



PROTECT PROGRAM UPDATE

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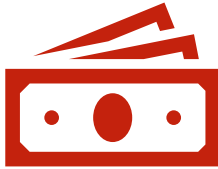
Director, Office of Climate Change Resilience and Adaptation

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OVERVIEW

- Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-Saving Transportation (PROTECT) Program Features
 - Formula
 - Discretionary (Grant)
- Program Development
- Project Identification Approach
- Next Steps

PROTECT FORMULA PROGRAM



\$107 Million between FFY22-FFY26

- 2% set-aside for resiliency planning
- 10% limit on funding for development phase activities
- Potential for reduction in non-federal share



Eligible Facilities

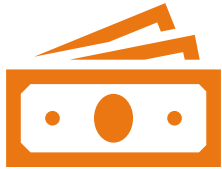
- Federal-Aid Highways
- Public Transportation Facilities
- Port Facilities



Eligible Activities

- Resilience Planning
- Resilience Improvements
- Community Resilience and Evacuation Routes
- At-Risk Coastal Infrastructure

PROTECT DISCRETIONARY (GRANT) PROGRAM



\$1.4 Billion between FFY22-FFY26

\$200M in Planning Grants

\$980M in Resilience Improvement Grants

\$200M in Resilience & Evacuation Route Grants

\$200M in At-Risk Coastal Infrastructure Grants



Eligible Facilities

Federal-Aid Highways

Public Transportation Facilities

Intercity Rail Passenger Transportation

Port Facilities



Distribution and Limitations

25% Rural Set-Aside Minimum

2% Tribal Set-Aside Minimum

<40% on Construction of New Capacity

<25% for a facility or service for Intercity Rail Passenger Transportation

PROTECT FUNDS FORMULA VS. GRANT

Features	Formula	Grant
<i>Apportionment/Allocation</i>	Calculated based on a percentage found in Title 23 of the U.S. Code	Allocations determined based on Eligible Activities types; grants are competitive
<i>Eligible Facilities</i>	Does not include intercity rail passenger transportation	Includes intercity rail passenger transportation
<i>Eligible Activities</i>	2% set-aside for Resilience Improvement Plans (non-federal match required)	Planning activities (100% federal cost share)
<i>Eligible Entities</i>	MDOT/State	State, MPOs, local govt, political subdivision (limited)
<i>Treatment of Projects</i>	Federal-aid highway requirements	Federal-aid highway requirements

PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

- FHWA **PROTECT Formula Program Guidance issued July 29, 2022**
 - Projects and activities should focus on natural hazard resilience
 - Funds can only be used for activities that are “primarily for the purpose of resilience or inherently resilience related”
 - Funds should support the “incremental” cost of making assets more resilient; other project components that are not inherently resilience related should be funded from other sources
- USDOT releases **Benefit-Cost Analysis Guidance for Discretionary Grant Programs in January 2023**
- **FHWA PROTECT Discretionary Program NOFO** issued on April 20, 2023
 - Grant Program Webinars – May through June 2023
 - Protect NOFO Questions and Answers were posted August 16, 2023
 - Grant applications were due August 18, 2023

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION APPROACH

- MDOT is developing evaluation forms and SOPs to help identify and screen potentially eligible projects
- The evaluation includes information from the PROTECT Guidance, as well as information required in order to obligate funds
- Also includes priorities for investment related to underserved and overburdened communities, local priorities, hazard mitigation planning, and identified vulnerable areas

Preliminary Project Evaluation for PROTECT Funding

August 2023

This screening form is intended for use in the preliminary evaluation of projects identified for funding under the PROTECT Program. The accompanying guidance document provides all resources needed to complete and additional details on how to work through the form.

Start now

15. Does the project support a priority need identified by the modal administration, MPO, or locality?
*

Modal Priority

MPO Priority

Local Priority

N/A

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NEXT STEPS

Identify opportunities to Partner
Understand Local Priorities
Align with Governor's Directives

