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MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Iowa Quad Cities Transportation Technical Committee Members and Other Communities in the Iowa Quad Cities Metropolitan Planning Area

**FROM:** Sarah Bambas, Planner

**DATE:** August 25, 2023

**RE: Request for Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program Candidate Projects for Evaluation Process in Iowa Quad Cities Metropolitan Planning Area**

A Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program solicitation is being initiated to program the Iowa Quad Cities STBG targeted funds through Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2027. **In the Iowa Quad Cities, the estimated funds to be programmed are \$10,147,124.** Annual funding targets for the Iowa Quad Cities are estimated between \$4.6 to \$4.9 million based on the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs (IIJA) Act dollars. This is considered the project prioritization process prior to programming the selected project in the Transportation Improvement Program.

Bi-State staff encourages other persons receiving a copy of this notice to work with their respective local governments on potential candidate projects. Noted below are details on funding availability, project eligibility and sponsors, costs and match, process, and the deadline.

Funding Availability

Estimated funds to be programmed are based on the remaining balance to the Iowa Quad Cities in STBG monies, estimated target funds, minus all previously programmed funds. Funding levels may be subject to availability through federal appropriations and subject to modifications with the reauthorization of the transportation act, known as Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, IIJA, which is authorized through FFY 2026. Beyond FFY 2026, funding levels are assumed at the current levels based on an expectation by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) that programming should reflect anticipated projects within a four-year Transportation Improvement Program.



## **Project Eligibility and Project Sponsor**

A candidate project submittal form is enclosed and may be copied for multiple submissions. **Eligible projects must be identified in and/or consistent with the *Connect 2050: Quad Cities Long Range Transportation Plan*.** The plan is available online: <https://bistateonline.org/transportation-and-mobility/quad-cities-metro-planning/lrtp-and-pms>. Refer to Chapter 3 *The System for 2050*, Tables 3.3 and 3.4 for a listing of roadway projects. Other eligibility requirements are in the STBG Manual that can be referenced here: <https://bistateonline.org/transportation-and-mobility/quad-cities-metro-planning/tip-and-funding-projects-quad-cities-mpo>. **Transportation projects must be located on the federal functionally classified system (collector or higher functional classification) to be eligible or identified as an exception in the STBG Manual.** Projects must be sponsored by state and local governments or transit systems, as designated by the Iowa DOT. STBG funds can be used for any mode of surface transportation – roadway, transit, pedestrian, or bicycle facilities.

## **Project Cost Estimates, Matching Funds and Minimum Project Cost**

Project costs should be estimated in Year of Expenditure Dollars (FY2027) and a rate of inflation used by the applicant jurisdiction to estimate Year of Expenditure costs. Year of Expenditure is expected to coincide with FFY 2026 or 2027. Please note the anticipated program year in which the project will be let. A procedural checklist is available in the STBG manual. The manual is posted online at link noted above.

The funds are required to be matched with at least 20 percent and not more than 50 percent local or state funds. Projects must have a total project cost no less than \$125,000, as the federal-aid process requires considerable administration on the part of the project sponsor.

## **Process**

The Quad Cities MPO Transportation Technical Committee ranks candidate projects and recommends programming to the Transportation Policy Committee in accordance with the manual noted above. Recommendations and selection of a project(s) will occur at Technical and Policy Committee meetings in January or February 2024, respectively. Notice of these meetings will each be sent at least one week prior to the meeting date.

## **Deadline**

**Candidate project submittals are requested by Friday, October 20, 2023 at 4:30 p.m. No projects will be accepted after this date.** Project submittals may be mailed to our office or e-mailed to [sbambas@bistateonline.org](mailto:sbambas@bistateonline.org). Let us know if you'd like an electronic version of the submittal form. If you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact me at (309)793-6300, extension 1131 or by e-mail at [sbambas@bistateonline.org](mailto:sbambas@bistateonline.org).

SB/sdg  
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Enclosures: Candidate Project Submittal Form

cc: Transportation Policy Committee  
Regional Transportation Advisory Group (Urban and Combined Interests)