State Match Advantage for Rural Transportation (AZ SMART) Fund Program

State Transportation Board Meeting Agenda Item 5
October 21, 2022

Paul Patane
Multimodal Planning Division

Eligible Applicants for the AZ SMART Fund Program

All Arizona cities/towns and counties are eligible *except* for those highlighted below. Unincorporated areas are represented in county applications. Eligibility may change upon release of new urbanized areas based on the 2020 decennial Census by the US Census Bureau.

JULY 1, 2021 POPULATION ESTIMATES
FOR ARIZONA'S COUNTIES, INCORPORATED PLACES AND UNINCORPORATED BALANCE OF COUNTIES

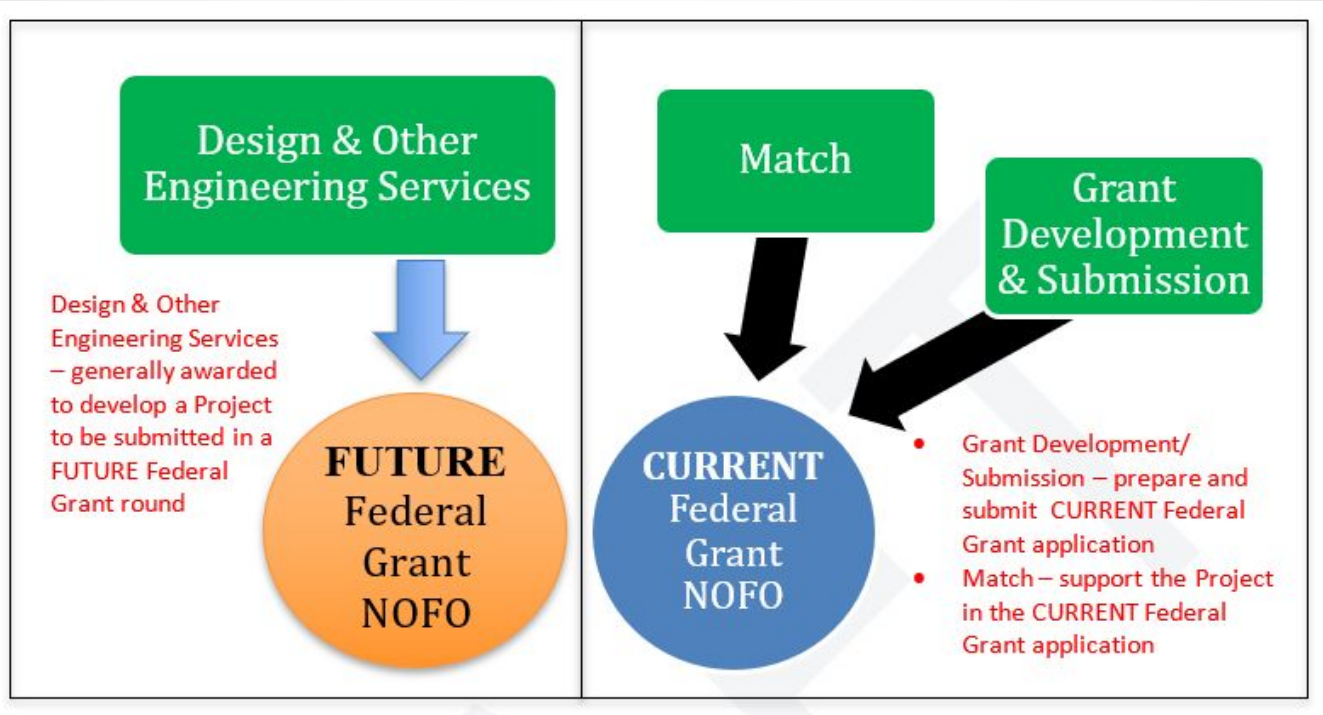|	ESTIMATE		ESTIMATE		ESTIMATE
APACHE COUNTY	66,411	**MARICOPA COUNTY**	4,507,419	**PIMA COUNTY**	1,058,318
Eagar	4,474	Apache Junction *	399	Marana *	55,174
Saint Johns	3,434	Avondale	90,755	Oro Valley	48,222
Springerville	1,724	Buckeye	101,987	Sahuarita	35,588
Unincorporated	56,779	Carefree	3,708	South Tucson	4,603
		Cave Creek	5,021	Tucson	546,061
COCHISE COUNTY	126,463	Chandler	280,189	Unincorporated	368,670
Benson	5,365	El Mirage	36,101		
Bisbee	4,968	Fountain Hills	23,906	**PINAL COUNTY**	439,128
Douglas	16,302	Gila Bend	1,893	Apache Junction *	38,610
Huachuca City	1,626	Gilbert	273,796	Casa Grande	56,242
Sierra Vista	45,851	Glendale	250,585	Coolidge	14,291
Tombstone	1,313	Goodyear	101,662	Eloy	16,485
Willcox	3,229	Guadalupe	5,329	Florence	25,250
Unincorporated	47,809	Litchfield Park	6,957	Hayden *	0
		Mesa	510,792	Kearny	1,741
COCONINO COUNTY	147,434	Paradise Valley	12,707	Mammoth	1,079
Flagstaff	76,960	Peoria *	195,585	Marana *	0
Fredonia	1,374	Phoenix	1,630,195	Maricopa	61,109
Page	7,618	Queen Creek *	56,321	Queen Creek *	9,954
Sedona *	2,606	Scottsdale	243,528	Superior	2,415
Tusayan	614	Surprise	149,710	Winkelman *	0
Williams	3,384	Tempe	181,548	Unincorporated	211,952
Unincorporated	54,878	Tolleson	7,309		
		Wickenburg *	6,687	**SANTA CRUZ COUNTY**	48,468
GILA COUNTY	53,525	Youngtown	7,060	Nogales	19,921
Globe	7,161	Unincorporated	323,689	Patagonia	807
Hayden *	512			Unincorporated	27,740

