



STAFF REPORT
Board Meeting of January 22, 2025

AGENDA ITEM: 5-F

PREPARED BY: Sandy Ebersole, Administrative Analyst

SUBJECT:

Build America Bureau Fiscal Year 2024 Rural and Tribal Assistance Pilot Program

Enclosure: No

Action: Information and Discussion Only

SUMMARY:

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) Build America Bureau (BAB) has issued a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Rural and Tribal Assistance (RTA) Pilot Program. The purpose of the program is to support the hiring of staff or procurement of expert firms to provide financial, technical, and legal support for the planning and design for rural and Tribal infrastructure projects. BAB expects to award \$27 million in total program funding, with \$10 million set aside for grants to Tribal entities. The agency intends to allocate approximately \$10 million for 13 to 50 Single Project Grants ranging from \$200,000 to \$750,000 each and \$17 million for seven to 34 Multi-Community Grants ranging from \$500,000 to \$2.25 million each. No more than 20 percent of funding (or \$5.4 million) will be awarded to projects in a single state. Eligible applicants include “a unit of local government or political subdivision that is located outside of an urbanized area that has a population of more than 150,000 residents” as determined by the 2020 Census; states seeking to advance projects in those locations; and Indian Tribes. The project period is for up to 36 months. There is no cost share requirement.

Please see the [Full NOFO](#), [Press Release](#), and [Program Website](#) for more information. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis beginning March 4, 2025, at 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time (ET) and through April 3, 2025, at 4:59 p.m. ET. Letters of support from partner communities for Multi-Community Grants must be submitted within 14 calendar days of application submission. Any questions on the program may be directed to Susan Wilson at (202) 366-0765 or RuralandTribalTA@dot.gov. BAB hosted a [webinar](#) to provide additional information for prospective applicants on January 14, 2025 at 3:00 p.m. ET.

FISCAL IMPACT:

No fiscal impact to the approved 2024-25 Overall Work Program and Budget.