

GRANT ALERT

February 23, 2024

Congestion Relief Program (CRP)

DEADLINE	PROGRAM NAME & LINK
<p>Monday, April 22, 2024, 11:59 p.m. EST</p> <p><i>(Submitting agencies must complete the Grants.gov registration process before submitting the final application; the process usually takes 2-4 weeks to complete.)</i></p>	<p>Congestion Relief Program(CRP) Grant US Department of Transportation</p>
DESCRIPTION	
<p>The program provides discretionary grants to advance innovative, integrated, and multimodal solutions for congestion relief in the most congested metropolitan areas. The goals of the Program are to reduce highway congestion, reduce economic and environmental costs associated with that congestion, including transportation emissions, and optimize existing highway capacity and usage of highway and transit systems through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving intermodal integration with highways, highway operations, and highway performance • Reducing or shifting highway users to off- peak travel times or to nonhighway travel modes during peak travel times • Pricing of, or based on, as applicable <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ parking ○ use of roadways, including in designated geographic zones ○ congestion <p>What's New this Round?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ N/A – this is a new discretionary program 	
ELIGIBILITY	
<p style="text-align: center;">Applicants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A State for the purpose of carrying out a project in an urbanized area with a population of more than 1,000,000 • A Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) for the purpose of carrying out a project in an urbanized area with a population of more than 1,000,000 	<p style="text-align: center;">Projects</p> <p>Eligible Projects are projects, or an integrated collection of projects, for planning, design, implementation, and construction activities and achieve the Congestion Relief Program goals. These projects may include but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deployment and operation of an integrated congestion management system

- A City for the purpose of carrying out a project in an urbanized area with a population of more than 1,000,000
- A Municipality for the purpose of carrying out a project in an urbanized area with a population of more than 1,000,000

- Deployment and operation of a system that implements or enforces high occupancy vehicle toll lanes, cordon pricing, parking pricing, or congestion pricing
- Deployment and operation of mobility services, including establishing account-based financial systems, commuter buses, commuter vans, express operations, paratransit, and on-demand micro-transit;
- Incentive programs that encourage travelers to carpool, use nonhighway travel modes during peak period, or travel during nonpeak periods.

Other types of projects that achieve one of more of the Program goals may be considered. These projects may include activities that support transit-oriented development such as improving intermodal integration with highways and other congestion reducing land use strategies that align with the Program goals.

FUNDING

General

For FY 2022, FY 2023, and FY 2024, up to \$150 million is available for Congestion Relief Program awards under this NOFO.

- Minimum grant award under the Program must be \$10,000,000.

Cost-Sharing

The Federal share of the cost of a project carried out with a grant under the Program shall not exceed 80 percent of the total project cost.

FHWA will not consider previously incurred costs or previously expended or encumbered funds towards the matching requirement for any project.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Merit Criteria:

1. Characterizing Congestion and Associated Impacts
2. Congestion Management and Alignment with Program Goals and the Administrative Priority for Considering Climate Change
3. Safety
4. Public Engagement, Collaboration, and Partnerships
5. Equity and Justice⁴⁰

Project Readiness and Environmental Risk Criteria:

1. Technical Feasibility

2. Project Schedule
3. Required Approvals
4. Assessment of Project Risks and Mitigation Strategies

Administration Priorities and Departmental Strategic Plan Goals:

1. Safety
2. Climate Change and Sustainability
3. Equity and Justice⁴⁰
4. Workforce Development, Job Quality, and Wealth Creation

PROJECT TIMEFRAME

Obligation of Program grant funds occurs when a selected applicant enters a grant agreement or a project agreement with FHWA and is generally after the applicant has satisfied applicable administrative requirements, including transportation planning and environmental review requirements.

To determine whether a project selected to receive a Program grant will be funded with FY 2022, FY 2023, or FY 2024 funds, FHWA will consider the estimated project start date provided in the application. Funds will be assigned after announcement of projects selected to receive an award during the grant agreement development process.

Obligation Dates

- FY 2022 – September 30, 2025
- FY 2023 – September 30, 2026
- FY 2024 – September 30, 2027

PENNDOT ROLE

PennDOT Emphasis

PennDOT continues to promote the practices and tools that increase the reliability and mobility of the Commonwealth’s transportation network. PennDOT, and its partners, seek to continue to complete projects which reduce congestion and the associated issues with congestion such as economic and environmental costs of congestion. The Congestion Relief Program provides the opportunity to implement projects and programs which are critical to reducing congestion, and congestion related issues, across the Commonwealth.

PennDOT Support

Transportation Federal Funding Opportunities Resource Account:

RA-PDTRANSFEDFUNDOPP@pa.gov

PennDOT will consider providing support for regionally supported grant proposals as applicable. PennDOT support may include providing data and subject matter expertise as available and potentially a letter of support.

The deadline for requesting PennDOT support is April 8, 2024.