



City of Coeur d' Alene
City of Post Falls
City of Hayden
City of Rathdrum
Coeur d' Alene Tribe
East Side Highway District
Idaho Transportation Department
Kootenai County, Idaho
Lakes Highway District
Post Falls Highway District
Worley Highway District

Cooperatively Developing a Transportation System for all of Kootenai County, Idaho

December 4, 2019

TO: KCATT Members
FROM: Glenn F. Miles, Executive Director
SUBJECT: KMPO 2019 Surface Transportation Block Grant Program - Call for Projects (2021-27)

Background:

As a Federally designated urbanized area between 50,000 and 200,000 population, the Kootenai Metropolitan Area receives funding for transportation projects on the Federal-aid system through the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). The availability of those funds is created through the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act or FAST Act. The FAST Act is a multi-year 2016-2021 transportation authorization bill, which established transportation programs; established the funding levels; and provides provisions that set both broad and specific policy goals and objectives.

The FAST Act was implemented by the Administration through the release of rules published in the Federal Register and through notices of funding availability. The FAST Act supersedes the previous transportation authorization legislation (MAP-21); however, to the extent the law was similar, those rules generally remain in place.

The Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG) is a well-established program. ITD as a matter of ITD Board policy, discounts the funds available to local areas between 5,000 and 200,000 populations. That policy continues with the FAST Act, it will be difficult to determine the actual STP funding availability to the Kootenai Metropolitan Area, until each year's appropriation cycle is completed.

Call for Projects:

This Call for Projects is going to be based on the assumption that approximately 10 million may be available to the KMPO area between 2021 and 2027. This is about the same as the current amount (1.4 million/year) and much lower than the FAST Act sub allocation potential (3.2 million/year +/-).

In addition, KMPO is seeking applications for regionally significant projects that could be ready for construction between 2021 and 2026, should a regional funding strategy be implemented in the near future.

Eligibility Factors:

1. The project must be on an existing or approved future road on the Federal-aid system with a Federal Functional Classification of Principle Arterial, Minor Arterial or Collector roadway.
2. The project must be primarily for transportation purposes.
3. Intelligent Transportation System related projects must come from an adopted ITS Plan
4. The project must come specifically from the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), or substantially meet the goals and policies of the MTP. This includes those projects and policies contained in the Regional Public Transportation Plan, Regional Pedestrian & Bicycle Transportation Plan and also in local transportation plans or elements of local comprehensive plans. (Cite applicable plan and page in the application)
5. At this time, ITD conducts the call for projects for TAP associated projects.
6. Projects must also include in their application the design consideration of connectivity to various modes of surface transportation available in the project area, as well as meeting current urban design standards for roadway, walking, biking (non-recreational), freight and goods movement, etc..

Local Match Requirements:

1. The FAST Act contains a local match requirement of 20%; however, due to the large amount of Federal lands in the State of Idaho, that the local match requirement is lowered to generally 7.34%. This match rate may be subject to change based on the eligibility of the project under certain conditions, as well as the next transportation reauthorization bill upcoming in 2021.

Timing of Applications and Evaluation:

Project Applications will be due to KMPO no later than February 14, 2020. Applications will be reviewed for completeness and meeting eligibility requirements and then submitted to KCATT for scoring at the February 25, 2020 regular KCATT meeting. Those submitting applications will be provided a 15 minute opportunity to present their project(s) during the meeting.

Once presentations and scoring is complete, the KMPO staff will tabulate the scores and email the results to KCATT members for review. KCATT can decide if they would like a special meeting to discuss the results of the scoring and provide a formal recommendation. The draft results will be presented to the KMPO Board on March 12, 2020. The results will be used in April as part of the STP Urban balancing committee development of the 2021-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).