



STAFF REPORT

Report To: Board of Supervisors

Meeting Date: October 5, 2017

Staff Contact: Darren Schulz, Public Works Director

Agenda Title: For Possible Action: To approve submittal of a grant application to the U.S. Department of Transportation for Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) discretionary grant funding for the South Carson Street Complete Streets project. (Lucia Maloney, LMaloney@carson.org)

Staff Summary: The Public Works Department is seeking approval from the Board of Supervisors to submit a grant application to the U.S. Department of Transportation for TIGER discretionary grant funding for the South Carson Street Complete Streets project. The City's grant policy requires any grant application over \$50,000 be approved by the Board of Supervisors prior to a grant application submittal by City staff.

Agenda Action: Formal Action/Motion

Time Requested: 5 minutes

Proposed Motion

Move to approve submittal of a grant application to the U.S. Department of Transportation or Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) discretionary grant funding for the South Carson Street Complete Streets project.

Board's Strategic Goal

Economic Development

Previous Action

Not applicable.

Background/Issues & Analysis

The U.S. Department of Transportation has announced the opportunity for state and local stakeholders to apply for \$500 million in discretionary grant funding through the TIGER program. 2017 TIGER grant funding will be awarded on a competitive basis and will give special consideration to projects which emphasize improved access to reliable, safe, and affordable transportation for communities in rural areas such as Carson City. The South Carson Street Complete Streets Corridor project will drive economic growth and investment directly into the heart of Nevada's state capital. Improvements to South Carson Street will improve safety, improve business access along the corridor, and improve transportation for all modes of travel while spurring investment in this significant commercial area and critical gateway to Nevada's state capital; all key goals of the TIGER program. The project has documented support from the businesses and property owners along the corridor, as well as bicycle and pedestrian advocates.

The City is investing over \$10 million in local funding for the southern-most two-mile portion of the corridor (Roland Street to Fairview Drive), however, the portion from Fairview Drive north to 5th Street, connecting South Carson Street with the recently completed Downtown Complete Streets project, remains unfunded. Acquiring TIGER grant funding for this final portion of the corridor will build upon Carson City's downtown

revitalization by linking downtown and the commercial corridor via a cohesive and continuous complete streets design.

Applicable Statute, Code, Policy, Rule or Regulation

The City’s grant policy requires any grant application over \$50,000 be approved by the Board of Supervisors prior to a grant application submittal by City staff.

Financial Information

Is there a fiscal impact? Yes No

If yes, account name/number: Multiple funding accounts, including Infrastructure, Utilities, and other state grant funding.

Is it currently budgeted? Yes No

Explanation of Fiscal Impact: The TIGER grant application does not require a local match for rural applicants such as Carson City. Carson City's accumulated local funding for Fairview Dr. to Roland St. will be documented in the grant application as a "local match" amount to strengthen the application and increase competitiveness. If the grant application is approved, those funds will be required to be committed to South Carson Street. These “local match” funds have already been identified and budgeted for the South Carson Street improvements (Fairview to Roland) and total approximately \$10,000,000. Should the grant application not be approved, the portion of South Carson Street from Fifth St. to Fairview Dr. will be delayed until sufficient local funding or alternate grant opportunities can be acquired.

Alternatives

Direct staff not to apply for the TIGER grant.

Board Action Taken:

Motion: _____

1) _____

Aye/Nay

2) _____

(Vote Recorded By)



U.S Department of Transportation
Office of Public Affairs
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590
www.transportation.gov/briefingroom

News

DOT 69-17
Wednesday, September 6, 2017
Contact: pressoffice@dot.gov

U.S. Department of Transportation Announces \$500 Million Funding Opportunity through TIGER Program

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Transportation today announced the opportunity for state and local stakeholders to apply for \$500 million in discretionary grant funding through the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program.

“The TIGER grant program is a highly competitive program whose winners will be awarded with the funding they need to rebuild the infrastructure of their communities,” said Secretary Elaine L. Chao. “TIGER grants will continue to fund innovative projects that will improve the safety of America’s passengers and goods.”

The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017 appropriated \$500 million, available through September 30, 2020, for National Infrastructure Investments otherwise known as TIGER grants. As with previous rounds of TIGER, funds for the fiscal year (FY) 2017 TIGER grants program are to be awarded on a competitive basis for projects that will have a significant impact on the Nation, a metropolitan area, or a region. The FY 2017 Appropriations Act specifies that TIGER Discretionary Grants may not be less than \$5 million and not greater than \$25 million, except that for projects located in rural areas the minimum TIGER Discretionary Grant size is \$1 million.

The selection criteria remain fundamentally the same as previous rounds of the TIGER grants program, but the description of each criterion was updated. Additionally, the FY 2017 TIGER program will give special consideration to projects which emphasize improved access to reliable, safe, and affordable transportation for communities in rural areas, such as projects that improve

infrastructure condition, address public health and safety, promote regional connectivity, or facilitate economic growth or competitiveness.

To provide technical assistance to a broad array of stakeholders, USDOT is hosting a series of webinars during the FY 2017 TIGER grant application process. Webinars on How to Compete for TIGER Discretionary Grants will be held from 2:00 to 4:00 PM EDT on Wednesday, September 13th and Tuesday, September 19th. To register, please visit the [TIGER Webinar Series](#) webpage. Additional webinars will be scheduled and more information posted online.

The deadline to submit an application for the FY 2017 TIGER grant program is Monday, October 16.

Since the TIGER grant program was first created, \$5.1 billion has been awarded for capital investments in surface transportation infrastructure over eight rounds of competitive grants. Throughout the TIGER program, these grants have supported projects that have a significant impact on the Nation, a metropolitan area, or a region. TIGER grants have historically achieved, on average, co-investment of 3.6 dollars (including other Federal, State, local, private and philanthropic funds) for every TIGER dollar invested.

For more information, please visit www.transportation.gov/TIGER.

###