

CENTRAL TEXAS TRANSPORTATION GRANTS, RESOURCES, AND UPDATES NEWSLETTER

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES & RESOURCES

July 10th, 2023

USDOT Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant Opportunity (MPDG) Program

The FY 2023 MPDG NOFO combines three different programs funded by the Infrastructure, Investment, and Jobs Act:

- \$1.8 billion for the **National Infrastructure Project Assistance (Mega) program**: The Mega program supports large, complex projects that are difficult to fund by other means and are likely to generate national or regional economic, mobility, or safety benefits. Eligible projects could include highway, bridge, freight, port, passenger rail, and public transportation projects of national or regional significance. 50% of funds are available for projects above \$500 million, and 50% for projects \$100- \$500 million.
- \$3.1 billion for the Infrastructure for **Rebuilding America (INFRA) program**: The INFRA program awards competitive grants to multimodal freight and highway projects of national or regional significance to improve the safety, accessibility, efficiency, and reliability of the movement of freight and people in and across rural and urban areas. Eligible projects will improve safety, generate economic benefits, reduce congestion, enhance resiliency, and help eliminate supply chain bottlenecks and improve critical freight movements.
- \$675 million for the **Rural Surface Transportation Grant (Rural) program**: The Rural program supports projects that improve and expand our nation's surface transportation infrastructure in rural areas in order to increase connectivity, improve the safety and reliability of the movement of people and freight, and generate regional economic growth and improve quality of life. Eligible projects include highway, bridge, and tunnel projects that help improve freight, safety, and provide or increase access to agricultural, commercial, energy, or transportation facilities that support the economy of a rural area. 90% of rural funding must be awarded in \$25 million or greater amounts.

Eligible applicants include local governments, states, political subdivisions, and special districts. For more information and to apply, click [here](#)!

FEDERAL & STATE LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

H.B. No. 1846

This bill, Relating to the skills test required for a commercial driver's license for certain commercial learner's permit holders, was signed by the Governor and is in effect September 1st, 2023. The law amends Section 522.023(j) of the Transportation Code to provide a skills test for commercial learner's permit holders from other states.

For more information, click [here](#)!



CTR TAG UPDATES AND EVENTS

Central Texas Regional Transportation Advisory Group Meeting

The next CTRTAG meeting will be held August 10th, 9:30-11:00 AM at CTCOG offices at 2180 N. Main Street, Belton, TX. One of the strategies in the 2022-26 Regionally Coordinated Transportation Plan (RCTP) is to hold a "Local Agency Update" at CTRTAG meetings. If you are a city, county, or organization representative dealing with public transportation services or needs, reach out to dominic.elizondo@ctcog.org to request providing an update on needs, projects, or areas for partnership.

To view the 2022-26 RCTP, click [here](#).



Talking Freight

July 11th, 12:00-1:00 PM

Registration Fee: Free

To register, click [here](#)!