Putting Together a Killer TIGER Proposal

Tips and strategies for developing a competitive project and proposal for the Department of Transportation’s Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) competitive grant program.

Stronger Counties. Stronger America.
Today’s Presenters

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Agenda

• Introductions

• Background on the TIGER program

• NACo advocacy in transportation and the TIGER program

• Past County projects that have won awards

• Developing a competitive transportation initiative

• Application requirements and strategies

• Resources and additional services
The TIGER Program

What is the TIGER Program?
What types of projects does it fund?
How much funding is available?
TIGER Program

Primary Priorities

• Improve safety
• Improve the condition of existing systems
• Contribute to economic competitiveness
• Increase transportation choices
• Enhance environmental sustainability
TIGER Program

Secondary Priorities

- Foster innovation
  - Strategies
  - Technology
- Funding and financing
- Facilitate partnerships
TIGER By the Numbers

Since 2009

- 381 projects funded
- 134 awards for rural and tribal communities
- $4.6 billion total funding
- 6% applications awarded
TIGER Awards 2009-2015

- **Transit**
  - 71 Projects
  - $1,309,705,649
  - 28.5% of TIGER Funding

- **Rail**
  - 60 Projects
  - $985,380,349
  - 21.4% of TIGER Funding

- **Planning**
  - 64 Projects
  - $59,207,536
  - 1.3% of TIGER Funding

- **Port**
  - 43 Projects
  - $523,585,140
  - 11.4% of TIGER Funding

- **Bicycle & Pedestrian**
  - 16 Projects
  - $213,992,463
  - 4.7% of TIGER Funding

- **Road**
  - 127 Projects
  - $1,503,603,206
  - 32.7% of TIGER Funding

Source: US Department of Transportation, About TIGER Grants
www.transportation.gov/tiger/about
TIGER By the Numbers

2016

- $1 million - $200 million award range
- April 29 deadline to apply
- 20% minimum cost share for urban projects
- $500 million total available funding

$500 million total available funding

20% minimum cost share for urban projects

April 29 deadline to apply

$1 million - $200 million award range
TIGER By the Numbers

2016

$100 million maximum total awards in a single state

$100 million minimum total awards for rural projects

30 project narrative page limit (single spaced, 12pt font, with 1” margins)
Winning County
TIGER Projects

What types of projects received funding?
What are some common characteristics of awardees?
Where can I find more information on winning projects?
Los Angeles County, CA
(Urban - 2015)

• Rail to Rail Active Transportation Corridor Connector Project

• 6.4 mile multi-use corridor through disadvantaged communities

• $15 million award

• $34.3 million total project cost
Essex County, NJ
(Urban - 2014)

- Port Newark Container Terminal Access Improvement and Expansion Project
- Renovation of port gates and access points
- $14.8 million award
- 453.8 million total project cost
County of Kaua’i, HI (Rural - 2015)

• Līhu’e Town Core Mobility and Revitalization
• Shared use and infrastructure conversions
• $13.8 million award
• $17.8 million total project cost
Claiborne County, MS
(Rural - 2014)

• Three-County Roadway Improvements Program
• Modernized network of farm-to-market roads
• $17.8 million award
• $18.7 million total project cost
Developing a Competitive Project

How do we develop an eligible project?
What collaborators should we engage?
How can we make our project competitive?
A Competitive TIGER Project

Well Planned
- Connected to existing infrastructure
- Consistent with existing development and maintenance plans
- Supportive of disadvantaged communities
- Innovative (or creative)
- Collaborative

Well Documented
- Written partnership commitments
- Quantified benefits
- Completed environmental review and planning approvals

Well Resourced
- Ready to start
- Non-federal funding in place
- Detailed and sufficient project budget
Articulating Benefits

- Safety
  - Including system and personal safety
  - Cost-benefit component
- Condition of infrastructure
- Economic development benefit
  - Economic competitiveness
  - Improved access and reliability
  - Increased productivity of resources
- Quality of life
- Environmental impact (also includes a cost-benefit component)
Collaborators

Depend largely on the nature of your project, but may include:

• Neighboring jurisdictions
• Public-private partnerships
• Multiple transportation agencies and disciplines
• Housing agencies
• Social services
• Educational agencies
Are We Rural?

- Defined as NOT in an urbanized area
  - List of urbanized areas: [http://www2.census.gov/geo/maps/dc10map/UAUC_RefMap/ua](http://www2.census.gov/geo/maps/dc10map/UAUC_RefMap/ua)
  - Wait for the map to load (may take several minutes)
  - These are also available through the census.gov Reference Maps, under “Urban Areas”
  - Places in Urban Clusters are considered rural
Application Strategies

What are the TIGER application requirements?
What can we do to make our proposal stand out?
What should we avoid in our proposal?
Make Sure You Can Apply

- Are you eligible?
- Can you meet the matching requirement?
- Do you know your DUNS number?
- Are you registered with SAM and Grants.gov?

Applications must be submitted through Grants.gov

Give yourself at least two weeks to register with SAM and Grants.gov
Proposal Requirements:

- Standard Form 424
- Project narrative, including:
  - Cover page
  - Table of contents
  - Federal Wage Rate Certification
  - Supporting documents (for cost-benefit and to support other assertions and conclusions made in the project narrative)
  - Appendices (maps, MOUs, letters of support)
Project Narrative Format

- Project Description
- Project Location
- Project Parties
- Grant Funds and Sources/Uses of Project Funds
- Selection Criteria
- Results of Benefit-Cost Analysis
- Project Readiness
- Federal Wage Rate Certification
Resources and Services

What resources can we leverage for our proposal?
How can we integrate outside information?
Are there services available to help us?
The TIGER Web Portal

- TIGER Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)
- 2016 TIGER Applications FAQs
- 2016 TIGER Benefit-Cost Analysis Guidance and Resource Guide
The SAM Portal

- Replaces the CCR
- Add financial info
- E-payments resource

www.sam.gov
The Grants.gov Portal

- Find grants
- Apply online
- Track submissions
- Collaborate (NEW)

www.grants.gov
A Complement to TIGER

Advanced Transportation and Congestion Management Technologies Deployment Initiative

• Supports large-scale transportation technologies to:
  • Increase driver & pedestrian safety
  • Alleviate congestion & streamline traffic flow
  • Measure & improve the operational performance of transportation networks
  • Reduce costs & improve return on investments
• Awards: up to $12 million / $60 million total
• A 50% match is required
• Deadline: June 3, 2016

www.fhwa.dot.gov/fastact/factsheets/advtranscongmgmtfs.cfm
THANK YOU!

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