Applicant Eligibility

- Eligible: 85 cities/towns and 13 counties based on 2010 Census urbanized areas
- Ineligible: 2 counties and 6 cities/towns
  - Maricopa and Pima Counties
  - Guadalupe, Paradise Valley, Tempe, Tolleson, Youngtown, South Tucson
  - Unincorporated areas are covered in county applications
- Eligibility is subject to change with release of 2020 urbanized areas expected in Dec 2022

AZ SMART Eligible Applicants & Category Amounts

Eligible Applicant	Category Amount
ADOT	$10 mil
Counties with a population of 100,000 or more	$10 mil
Counties with a population of less than 100,000	$10 mil
Municipalities with a population of 10,000 or more	$10 mil
Municipalities with a population of less than 10,000	$10 mil

Eligible Uses

AZ SMART Board Policy

Substantive provisions proposed:

- Provide awards during term of IIJA (effective 11/16/21) to well-developed applications to help maximize successful ROI
- Allocate funds in each category while allowing Board flexibility:
  - **Small applicants: 50/40/10 between Match, Design and Grant Development**
  - **Large applicants: 50/50 split between Match and Design**
- Board approves Application and Guidelines
- Board may give preference to Applications as follows:
  - Based on percentage of matching cash funds provided by Applicant;
  - Partnership with other entities to deliver the project
- Require applicants to respond within 5 business days to inquiries
- Require applicants to execute IGAs within 120 days of Board award or federal grant agreement execution
- Require all awards to be subject to federal, state and ADOT laws and policies

AZ SMART Amounts per Policy

Large Applicants

Categories	Statutory Category Allocation	Match (50%)	DOES (50%)
Counties ≥ 100k population	10,000,000	5,000,000	5,000,000
Municipalities ≥ 10k population	10,000,000	5,000,000	5,000,000
ADOT	10,000,000	5,000,000	5,000,000
Totals	**30,000,000**	**15,000,000**	**15,000,000**

Note: Large applicants are not eligible for Grant Development and Submission awards

Small Applicants

Categories	Statutory Category Allocation	Match (50%)	DOES (40%)	GDS (10%)
Counties < 100k population	10,000,000	5,000,000	4,000,000	1,000,000.0
Municipalities < 10k population	10,000,000	5,000,000	4,000,000	1,000,000.0
Totals	**20,000,000**	**10,000,000**	**8,000,000**	**2,000,000**

