



STAFF REPORT
Board Meeting of May 19, 2021

AGENDA ITEM: 4-A

PREPARED BY: Sandy Ebersole, Administrative Analyst

SUBJECT:

Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Discretionary Grant Program Call for Projects

Enclosure: No

Action: Information and Discussion Only

SUMMARY:

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) published a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) to apply for \$1 billion in Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 discretionary grant funding through the [Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity \(RAISE\) grants](#). RAISE, formerly known as BUILD and TIGER, has awarded over \$8.935 billion in grants to projects in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico since 2009.

Projects for RAISE funding will be evaluated based on merit criteria that include safety, environmental sustainability, quality of life, economic competitiveness, state of good repair, innovation, and partnership. Within these criteria, the Department will prioritize projects that can demonstrate improvements to racial equity, reduce impacts of climate change, and create good-paying jobs.

For this round of RAISE grants, the maximum grant award is \$25 million, and no more than \$100 million can be awarded to a single State, as specified in the appropriations act. Up to \$30 million will be awarded to planning grants, including at least \$10 million to Areas of Persistent Poverty.

To ensure that the benefits of infrastructure investments benefit communities large and small the Department will award an equitable amount, not to exceed half of funding, to projects located in urban and rural areas, respectively.

Applications must be submitted by 5:00 pm Eastern on July 12, 2021.

FISCAL IMPACT:

No fiscal impact to the approved 2020-21 Overall Work Program and Budget.