

# **TIGER 2017**

## **How to Compete for TIGER Discretionary Grants**

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

# + Welcome to the 2017 TIGER How to Compete Webinar

## ■ Audio

- Via Computer – No Action Needed
- Via Telephone - Call [\(866\) 863-9293](tel:(866)863-9293), participant code: **73570319**

## ■ Presenter

- Robert Mariner, Deputy Director of the Office of Infrastructure Finance and Innovation, Office of the Secretary Office of Policy, U.S. Department of Transportation





- \$500 million multimodal, merit-based discretionary grant program
- Emphasizes rural outcomes
- Modal and geographic equity requirements
- Project Information Form (No Pre-Application Requirement)





# How is **TIGER** different?

- Leverages Resources
- Encourages Partnership
- Public Entity Eligibility
- Merit-Based Awards
- Competitive Discretionary Grants





# TIGER Basics

## ■ Eligible Applicants

- State, local, and tribal governments, transit agencies, MPOs, and other public entities

## ■ Eligible Projects

## ■ Cost Share or Match

- TIGER funds may cover up to 80 percent of projects costs in urban areas and 100 percent of project costs in rural areas

## ■ Minimum Awards

- \$5 million for projects in urban areas
- \$1 million for projects in rural areas

## ■ Maximum Award

- \$25 million per project; \$50 million per State





# 2017 TIGER Application

- Application – [www.Grants.gov](http://www.Grants.gov)
- Applications – Must be submitted on or before 8:00 PM E.D.T. on **October 16, 2017**



# + Demand for TIGER

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- Over eight rounds, six percent of applications have been awarded
  - 7,139 applications received
  - \$139.7 billion requested
  - 422 awards
  - Most awards have been partial funding
- In TIGER 2016, we received 585 applications





# What projects compete well?

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- Demonstrated strength in selection criteria
- Strong partnership
- Strong match
- Project has timeline for success
- Presents a clear story and project impact







# TIGER Evaluation Process

- Does the project align well with the selection criteria?
- Does the application demonstrate strong collaboration and partnership?
- Is the project innovative in terms of design, technology, project delivery, or financing?
- Does the application leverage significant non-federal resources?
- Do the projects benefits exceed the costs?
- Will DOT be able to obligate funds by September 30, 2020?





# TIGER Selection Criteria



- Primary Selection Criteria
  - Safety
  - State of Good Repair
  - Economic Competitiveness
  - Quality of Life
  - Environmental Sustainability
- Secondary Selection Criteria
  - Innovation
  - Partnership



# **+ Primary Selection Criteria:**

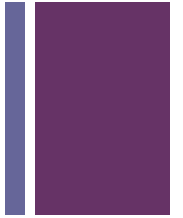
## **Safety**



- DOT will assess the project's ability to reduce the number, rate, and consequences of surface transportation-related accidents, serious injuries, and fatalities among transportation users, the project's contribution to the elimination of highway/rail grade crossings, and the project's contribution to preventing unintended releases of hazardous materials
- DOT will consider the project's ability to foster a safe transportation system for the multimodal movement of goods and people



# **+ Primary Selection Criteria: State of Good Repair**



- DOT will assess whether and to what extent:
  - The project is consistent with relevant plans to maintain transportation facilities or systems in a state of good repair and address current and projected vulnerabilities
  - If left unimproved, the poor condition of the asset will threaten future transportation network efficiency, mobility of goods or accessibility and mobility of people, or economic growth
  - The project is appropriately capitalized up front and uses asset management approaches that optimize its long-term cost structure
  - A sustainable source of revenue is available for operations and maintenance of the project and will reduce overall life-cycle costs
  - The project ensures the good condition of infrastructure, including rural infrastructure, and supports commerce and economic growth



# + **Primary Selection Criteria: Economic Competitiveness**



- DOT will assess whether the project will:
  - Decrease transportation costs and improve access, especially for rural communities, 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
  - Result in long-term job creation and other economic opportunities
  - Help the United States compete in a global economy by facilitating efficient and reliable freight movement
  - Address congestion in major urban areas or bridge gaps in service in rural areas
  - Attract private economic development



