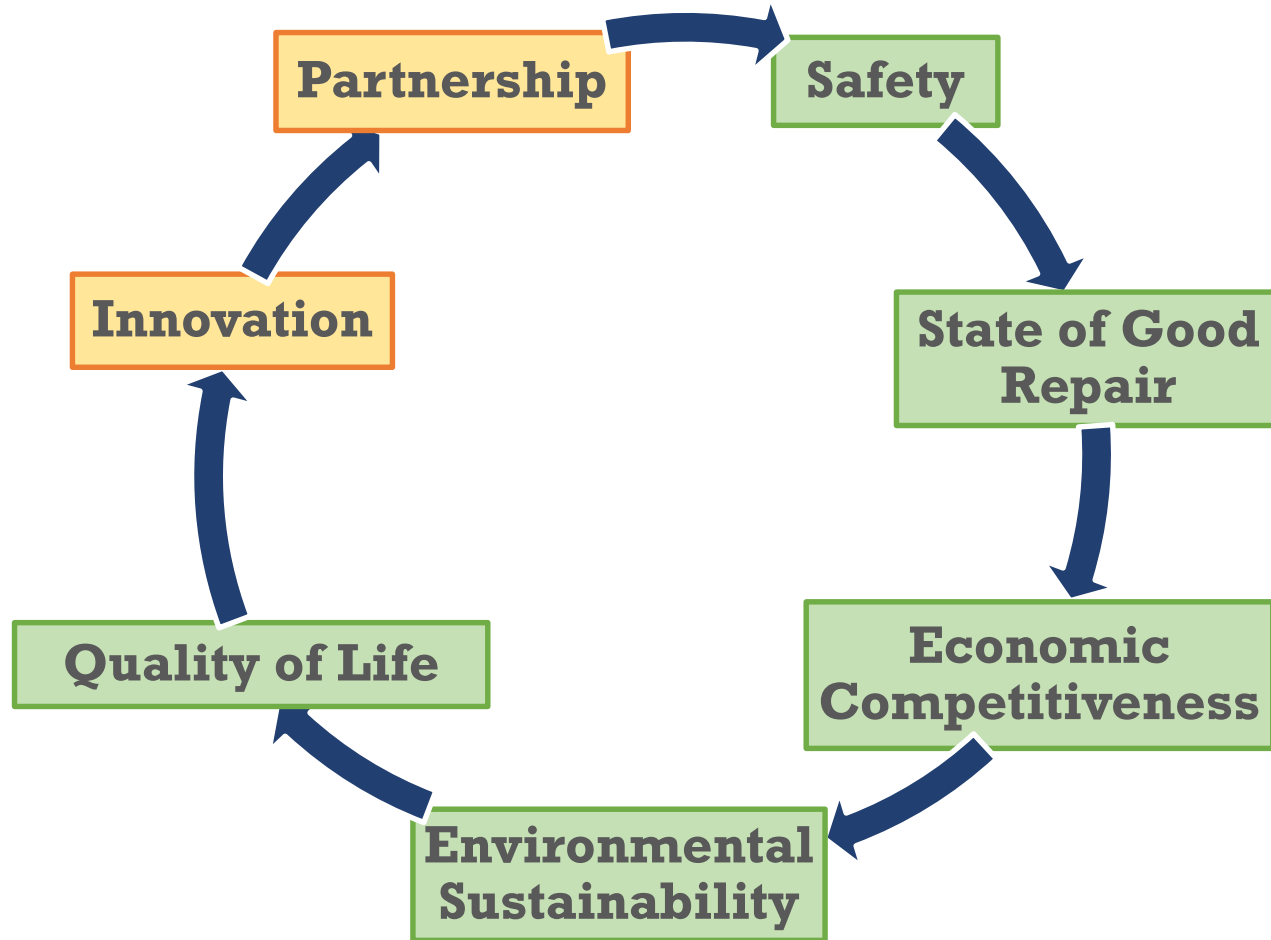
How do the project's benefits compare to its costs?

