



Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity Grant Program (RAISE)

Agency US DOT

Program Description The RAISE program aims to fund surface transportation projects that have significant local or regional impact, aligning with priorities such as safety, equity, climate resilience, sustainability, and economic growth. It supports projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, protect environmental quality, and address the adverse effects of transportation on disadvantaged communities, in line with Executive Orders 14008 and 14091. Additionally, the program promotes equitable access, environmental justice, and labor standards by creating good-paying jobs and supporting workforce development, including apprenticeships and union participation, under Executive Orders 14025 and 14052. Through the Justice40 Initiative, it ensures that at least 40% of benefits reach underserved communities. The RAISE program also encourages integration of transportation with housing, employment, and economic strategies, though funding is limited to transportation infrastructure within multi-faceted projects.

Application Due December 2, 2024 (Round- FY 2024 Projects of Merit); January 30, 2025 (All Applicants)

Total Funding Total: \$1.5 billion Capital Projects: Planning Projects: Urban Areas: Minimum award of \$5 million All Areas: No minimum award amount. Rural Areas: Minimum award of \$1 million All Areas: Maximum award of \$25 million All Areas: Maximum award of \$25 million

Award Amount Expected Number of Awards:150; minimum \$50,000; maximum \$25 million.

Local Match: Yes. Urban Areas: Federal funding can cover up to 80% of the total project cost, with the remaining 20% expected to be matched by non-federal sources. Rural Areas, Areas of Persistent Poverty (APP), and Historically Disadvantaged Communities (HDC): Federal funding can cover up to 100% of the project cost, meaning no matching funds are required for these areas.

Eligible Applicants • States and the District of Columbia • Any territory or possession of the United States • A unit of local government • A public agency or publicly chartered authority established by one or more States • A special purpose district or public authority with a transportation function, including a port authority • A Federally recognized Indian Tribe or a consortium of such Indian Tribes • A transit agency • A multi-State or multijurisdictional group of entities that are separately eligible

Eligible Activities/ Projects Planning and/or constructing surface transportation infrastructure: Any purpose eligible under the Federal Transit Administration’s Formula Grants for Rural Areas Program (49 U.S.C. 5311), including planning, capital, or operating expenses for transportation services.

Review Criteria • Safety: aims to protect both motorized and non-motorized travelers and communities from safety risks. • Environmental Sustainability: integrates considerations of climate change and environmental justice in the planning or implementation phase of the project. • Quality of Life: enhances access to affordable transportation options, promotes active transportation, or substantially reduces reliance on vehicles. • Mobility and Community Connectivity: improves system-wide connectivity with access to transit, micro-mobility options, and on-demand mobility services. • Economic Competitiveness and Opportunity: boosts intermodal or multimodal freight movement, supports tourism, and fosters strong job creation. • State of Good Repair: addresses current or anticipated system vulnerabilities, restoring and modernizing essential infrastructure assets. • Partnership and Collaboration: engages with public and/or private partners and involves residents and community organizations to promote equity. • Innovation: utilizes innovative technologies, project delivery methods, or financing approaches. To achieve a “high” rating, the criterion must be a primary project objective, offer clear, direct, and data-driven (for capital projects only) significant benefits, and align with at least one of the high-benefit outcomes specified in the merit criteria rubric in the NOFO. A project is recommended if six or more of the eight merit criteria receive a “high” rating, with none rated as “non-responsive.”

Link: • https://www.transportation.gov/RAISEgrants/raise • https://www.grants.gov/search-results-detail/356890-nofo

Application Submission All applications must be submitted electronically via Grants.gov; Applicants must also be registered and maintain active status in SAM.gov with a valid UEI throughout the application process.

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