



U.S. Department
of Transportation
Federal Highway
Administration

Memorandum

Subject: **ACTION:** Solicitation for FY 2011 Candidates for the Innovative Bridge Research and Deployment (IBRD) Program (**Reply Due: June 3, 2011**)

Date: May 9, 2011

In Reply Refer To:
HIBT

From: */s/ Original Signed by*
M. Myint Lwin, P.E., S.E.
Director, Office of Bridge Technology

To: Director of Field Services
Division Administrators

The purpose of this memorandum is to announce the FY 2011 solicitation for candidate projects from the States for the Innovative Bridge Research and Deployment (IBRD) Program in accordance with Section 5202 (b)(2) of Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), Public Law 109-59.

For FY 2011, we are requesting your assistance in identifying projects within your corresponding States that target the construction of bridges that will put forth into standard practice the technologies pertaining to the FHWA's Every Day Counts (EDC) Initiative on Accelerating Technology & Innovation Deployment. We are particularly interested in projects that incorporate the use of Prefabricated Bridge Elements and Systems (PBES) and Geosynthetic Reinforced Soil Integrated Bridge Systems (GRS IBS) in bridge construction.

For FY 2011, we estimate that approximately \$4.5 million is available for the solicitation of bridge construction projects with a maximum award amount of \$400,000 per project. Please discuss the IBRD Program with your State department of transportation (DOT) and solicit projects that target this FHWA initiative. Please see the two attachments for additional details and assist this office and your State by determining each candidate's eligibility, by assuring the completeness of each application. The application for each project shall be submitted **ONLINE** at <http://intra.fhwa.dot.gov/bridge/ibrd/> and are **due on or before June 3, 2011**.



To facilitate widespread dissemination, this memorandum will be posted at: www.fhwa.dot.gov/bridge/ibrd/. Questions concerning this program should be addressed to Raj Ailaney, Office of Bridge Technology, at (202) 366-6749 or raj.ailaney@dot.gov.

Attachments

Innovative Bridge Research and Deployment Program

Selection Criteria and Additional Information

The FHWA will use the following criteria to evaluate the submitted candidates for selection:

1. Project/s that will meet the FHWA's Every Day Counts (EDC) Initiative on Accelerating Technology & Innovation Deployment, which meets one or more of the goals of the program as listed in the Eligibility Section;
2. Project/s that will be ready for construction by fiscal year 2012; and
3. Project/s that leverages Federal funds with other public or private resources.

In addition, the FHWA may consider:

1. State priorities – For States that submit more than one project application, consideration is also given to the individual State's priorities if specified.
2. Innovative technology that has statewide and national application.

Solicitation Procedure:

Each year, a memorandum is sent from the FHWA Headquarters Office of Bridge Technology to the FHWA Division Offices requesting the submission of candidate projects for a given fiscal year's funding. This solicitation is also published on the IBRD Website at

www.fhwa.dot.gov/bridge/ibrd/. The State DOTs coordinate with local and Federal agencies, universities and colleges, private sector entities, and nonprofit organizations within their respective States in order to develop viable candidate projects. The State DOTs submit the candidate applications to the FHWA division offices. After review and consultation with the DOT, the division office submits the **acceptable candidate** projects **ONLINE** at <http://intra.fhwa.dot.gov/bridge/ibrd/>. The candidate project applications are **due on or before June 3, 2011**.

The candidate project applications are reviewed and evaluated by an evaluation panel composed of representatives from the FHWA Office of Bridge Technology, the FHWA Office of Infrastructure R&D, and Resource Center. The IBRD Program Manager submits recommendations to the Director of Office of Bridge Technology for approval. An allocation plan is prepared for presentation of the candidate projects to the Federal Highway Administrator, for the final selection of projects.

Submission Requirements:

State DOTs submit applications for funding under this program. A prescribed format for a project submission is provided in the format of a project application form, and the following information should be included to properly evaluate the candidate projects. Those applications that do not include this information will be considered incomplete and will be rejected.

- **State** in which the project is located;
- **Ranking** of the project as determined by the State DOT, if more than one project is submitted;
- **County** in which the project is located;
- **Congressional District** in which the project is located;
- **Name of Congressional Representative** as of the date of application in whose district the project is located;
- **Structure Name & Location** – Provide the bridge name (if appropriate) and describe the specific location of the project, including route number/name and mileposts (if applicable), and feature(s) crossed by the bridge;
- **Structure Description** – Provide a description of the structure including type (e.g., continuous pre-stressed concrete box girder), number of spans, total length, and total width (out to out);
- **Innovation** – Specify the innovation (e.g., materials, design and construction methods for PBES and GRS) that is being used in the project;
- **Proposed Work** – Describe the specific application of the innovation proposed in this particular request, and whether this is a complete project or part of a larger project;
- **Program Goals and Benefits** – The State’s submission should show how the application of the innovation would meet the FHWA’s Every Day Counts (EDC) Initiative on Accelerating Technology & Innovation Deployment as highlighted in the solicitation memorandum;
- **Letting Date** – The proposed letting date for the main project should be specified, in which the proposed candidate is a part;
- **Estimated Costs** – Provide the estimated cost of the project as follows: cost of the entire project; cost of the innovative portion of the projects, as well as preliminary engineering costs associated with the innovative portion of the project; and the cost of proposed activities to evaluate and document the performance of the innovative application;
- **Amount of Federal IBRD Funds Requested** – Indicate the amount of Federal IBRD funds being requested; and
- **Commitment of Other Funds** – Indicate the amounts and sources of any private or other public funding being provided as the IBRD part of this project. Only indicate those amounts of funding having documented commitments. The submission must include written confirmation of these commitments from the entity controlling the funds.

