

TO: Email Address
FROM: Local Systems
SUBJECT: NOFO Published - Bridge Investment Program (BIP)
DATE: June 14, 2022

On Friday, June 10, United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) announced a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the Bridge Investment Program (BIP). This program was created last year as part of the bipartisan infrastructure law and is funding local agencies can apply for directly.

The Bridge Investment Program is a competitive, discretionary program that focuses on the repair, rehabilitation, or replacement of existing bridges across the country to reduce the overall number of those bridges either in poor condition, or in fair condition at risk of declining into poor condition.

The funding is unique in three key areas because it:

- Allows multi-year grant agreements to fund large projects by making it possible to take a project through pre-construction activities and into construction.
- Offers grants that help fund the planning process, including planning, feasibility analysis and revenue forecasting associated with the development of a project that would subsequently be eligible to apply for the Bridge Investment Program.
- Offers two types of construction grants, covering “large” projects over \$100 million and “bridge projects” at up to \$100 million.

According to the NOFO description, “A total of \$2.36 billion in 2022 BIP funds are available for the Bridge Projects and Large Bridge Projects funding opportunities. These funds will be awarded on a competitive basis for bridge replacement, rehabilitation, preservation, and protection projects that: (1) improve the safety, efficiency, and reliability of the movement of people and freight over bridges; and (2) improve the condition of bridges in the United States by reducing (a) the number of bridges, and total person miles traveled over bridges, that are in poor condition or that are in fair condition and at risk of falling into poor condition within the next three years, or (b) the number of bridges, and total person miles traveled over bridges, that do not meet current geometric design standards or cannot meet the load and traffic requirements typical of the regional transportation network. In addition, Large Bridge Projects that receive a BIP award of not less than \$100 million are eligible for multiyear grants, in which DOT can award available funds to a project over the course of several years in accordance with an agreement and in alignment with its schedule. In selecting Bridge Projects and Large Bridge Projects, FHWA will consider the extent to which BIP funds leverage non-Federal contributions from sponsors and stakeholders involved in the planning, design, and construction of eligible projects.”

FHWA is planning on holding numerous webinars soon where you can tune in to learn about the program, and additional information can be found at <https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/bridge/bip/index.cfm>, including the NOFO, a fact sheet, Q&As, and contact information.

Planning Applications must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. EDT on July 25, 2022.

Bridge Project Applications must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. EDT on September 8, 2022.

Large Bridge Project Applications must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. EDT on August 9, 2022.

The grant application portal can be found at <https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?dpp=1&oppld=341050>.

Please feel free to reach out if you have questions.

Iowa DOT, Local Systems Bureau

https://iowadot.gov/local_systems/contact-us