



Central Texas Council of Governments
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Central Texas Transportation Grants, Resources, and Updates Newsletter

03/28/2022

Federal and State Legislative Updates

Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act

On Nov.15, 2021, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) was signed by President Biden. The Act will provide around 50 percent more annual transportation spending over the next five years (30 percent more in formula funds). The act includes an additional \$110 billion for roads and bridges, \$11 billion for safety, \$39 billion for public transit, and \$66 billion for freight and passenger rail (a five-fold increase). The five-year, \$273.2 billion federal aid highway program includes \$16.8 billion for the Highway Safety Improvement Program and \$1.2 billion for improving rail crossings. There is also \$5 billion for a new grant program called Safe Streets and Roads for All to help advance local Vision Zero initiatives, and \$25 million for grants to improve pedestrian safety by installing bollards.

For a detailed breakdown of funding areas and future programs for the IIJA, the Guidebook can be accessed [Here!](#)

Central Texas Regional Transportation Advisory Group (CTRTAG) Updates

2022-26 Regionally Coordinated Transportation Plan

The CTRTAG Board monitors the coordination and implementation of the Regionally Coordinated Transportation Plan (RCTP), a 5 year plan with goals, objectives, needs statements, and recommendations for improving transportation in the region by filling service gaps, needs, and exploring opportunities for collaboration. CTCOG contracted with consultant Kimley-Horn to complete its 2022-26 RCTP update, with the final draft being approved by the CTRTAG Board on its Feb.10th, 2022 Board meeting. This update contains an implementation table with needs statements followed by several recommendations of actions to be taken by CTCOG, public transit providers, or local governments to address those needs. CTRTAG will work to coordinate each of these entities' implementation of these strategies utilizing funding from TxDOT's Public Transportation Division, including the preparation of a Transportation Summit for 2022. To access the 2022-26 RCTP, [Click Here!](#)

Funding Opportunities

USDOT's RAISE Program

USDOT's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Program, funded through the IIJA, invested \$2.275 billion for FY 2022 for surface transportation infrastructure project investments that have a significant local or regional impact. RAISE can fund road, transit, port and freight rail projects, and provide capital funding directly to any public entity. The minimum grant award is \$5 million, and \$1 million for projects located in rural areas. Grants may not exceed \$25 million. \$35 million will be set aside for rural areas of persistent poverty. In addition to capital awards, DOT will award at least \$75 million for eligible planning, preparation or design of projects eligible for RAISE Grants that do not result in construction with FY2022 RAISE funding. The Federal cost share may not exceed 80 percent unless the project is located in a rural area or area of persistent poverty.

Application Deadline: Apr.14, 2022 by 5:00 PM CDT
For More Information, access the NOFO [Here!](#)

Rural Surface Transportation Grant Program

The IIJA has also created and funded a new grant program for surface transportation infrastructure in rural areas. The Rural Surface Transportation Grant Program will support projects to improve and expand the surface transportation infrastructure in rural areas 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. Up to \$ 1 billion will be made available though FY 2022-26 for Highway, bridge, or tunnel projects, including highway freight and safety programs, and projects on public highways and bridges that improve access to facilities that support a rural area's economy. Eligible applicants include local governments and transportation planning organizations. Deadline to apply is May.23, 2022. Apply function will open on Grants.gov on Mar.25, 2022.

For more information, visit the NOFO [Here!](#)