# + **Primary Selection Criteria: Quality of Life**



- DOT will consider the extent to which the project increases transportation choices for individuals to provide more freedom on transportation decisions
- DOT will assess whether the project improves access to essential services for people in communities across the United States, particularly for rural communities
- DOT will consider the extent to which the project improves connectivity for citizens to jobs, health care, and other critical destinations



# + **Primary Selection Criteria: Environmental Sustainability**



- DOT will assess the project's ability to:
  - Improve energy efficiency, reduce dependence on oil, and reduce congestion-related emissions
  - Reduce energy use and air or water pollution through congestion mitigation strategies
  - Avoid adverse environmental impacts to air or water quality, wetlands, and endangered species
  - Provide environmental benefits, such as brownfield redevelopment, ground water recharge in areas of water scarcity, wetlands creation or improved habitat connectivity, and stormwater mitigation
- DOT will consider the extent to which the project uses innovative ways to improve or streamline environmental reviews while maintaining the same outcomes





# Secondary Selection Criteria: Innovation

- DOT will assess the use of innovative strategies to address the primary selection criteria.
  - DOT particularly seeks to experiment with innovative approaches to transportation safety, specifically in relation to automated vehicles and the detection, mitigation, and documentation of safety risks.
  - DOT will assess the extent to which the project uses innovative technology to significantly enhance the operational performance of the transportation system.
  - DOT is interested in projects that apply innovative strategies to improve the efficiency of project development or to improve project delivery.
  - DOT will also assess the extent to which the project incorporates innovations in transportation funding and finance and leverages both existing and new sources of funding or financing.







## Secondary Selection Criteria: Partnership

- Demonstrating strong collaboration among a broad range of stakeholders, including among neighboring or regional jurisdictions to achieve national, regional, or metropolitan benefits.
- DOT will consider the extent to which projects involve multiple partners in project development and funding, such as State and local governments, other public entities, and/or private or nonprofit entities.
- DOT will consider the extent to which projects include partnerships that bring together diverse transportation agencies and/or are supported, financially or otherwise, by non-transportation public agencies that are pursuing similar objectives.





# Highly Competitive Projects

- Coordinated investment from other sources and programs
- Emphasize improved access to reliable, safe, and affordable transportation for communities in rural areas
- Incorporate innovations in funding and finance
- New partnerships, multi-jurisdictional cooperation
- Public-private partnerships





# Project Readiness and BCA

## ■ Project Readiness

- Technical Feasibility
- Financial 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 w/ selection criteria
- Insufficient evidence of project readiness
- Insufficient matching funds
- Non-construction requests: O/M assistance
- Grouping unrelated projects
- Uncertain urban/rural designation



# + **TIGER 2017 Evaluation Process**

- Intake Processing Team
- Technical Evaluation Teams
- Economic Analysis Team
- Project Readiness Team
- Control and Calibration Team
- Senior Review Team

Final funding awards decided by Secretary Chao





# Project Delivery: What Should Successful Applicants Expect

- TIGER 2017 Announcements
- TIGER 2017 Project Assignments
- Negotiations Initiated
- Sign/Execute Grant Agreement
- Reporting Requirements/Project Modifications
- Project Completion/Close-Out
- Performance Monitoring



# + Technical Assistance

- USDOT offers technical assistance to help applicants through the TIGER process
- Previous TIGER application debriefs
- Benefit cost analysis resource guide
- Special Topics Webinars
- Questions sent to [TIGERGrants@dot.gov](mailto:TIGERGrants@dot.gov)





# Additional Application Help

- TIGER Website:

- [www.transportation.gov/tiger/](http://www.transportation.gov/tiger/)

- Preparing a Benefit-Cost Analysis for a TIGER Grant:

- [www.transportation.gov/tiger/additional-guidance](http://www.transportation.gov/tiger/additional-guidance)

- Special Topics Webinars and Frequently Asked Questions:

- [www.transportation.gov/tiger/outreach](http://www.transportation.gov/tiger/outreach)

- [www.transportation.gov/tiger/faq](http://www.transportation.gov/tiger/faq)







# TIGER

## Question and Answer Session