Does the project demonstrate readiness in terms of:

- Environmental review
- Permitting
- Technical feasibility
- Funding
- Applicant's capacity to manage project delivery
- Obligating funds by September 30, 2021



BUILD Selection Criteria



Primary selection criteria

Secondary selection criteria



+ Selection Criterion: Safety

DOT will assess how
the project impacts:

Safe movement of goods and people

Data on crashes, injuries, and fatalities

Safe highway/rail grade crossings

Preventing releases of hazardous materials



+ Merit Criterion:

State of Good Repair

DOT will also assess whether and to what extent the following are addressed:

Plans for maintenance of facilities and system that address current and projected vulnerabilities

Threats/consequences if infrastructure is left unimproved

Asset management that optimizes long-term cost structure

Sustainable revenue for overall life-cycle costs

Maintain or improve infrastructure supporting border security functions



+ Merit Criterion: Economic Competitiveness

DOT will assess whether the project will:

Decrease transportation costs and improve access in rural communities or communities in Opportunity Zones, through reliable and timely access to employment centers and job opportunities

Improve long-term efficiency, reliability or costs in the movement of workers or goods

Increase the economic productivity of land, capital, or labor, including assets in Opportunity Zones

Result in long-term job creation and economic opportunities

Help the United States compete in a global economy by facilitating efficient and reliable freight movement



+ Merit Criterion:

Environmental Sustainability

DOT will
assess how
the project:

Improves energy efficiency, reduce dependence on oil, and reduce congestion-related emissions, improves water quality, avoids and mitigates environmental impacts and otherwise benefits the environment

Reduces energy use and air or water pollution through congestion mitigation strategies

Avoids adverse environmental impacts to air or water quality, wetlands, and endangered species

Provides environmental benefits, such as brownfield redevelopment, groundwater recharge in areas of water scarcity, wetlands creation or improved habitat connectivity, and storm water mitigation



+ Merit Criterion: Quality of Life

DOT will consider
the extent to
which the project:

Increases transportation choices

Expands access and connectivity to essential
services such as jobs and healthcare

Will allow concurrent installation of fiber or
other broadband deployment as an essential
service

*The Department may only reimburse costs
associated with broadband if the broadband
supports a transportation purpose



+ Merit Criterion: Innovation

DOT will assess the use of innovative strategies such as :

Safety, particularly in relation to automated vehicles and the detection, mitigation, and documentation of safety risks; includes work zone data exchanges

Technology, including operational performance of transportation systems and broadband deployment,

Project delivery, including contracting (P3s), congestion management, asset management, or long-term operations and maintenance

Environmental permitting and review to accelerate project delivery and achieve improved outcomes for communities and the environment

Funding and finance, including by using private sector funding or financing and recycled revenue from the competitive sale or lease of publicly owned or operated assets



+ Merit Criterion: Partnership

DOT will
consider:

Strong collaboration among a broad range of stakeholders in project development and funding, including among neighboring or regional jurisdictions to achieve local or regional benefits

Ensure long-term asset performance, such as through pay-for-success approaches

Partnerships that bring together diverse transportation agencies and/or are supported, financially or otherwise, by other stakeholders that are pursuing similar objectives





Project Readiness and BCA

Project
Readiness

Technical Feasibility

Project Schedule

Required Approvals

Assessment of Project Risks and Mitigation
Strategies

BCA

Identify, quantify, and compare expected benefits
and costs



+ Application Pitfalls

Ineligibility:
applicants and
projects

Priorities/outcomes
not aligned with merit
criteria

Lack of evidence
substantiating project
outcomes claims in
narrative

Insufficient evidence
of project readiness

Not providing
statutorily-mandated
match

Ineligible requests:
Operating assistance

Uncertain urban/rural
designation





BUILD 2019 Evaluation Teams

Considerations for DOT
Evaluation Teams:

Technical Evaluation

Economic Analysis

Project Readiness

Control and Calibration

Senior Review

Final funding awards decided by the Secretary





Project Delivery: What Should Successful Applicants Expect

BUILD 2019 Announcements by November 12, 2019

BUILD 2019 Modal Project Assignments

Negotiations Initiated

Sign/Execute Grant Agreement (funds obligated at this point)