AZ SMART Fund Application

- Google Form - online submission of responses and document uploads
- Applications will be continually accepted
- Features checklist of required documents and information at top
- First submission required to include approved and signed Master IGA* or application will not be considered
- Includes standard questions regarding Project scope, schedule and budget
- Includes notes to remind Applicants of key points such as the necessity for good cost estimates
- Requires identification of the federal grant to be pursued
- Incorporates action taken by the Board
- Upon approval and execution, each application will become an Amendment to the Master IGA
- Administrative changes may be required but major changes will be brought to the Board

*The term of the Master IGA is through the end of IIJA

Section 1 of 5

Arizona State Match Advantage for Rural Transportation (AZ SMART) Fund Application

Application Due Date and Time: _____, 3:00 PM Arizona Time

To ensure an administratively complete application, please respond to all questions and submit all requested documents by the Application Due Date and Time.

Applicants may submit one Project per application. Documents required to be upload or information required to complete this application include the following:

1. AZ SMART Fund IGA approved by governing board or authorized individual (required only on first application to the AZ SMART Fund program)
2. Resolution or other document demonstrating the authority of the Authorized Individual to submit this application (if not addressed in the IGA).
3. Documentation evidencing the COG/MPO approval to apply to the AZ SMART Fund
4. A specific and concise description of the Project
5. Documentation showing the Project cost estimates (scoping document, cost estimation form, etc.)

Email *

AZ SMART Fund Application Guidelines

- Provides background information on the creation, amount, Eligible Uses and Eligible Applicants for the program
- Includes suggestions to help Applicants be prepared and submit strong applications
- Provides guidance for each question in the application
- Discusses the AZ SMART Application approval process and general information on applying for federal grants
- Covers various project administration scenarios
- Provides direction to get further information
- Administrative changes may be required but major changes will be brought to the Board

Arizona State Match Advantage for Rural Transportation (AZ SMART) Fund

Application Guidelines

Background

The AZ SMART Fund was established by the Arizona Legislature in 2022 to assist eligible cities, towns, counties and the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) in applying for and winning federal discretionary surface transportation grants. The Fund is administered by ADOT, and all awards must be approved by the State Transportation Board (STB).

The AZ SMART Fund is funded at $50 million for state fiscal year 2023. The monies are allocated to certain categories of eligible applicants as follows:

- 20%, or $10 million, for counties with a population of 100,000 persons or more;
- 20%, or $10 million, for counties with a population of fewer than 100,000 persons;
- 20%, or $10 million, for cities and towns with a population of 10,000 persons or more;
- 20%, or $10 million, for cities and towns with a population of fewer than 10,000 persons; and
- 20%, or $10 million, to ADOT.

Expected Launch Timeline

- October 21st - Board approval
- November 1st - AZ SMART website goes live
- November 7th - AZ SMART application goes live and applications begin to be accepted
- November 17th - Informational webinar for Applicants
- Currently at least 4 active, eligible NOFOs:

Opportunity Number	Opportunity Title	Agency	Opportunity Status	Posted Date ↓	Close Date
DOT-TCP-FY22-01	Notice of Funding Opportunity to Establish Cooperative Agreements with Technical Assistance Providers for the Fiscal Year 2022 Thriving Communities Program	DOT-DOT X-50	Posted	10/18/2022	11/22/2022
FTA-2023-001-TPM-RAIL	FY 2022 and FY 2023 Competitive Funding Opportunity: Competitive Grants for Rail Vehicle Replacement Program (Rail Program)	DOT-FTA	Posted	10/12/2022	01/05/2023
FTA-2022-015-TRI-STAR	FY22 Advanced Driver Assistance Systems (ADAS) for Transit Buses Demonstration and Automated Transit Bus Maintenance and Yard Operations Demonstration	DOT-FTA	Posted	09/22/2022	11/21/2022
FR-CRS-22-004	FY22 Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements Grant Program	DOT-FRA	Posted	09/06/2022	12/01/2022

- First application review by PPAC and the Board may occur in December
- Periodic agenda item thereafter based on NOFOs

DRAFT

Questions

Requested Action:

A motion approving the AZ SMART Fund Board policy, the Program Application, the Application Guidelines and for ADOT to use 1% of the agency's share for administering the program.

ADOT