



Innovative Finance and Asset Concession Grant Program: FY22/23/24

Agency U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) – Build America Bureau

Program Description This is a new program totaling \$100 million over five years to fund state and local government technical, financial, and legal advisory service costs for alternative project delivery. The grants will enable recipients to facilitate and evaluate public-private partnerships in which the private sector partner could assume a greater role in project planning, development, financing, construction, maintenance, and operation, including by assisting eligible entities in entering into asset concessions.

Application Due 11:59 PM EST on May 10, 2024

Total Funding \$57,720,000

Award Amount 30 – 45 (for three years) Max Award: \$ 2 M Min Award: None

Local Match: No Matching Required for the first million
50% matching required for amounts in excess of \$1 million

Eligible Applicants States; Tribal governments; units of local government; agencies or instrumentalities of a State, Tribal government, or unit of local government, or special purpose districts or public authorities. In order to be eligible, the applicant must:

- own, control, or maintain an Existing Asset; and
- have the legal authority to enter into a contract to transfer ownership, maintenance, operations, revenues, or other benefits and responsibilities for an Existing Asset.
- Have authority to enter into contracts to procure any professional services that would be funded under the Program, or to employ full or part time staff to perform the activities described.

Eligible Activities/Projects Technical Assistance Cooperative Agreements: capacity building of the Eligible Entity to develop, review, or enter into Asset Concessions to advance TIFIA-eligible Projects, including

- Asset Scan: conducting assessments of multiple Existing Assets
 - Program of Existing Assets: conducting pre-construction tasks including: i) soliciting and negotiating Asset Concessions, including hiring staff in public agencies; ii) conducting a value-for-money analysis, or a comparable analysis, to evaluate the comparative benefits of Asset Concessions and public debt or other procurement methods; iii) evaluating options for the structure and use of Asset Concession Payments; iv) evaluating and publicly presenting the risks and benefits of all contract provisions for the purpose of transparency and accountability; v) identifying best practices to protect the public interest and priorities; vi) identifying best practices for managing transportation demand and mobility along a corridor, including through provisions of the Asset Concession, to facilitate transportation demand management strategies along the corridor that is subject to the Asset Concession; and vii) integrating and coordinating pricing, data, and fare collection with other regional operators that exist or may be developed.
- Expert Services Cooperative Agreements: advising services for project-level assistance including
- Project planning, feasibility studies, revenue forecasting, economic assessments and cost-benefit analyses, public benefit studies, value-for-money analyses, business case development, lifecycle cost analyses, risk assessment, financing and funding options analyses, procurement alternatives analyses, statutory and regulatory framework analyses, meaningful public involvement and other pre-procurement and pre-construction activities;
 - financial and legal planning (including the identification of statutory authorization, funding, and financing options);
 - early assessment of permitting, environmental review, and regulatory processes and costs;
 - assistance with entering into an Asset Concession;
 - impact analysis of Existing Asset development on issues in the public interest, including worker displacement and equitable investment.

Review Criteria Merit Criteria:

- Technical Merit Criteria: Technical Merit Criterion #1: Identification of Need; Technical Merit Criterion #2: Desired Goals and Outcomes; Technical Merit Criterion #3: Development Strategy;
- Readiness Criteria: Readiness Criterion #1: Feasibility of Workplan; Readiness Criterion #2: Private Sector Investment Viability; Readiness Criterion #3: Capacity to Deliver Proposed Activities; Readiness Criterion #4: Feasibility of Budget Plan;

Selection Considerations: Policy Alignment

- Policy Alignment Selection Consideration: The application explains how the Proposed Activities proposed will advance USDOT strategic goals and priorities, including: Safety; Climate Change and Sustainability; Equity; Workforce Development, Job Quality, and Wealth Creation.

Link: • [Innovative Finance and Asset Concession Grant Program](#) • [Grants.gov](#)

BAC Partnership Opportunity • The Build America Center (BAC) is a technical assistance program funded by the USDOT, offering grant development services to localities at NO CHARGE. For more information, please visit our websites: <https://bac.umd.edu/> and <https://billlaunchpad.com/>

If your agency is interested in exploring this opportunity, contact us at bac@umd.edu for details on collaboration