

The NMDOT Project Oversight Division (POD) is soliciting applications for the Department's Transportation Project Fund (TPF) for fiscal year 2023. Local and tribal governments in New Mexico are eligible to apply for state funded grants. Eligible projects are in the following categories:

- (1) Environmental and other studies;
- (2) Planning;
- (3) Design;
- (4) Construction; and
- (5) Acquisition of rights of way necessary for the development of transportation infrastructure, which includes highways, streets, roadways, bridges, crossing structures and parking facilities, including all areas for vehicular, transit, bicycle or pedestrian use for travel, ingress, egress and parking.

The Metropolitan or Regional Transportation Planning Organizations (MPO/RTPO) will use the following criteria to prioritize their planning-area projects; the District office will also use the criteria to rank projects from their District.

Project Prioritization Criteria:

1. Planning: Is this project identified as a priority on a local or regional planning or programming document? Is this project consistent with local or regional plans?
2. Project readiness: If awarded, will the applicant be able to start spending the money within 3 months from receiving the fully executed project agreement?
3. Priority Bridge: Is this project addressing a bridge on the NMDOT's Local Bridge Priority List for Replacement / Rehabilitation?
4. Phasing:
  - a. Is this project part of a phased project previously funded with other state funds (e.g. Local Government Road Fund, Municipal Arterial Program, Capital Outlay, State Road Fund etc.)?
  - b. Is this project part of a phased project previously funded with TPF? If so, what year?
5. Additional criteria identified by the MPO or RTPO.

The application package shall include the following:

1. Cover letter application including: (1) brief overview of project; (2) whether the potential grantee intends to apply for hardship (match waiver); (3) the timeframe in which the potential grantee is prepared to spend the grant funds, if received (project readiness); (4) verification that funding requested will be enough to complete the phase of work submitted, and (5) whether the project falls into category (a) or (b): a) Project is located on or within locally-owned right-of-way and the project does not include federal funds; or b) Project is located within or on NMDOT owned right-of-way or is an NHS route and/or may include federal funds;
2. Project must fall into one or more of the following categories, including: (1) environmental and other studies; (2) planning; (3) design; (4) construction; and (5) acquisition of rights of way necessary for the development of transportation infrastructure, and includes highways, streets,

roadways, bridges, crossing structures, parking facilities, including all areas for vehicular, transit, bicycle or pedestrian use for travel, ingress, egress and parking. Please be sure to clearly identify the phase of work the funding will be used for (i.e. planning, design, construction, etc.);

3. Project Feasibility Form (PFF) signed by District representative if the project does not have a signed PFF, then the potential grantee must work with the District on the PFF;
4. Resolution of Sponsorship from their governing body, indicating the availability of the 5% match. Alternatively, the potential grantee may submit an official letter signed by the potential grantee’s chief executive or official with budget authority, indicating the availability of the 5% match;
5. Map of project location including mile posts; and
6. Required if local entity does not own the right of way; A letter of support from owners of the project right-of-way. This includes getting a letter from the NMDOT District if the project is partially or fully within NMDOT right-of-way.

Applications will be rated and ranked through a process determined by each MPO and RTPO. Complete applications must be submitted to NMDOT by the MPO or RTPO staff no later than close of business May 31, 2022. All incomplete applications will be returned to the local entity for submission the following year. Projects will be selected and approved by the State Transportation Committee by September 1, 2022. Selection letters will be mailed out within the first week of September.

If you have any questions regarding funding or agreements please contact Clarissa Martinez, 505.699.9946 or [Clarissa.Martinez@state.nm.us](mailto:Clarissa.Martinez@state.nm.us) or Sean Sandoval, 505.660.6102 or [Sean.Sandoval@state.nm.us](mailto:Sean.Sandoval@state.nm.us). George Dodge Jr. our Local Government Relations Director is also available for all other inquiries at [George.Dodge@state.nm.us](mailto:George.Dodge@state.nm.us) or 505-470-4095.

Select Questions and Answers from the FY 2022 TPF application cycle:

- **Is drainage work an allowed expense?**
  - Yes, as long as the drainage work is part of an overall project it is eligible. The drainage work cannot be a standalone project.
- **Is utility work an allowed expense?**
  - Yes, if the utility work is required to mitigate the impacts of the proposed construction. A standalone project or upgrading of utilities will not be eligible for this grant funding. This work can be added to the project provided it is paid for with another local or state funding source.
- **Can an application be submitted with the same scope of work as a project that has already been awarded federal funding?**
  - No, the scope of work being submitted cannot be identical to a federally funded project. Per the final rule, federal funds may not be used as part of a TPF funded project, with the exception of Tribal Transportation Funds, which Tribal Entities may use as their match, but this must be disclosed on the application.