



# 2017 Linking Iowa's Freight Transportation System Program (LIFTS)

# Introductions

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## Linking Iowa's Freight Transportation System Program

- 2015/2016 Pilot Program
- FAC Input
- FAST ACT
- LIFTS Program Overview
- Eligibility
- Project Evaluation
- Program Timeline



# 2016 LIFTS Pilot Program

**\$2.7 Million was awarded on Feb 9, 2016 as grants using repaid State Infrastructure funding**

- **2016 Results:**
  - 25 grant requests totaled \$17.2 Million
  - A \$14.4 million gap in funding
  - \$2.7 million was awarded on February 9, 2016 as grants
  - Six projects were awarded funding

# FAC Input

- Gather a group of stakeholders to review applications
- Include “innovation” as a category for project evaluation/scoring
  - This was determined using the dot sticker exercise back in March
- Provide a dedicated funding stream

# FAST ACT

- Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act signed into law in 2015.
- Expands the eligibility of multimodal freight projects for federal transportation funding through the establishment of the National Highway Freight Program (NHFP)
- 10% of Iowa's NHFP apportionment may be used for freight intermodal or freight rail projects.

# FAST ACT – LIFTS funding

- Transportation Commission chose to award this funding through the administration of the LIFTS program.
- \$2.6 million in the October 2017 funding cycle.
  - This includes two years worth of funding
  - Thereafter \$1.3 million annually.

# LIFTS is designed to:

- Enhance economic development by improving the multimodal freight transportation system in Iowa
- Provide flexible funding for changing demands of the freight transportation system
- Enhance the ability to provide competitive transportation options for shipment of products and moving goods
- Provide incentives to alternate modes for economic development opportunities

## Differences: 2016 and 2017 Programs:

- Federal money vs State SIB money
- Projects must be carried out under the same regulations and processes as a federal-aid highway project.
- Pre-application will be required
- Completion may take longer due to Federal requirements





## 2017 LIFTS Program



# Who can apply?

## Eligible applicants:

- Transportation provider or user
- City or county
- Private company/industry
- Other entity interested in freight transportation

## Private applicants:

- Eligible for **50%** grant funding

## Public applicants or public-private partnerships:

- Eligible for **80%** grant funding

# Project Eligibility

- Infrastructure and operational improvements
- Efforts that reduce the environmental impacts of freight movement
- Infrastructure resiliency and security enhancements
- Real-time transportation information systems
- Electronic screening, credentialing, and security technologies

## Project Eligibility (continued)

- Modernization, upgrading, expansion or reconstruction of existing and new freight facilities that support direct freight interchange between modes
- Modernization, upgrading, expansion or construction of existing or new freight modal links, including but not limited to air freight facilities, barge terminal facilities, intermodal facilities, transload locations, cross docks, or similar facilities.

# LIFTS Project Evaluation

Category	Weight
Freight Mobility Benefits	25 %
Economic Benefits	25 %
Public Benefits	20 %
Project Readiness	20 %
Innovation/Process Improvement	10 %

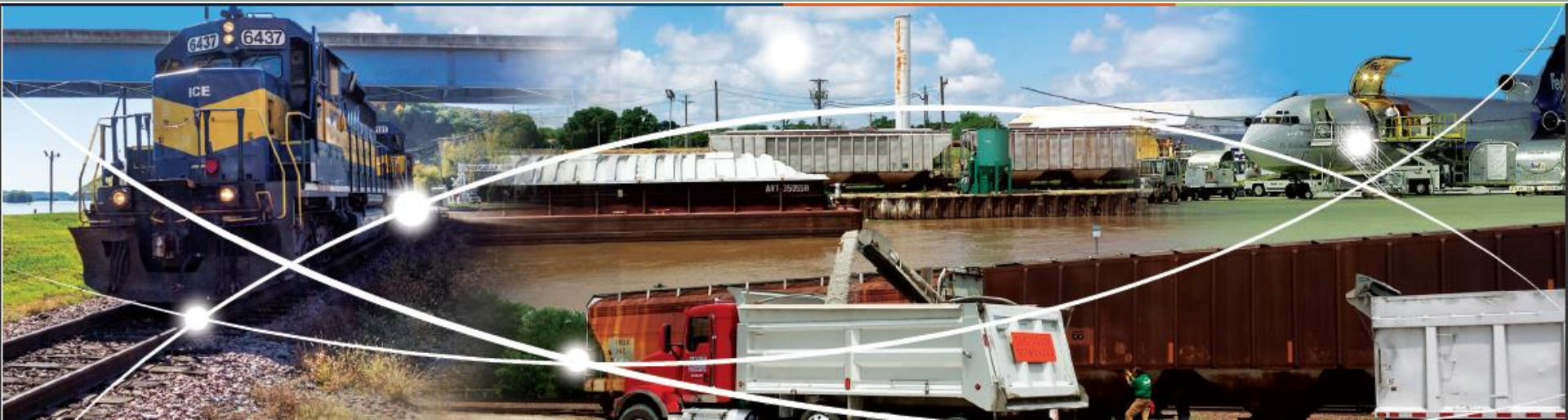




# Tentative Program Timeline

- Webinar – Early Fall 2017
- Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) – Early Fall 2017
- Pre-applications due – Late Fall 2017
- Applications due– Early Winter 2018
- Approval of projects - Early spring 2018





## Questions:

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