SRF

Grant Announcement

Date: September 19, 2022

Subject: FFY 2022 Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART) Grants Program

Summary

The SMART program was established to provide grants to eligible public sector agencies to conduct demonstration projects focused on advanced smart community technologies and systems in order to improve transportation efficiency and safety. The program funds projects that are focused on using technology interventions to solve real-world challenges and build data and technology capacity and expertise in the public sector. FFY 2022 NOFO solicits application <u>only</u> for Stage 1 grants (details below).

Grant Basics

- **FFY 2022 funding available:** $100 million
- **Application deadline:** November 18, 2022, at 4 p.m. CST
- **Application stages:**
    o Stage 1 – Planning and Prototyping Grants (FFY 2022 for Stage 1 applications <u>only</u>)
    o Stage 2 – Implementation Grants (FFY 2023 and beyond)
- **Award amount minimum and maximums:** No predetermined dollar thresholds
- **Funding distribution:** Not to exceed more than
    o 40 percent to large communities
    o 30 percent to midsize communities
    o 30 percent to rural communities
- **Consideration to HDC:** Minimum 40 percent to low income and overburdened communities
- **Anticipated funding:** $2 million per project for Stage 1, $15 million per project for Stage 2
- **Application limits:** No limit on the number of projects a lead applicant can pursue
- **Local match:** Not required for Stage 1 grants
- **Eligible applicants:** (1) a State; (2) political subdivision; (3) Tribal government; (4) transit agency; (5) public toll authority; (6) MPO; and (7) two or more eligible entities described in 1-6 above
- **Eligible projects:** <u>must</u> demonstrate one of the following, may demonstrate more than one:
    o Coordinated automation – Use of automated transportation and automated vehicles to minimize impact on accessibility of any other model of travel
    o Connected vehicles – Send/receive info regarding vehicle movements in network and use V2V and V2E communications to provide advanced and reliable connectivity
    o Intelligent, sensor-based infrastructure – Deployment and use of collective intelligent infrastructure that allows sensors to collect and report real-time data
    o Systems integration – Integration of intelligent transportation systems with other existing systems and other advanced technologies

- o Commerce delivery and logistics – Innovative data and technological solutions supporting efficient goods movement to improve delivery and logistics
- o Leveraging use of innovative aviation technology – Levering aviation technology such as unmanned aircraft systems, to support transportation safety and efficiency
- o Smart grid – Developing programmable and efficient energy transmission and distribution system
- o Smart technology traffic signals – Improving active management and functioning of traffic signals
- **Technical Merit selection criteria:** 1) Identification and understanding of problem to be solved; 2) Appropriateness of proposed solution; and 3) Expected benefits
- **Project Readiness selection criteria:** 1) Feasibility of workplan; 2) Community engagement and partnerships; and 3) Leadership and qualifications
- **Application length:** may not exceed 7 pages
- **Benefit Cost Analysis (BCA):** NOT required
- **Grant obligation date:** to occur as flexibly and expeditiously as possible, within 12 months of announcement of grant awards. Pre-award costs are ineligible for reimbursement.
- Applicants must consider, budget for, and implement appropriate data collection and management procedures to comply with data collection requirements.
- **Webinar:** FFY 2022 SMART Grant Program Webinar will be held Thursday, September 29, 2022 from 1:30 – 3:00 pm CDT
- **Submission portal:** https://usg.valideval.com/teams/USDOT_SMART_2022/signup (**NEW**)

Link to website: https://www.transportation.gov/grants/SMART

Link to NOFO: FFY 2022 SMART NOFO

Note: USDOT anticipates that only recipients of Stage 1 Planning and Prototyping grants will be eligible for Stage 2 Implementation grants for FFY 2023 and beyond.