Note: Additional information on project applications can be submitted through FHWA Division Office by FedEx mail, if needed.

Application Guidance:

- **Priority ranking** – Each State, in cooperation with the FHWA division office, is requested to prioritize their candidate projects.
- **Funding for repeated applications** – The States are encouraged not to submit candidate projects, which essentially duplicate a previous project using the same material in the same type of application if that original project was funded with IBRC/IBRD funds.
- **High cost projects** - High cost projects may be funded at less than 100% of a State's requested amount and limited to \$400,000.

Decision Process for Funding:

Projects are to be screened for eligibility first by the FHWA division office and then evaluated by the Headquarters IBRD evaluation panel. The State must commit to building the projects for which IBRD funds are awarded.

State Department of Transportation Responsibilities:

- Coordinate with State, local, and Federal agencies, universities and colleges, private sector entities and nonprofit organizations within the State to develop viable candidate projects;
- Ensure that the applications for candidate projects meet the submission requirements;
- Establish priorities for other candidate projects; and
- Submit completed applications to the local FHWA division office in a timely manner so that the submission deadline can be met.

FHWA Division Office Responsibilities:

- Provide the solicitation memorandum and the program information to the State DOTs;
- Request candidate projects be submitted by the State to the FHWA division office in time to meet the submission deadline established in the solicitation;
- Help applicants complete information required in the application form;
- Review and prioritize all candidate applications submitted by the State prior to sending them to the FHWA Headquarters to ensure that they are complete and meet the submission requirements;
- Submit the candidate applications to FHWA Headquarters by the established submission deadline. Submission of these applications shall be **by ONLINE** submission only.
- Record required application data in the IBRD online database via the IBRD home page at <http://intra.fhwa.dot.gov/bridge/ibrd/>

FHWA Headquarters Program Office Responsibilities:

- Request candidates from the States through the annual solicitation memorandum;
- Review candidate project submissions and compile program and project information for preparation of the allocation plan;
- Submit the allocation plan to the Federal Highway Administrator for approval; and
- Allocate funds for the selected projects.

FHWA Program Office Contact:

Raj Ailaney, P.E.

Senior Bridge Engineer – IBRD Program Manager

Office of Bridge Technology (HIBT-1)

Email: Raj.Ailaney@dot.gov

Phone: (202) 366-6749 Fax: (202) 366-3077

Innovative Bridge Research and Deployment Program

FY2011 APPLICATION

State _____

State's Priority Ranking: # _____ of _____

Project type (new construction, replacement, rehabilitation, or repair) _____

NBI structure number _____ County _____

Congressional District _____

Name of Congressional Representative _____

Structure Name and/or Identifying Description (e.g., Number/Name of Route on the Bridge and Feature Crossed)

Structure description (e.g., bridge type, number of spans, length, width, material)

Innovative designs, materials and construction methods (describe the designs, materials, and/or construction methods; and how they are used and how the project meets one or more of the program goals). Each application (proposal) shall include and address the following items:

1. Project Name:
2. Project classification/technology: such as, PBES, GRS etc.
3. Project Summary:
4. Project Description:
 - a. Describe designs, materials and construction methods;

2011 Discretionary Grant Programs

- b. Describe how the project(s) meet the FHWA’s Every Day Counts (EDC) Initiative on Accelerating Technology & Innovation Deployment (**please see the solicitation memorandum for details**); and
- c. Technical merits (technical details, quality of innovation, technically sound, cost effective, likelihood of having a lasting impact on the State, and likelihood of having a national lasting impact.) **Note:** Please limit the narrative (proposal) on this section to 2 pages.

Schedule for start of work (month/year): _____

Cost Estimates:

Total project cost: P

Preliminary engineering cost, if requested A

Cost of “innovative material/method” portion of the construction B

Cost of documenting construction practice evaluation and lessons learned C

Cost of post-construction evaluation, if warranted D

PE costs + construction costs + evaluation costs = (A + B + C + D) T

Total Federal Program Funds Requested _____

Commitment of Other Funds _____

2011 Discretionary Grant Programs

State Department of Transportation Contact Person:

Name: _____

Title: _____

Agency: _____

Ph: _____

Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

Local Agency Contact Person (if applicable):

Name: _____

Title: _____

Agency: _____

Ph: _____

Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

FHWA Division Office Contact Person:

Name: _____

Title: _____

Agency: _____

Ph: _____

Fax: _____

E-mail: _____