



Florida Department of Transportation

RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

605 Suwannee Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450

KEVIN J. THIBAUT, P.E.
SECRETARY

December 6, 2021

RE: Small County Outreach Program Municipalities Application Cycle for the State Fiscal Year 2024 Tentative Work Program
Application Cycle Opens: December 6, 2021
Application Cycle Closes: March 4, 2022

Dear Sir/Madam:

The Florida Department of Transportation (Department) is pleased to announce that the application cycle for the Small County Outreach Program (SCOP) for Rural Areas of Opportunity is now open and will remain open until March 4, 2022. This program, also known as the SCOP “Municipalities” special funding cycle, is available to Rural Areas of Opportunity designated under Section 288.0656(7)(a), Florida Statutes (F.S.). Rural Areas of Opportunity (RAO) include 92 municipalities and communities in more than 30 counties throughout the state that are identified on the list of eligible municipalities and communities on the Department’s Local Programs Website, located at: <https://www.fdot.gov/programmanagement/lp/scop/scop-rao.shtm>.

Funding Available for Application Cycle:

Projects selected during this cycle will be programmed for funding in the Department’s Five-Year Work Program in Fiscal Year 2024. The funding available for allocation in Fiscal Year 2024 is \$9 million. Municipalities that meet the requirements of Section 288.0656(7)(a), F.S., are **not** required to provide matching project funds. Selected projects require the municipality to enter into an Agreement with the Department and will require project delivery in FY 2024. Please consider carefully whether your agency is prepared to deliver the project within this timeframe.

General Information:

Unsuccessful prior year applicants are encouraged to reapply. Applicants are also encouraged to limit their project applications to their municipality’s number one priority project, due to the limited funding and the large number of municipalities and communities that are eligible to compete for the funding. If an applicant makes the decision to request funding for more than one project, a separate application must be submitted for each project. Multiple applications will not be considered unless the applicant ranks each project application in priority order.

Project applications for County owned and maintained facilities within a municipality or community require coordination with the County. It is recommended that the County manage the design and construction work on behalf of the municipality in these instances. In limited cases, the Department may also be authorized to administer contracts on behalf of the municipality selected to receive funding under this program.

Eligibility Requirements (s. 339.2818(7) F.S.):

1. The transportation facility must be within a Municipality or Community in a RAO designated under s. 288.0656(7)(a) F.S.
2. The transportation facility must be publicly owned and maintained.
3. The proposed project is for:
 - a) repair and rehabilitation of bridges
 - b) paving unpaved roads
 - c) addressing road-related drainage improvements
 - d) resurfacing or reconstruction of roads
 - e) constructing safety improvements to roads
4. The proposed project is consistent with the long range transportation plan of the local MPO if applicable, and to the maximum extent feasible with any local comprehensive plan.

Minimum Eligibility Criteria for All Project Applications:

1. The primary criterion is the physical condition of the road as measured by the Department.
2. As secondary criteria the Department may consider:
 - a) Whether the road is used as an evacuation route.
 - b) Whether the road has high levels of agricultural travel.
 - c) Whether the road is considered a major arterial route.
 - d) Whether the road is considered a feeder road.
 - e) Information as evidenced to the Department through an established pavement management plan.
 - f) Other criteria related to the impact of a project on the public road system or on the state or local economy as determined by the Department.

The key to a successful application is to provide enough information to allow the Department to evaluate the project based on clearly demonstrated need for the requested improvement(s).

New this year, the Department is requiring inclusion of Proven Safety Countermeasures for high speed rural roadways with flush shoulders and 50mph or greater posted speeds. These

countermeasures are proven to reduce fatal and serious injury crashes, including head on collisions by 13-64%. The required scope elements include:

1. Pavement markings such as standard thermoplastic.
2. Audible and Vibratory Treatments such as sinusoidal ground-in rumble strips.

Information, references, and additional options are provided in the Rural Programs Application form.

Applicants that seek funding for safety improvements will be provided with additional consideration if the project includes FHWA's Proven Safety Countermeasures. Information may be obtained here:

<https://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/provencountermeasures/>.

How to Apply:

SCOP Rural Areas of Opportunity Application Letter
December 6, 2021

SCOP Municipalities funding applications for Fiscal Year 2024 must be submitted by using the Department's Grant Application Process (“GAP”) system, located at <https://www.flgap.com/>. A copy of the application is available for download in Florida GAP (<https://www.flgap.com/>).

The downloaded application form must be completed and submitted to the Department through Florida GAP (Grant Application Process) by **Friday, March 4, 2022**. Each application package must include the following:

- Rural Roadway Resurfacing Program Application
- Location Map
- Detailed Cost Estimate

Applications will only be accepted through the Florida GAP system. Applications submitted by mail or email will be rejected. Improperly submitted applications will only be considered if the applications are resubmitted through Florida GAP on or before March 4, 2022.

Questions regarding the SCOP Municipalities or this notice of funding availability should be directed to Jasmin Raffington by email at jasmin.raffington@dot.state.fl.us. We look forward to working with your agency in the near future!

Sincerely,



Lorraine Moyle
State Local Program Administrator