



Florida Division Office



Space Shuttle Endeavor at Kennedy Space Center

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL):

An Introduction from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) – Florida Division

January / February 2023



Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL): A unique opportunity for local entities

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- Large funding amounts for formula funds
- Large funding amounts for discretionary grants, including more opportunities for local entities to access new funding
 - pass-through (typically via State DOT)
 - direct recipient



FHWA Division Role in Grants Administration



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FHWA currently plays a role in more than 40 discretionary grant programs

- USDOT (OST) grants categorized as Tier 1, 2, or 3 based on OST involvement
 - Tier 1 may be administered by other modes
 - FHWA grant recipients will largely work with FHWA Division Office
 - Divisions provide:
 - Technical support to HQ Grant Program managers for evaluating grant application submittals.
 - Program information and technical assistance to applicants.
 - Stewardship and oversight of all grants once announced
- *Note that Division Offices cannot review or provide input on actual grant application narratives.

Meeting Federal Procedures



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Federal funding comes with expectations for meeting federal procedures:

Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO): Grant Application Requirements	Professional Services and Construction Procurement Requirements
Planning requirements/consistency	Design and Construction Standards
Environmental Requirements (NEPA)	Reporting and invoicing requirements (pre-, during, and post- construction)
Right-of-way Acquisition Requirements	Records Retention



Grant Application Common Pitfalls



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- Not addressing the objectives, program goals, or timeframes identified in the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)
- Not adequately addressing NEPA.
 - NEPA is ALWAYS applicable, even if the Class of Action is a Type 1 Categorical Exclusion. Do not suggest NEPA does not apply in the application.
- Not providing data to support the Need to be addressed by the project.
- Using generalized data not relevant to the proposed project area.
- Not demonstrating an understanding of Federal requirements in the development and delivery of the project.



Beware of slip hazards....



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- ✍ Underestimating time needed for critical tasks
 - ✍ Registering in Grants.gov; Preparing Grant Agreement, ROW acquisition, NEPA evaluation, Design phases, etc.
- ✍ Coordinating with Partners (shared vision, planning consistency)
- ✍ Understanding which Federal requirements apply
- ✍ Ensuring project team support and appropriate roles for all tasks



Florida Division Points of Contact



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FHWA FL Division BIL Core Team: Cathy Kendall, Greg Hall, Joseph Sullivan

- Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program Division Lead: Carlos Gonzalez
- Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transp. (SMART) Division Lead: Frank Corrado
- NEPA Questions: Luis Lopez, Joseph Sullivan
- ROW Questions: Brian Telfair



Florida Division Agency Websites

Florida Division Office

- Florida Division Website: <https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/fldiv/>
- USDOT BIL Grant Programs:
<https://www.transportation.gov/bipartisan-infrastructure-law/bipartisan-infrastructure-law-grant-programs>
- FHWA BIL Home Page: <https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/bipartisan-infrastructure-law/>
- FHWA FLDIV Official Mailbox: Florida.FHWA@dot.gov