Reporting Requirements/Project Modifications

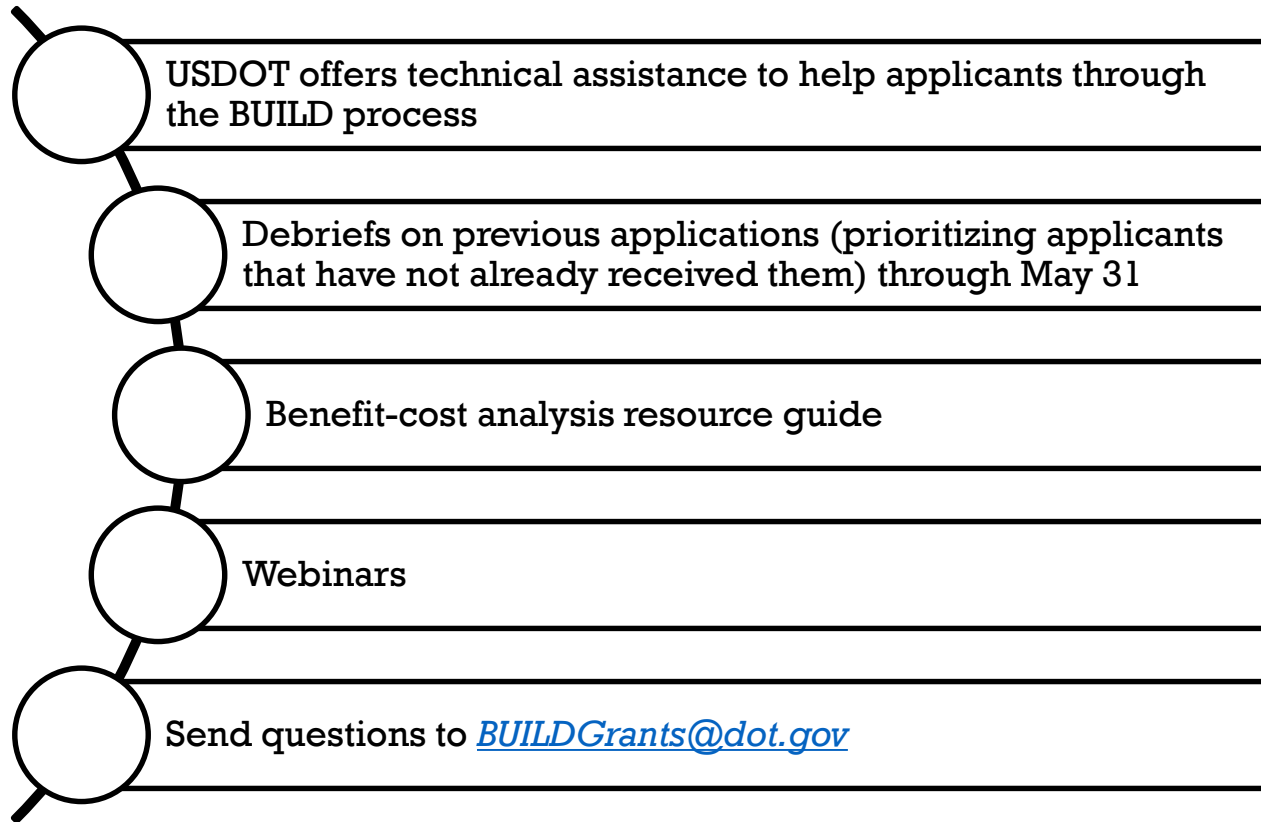
Project Completion/Close-Out

Performance Monitoring





Technical Assistance





Additional Application Help

- BUILD Website:
www.transportation.gov/BUILDgrants
- Preparing a Benefit-Cost Analysis for a BUILD Grant:
www.transportation.gov/BUILDgrants/additional-guidance
- Webinars and Frequently Asked Questions:
 - www.transportation.gov/BUILDgrants/outreach
 - www.transportation.gov/BUILDgrants/2018-build-application-faqs



+ Question and Answer Session

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