
OTHER NEWS AFFECTING PROJECTS & PM

USDOT invites applications for \$800 Million New FASTLANE Grant Program

26 February 2016 – Washington, DC, USA – The U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) announced that it is now soliciting applications for the Fostering Advancements in Shipping and Transportation for the Long-term Achievement of National Efficiencies ([FASTLANE](#)) grant program. The FASTLANE program is a new program in the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act to fund critical freight and highway projects across the country. The FAST Act authorizes \$800 million in funding for the FASTLANE program for fiscal year 2016, with 25 percent reserved for rural projects, and 10 percent for smaller projects.

“Our nation needs a strong multimodal freight system to both compete in the global economy and meet the needs of consumers and industry,” said U.S. Transportation Secretary **Anthony Foxx** (pictured). “We now have an opportunity to fund high-impact projects that address key challenges affecting the movement of people and freight.”



The [FASTLANE grant program](#) provides funding for projects of national or regional significance. FASTLANE grants provide dedicated funding for projects that address major issues facing our nation's highways and bridges. For the first time in the U.S. Department of Transportation's 50-year history, the program establishes broad, multiyear eligibilities for freight infrastructure, including intermodal projects.

FASTLANE grants will address many of the challenges outlined in the USDOT report *Beyond Traffic*, including increased congestion on the nation's highways and the need for a strong multimodal transportation system to support the expected growth in freight movement both by ton and value. It is also in line with the Department's draft [National Freight Strategic Plan](#) released in October 2015, which looks at challenges and identifies strategies to address impediments to the efficient flow of goods throughout the nation.

FASTLANE grants, authorized by the FAST Act's Nationally Significant Freight and Highway Projects (NSFHP) program, will fund small and large projects, based on project size, that meet statutory requirements. Large projects (equal to the lesser of \$100 million or a certain specified statutory percentage of the project state's FY 2015 apportionment) are eligible for a minimum award of \$25 million. Small projects, which consist of projects below the minimum large project size threshold, are eligible for a minimum award of \$5 million.

The NSFHP program is authorized at \$4.5 billion through 2020. Applications for FY 2016 are due on April 14, 2016. For more information, including a schedule of webinars on the program, please visit www.transportation.gov/FASTLANEgrants.

The Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) is available [HERE](#).

The United States Department of Transportation (USDOT or DOT) is a Cabinet department of the U.S. government concerned with transportation. Established by the US Congress in 1966, it is governed by the U.S. Secretary of Transportation. Its mission is to "Serve the United States by ensuring a fast, safe, efficient, accessible, and convenient transportation system that meets our vital national interests and enhances the quality of life of the American people, today and into the future." DOT provides financing for hundreds of transportation-related programs and projects around the United States each year. For more information, visit <http://www.dot.gov/>.

Source: US Department of Transportation