National Scenic Byways Program
2022 Grants & Technical Assistance
Notice of Funding Opportunity Overview Webinar
(693JJ322NF00008)

March 31, 2022
Agenda

• Welcome & Introductions
• NSBP Grants Overview
• NOFO Application
• Roles & Responsibilities
• Grants.gov
• Resources
• Questions
Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Byways Team

Danielle Blackshear  
(202) 366-2064  
Danielle.blackshear@dot.gov

Edward Starks  
(202) 366-5407  
Edward.Starks@dot.gov

Stefan Natzke  
(202) 366-5010  
Stefan.Natzke@dot.gov
NSBP Grants Overview
National Scenic Byways Program (NSBP)

• Established at FHWA by the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991

• Grass-roots collaborative effort to help recognize, preserve and enhance selected roads throughout the United States.

• The vision of the program is to create a distinctive collection of American roads, their stories and treasured places.
NSBP Overview

The NSBP is established in Title 23, Section 162 of the United States Code (23 USC 162).

Designations

• National Scenic Byways (NSB) & All-American Roads (AAR), known as America’s Byways®

• Reviving America's Scenic Byways Act of 2019 required a one-time solicitation of nominations for designation

• 2021 Designations resulted in 49 new byways (34 NSB, 15 AAR)

• 184 America’s Byways

Grants & Technical Assistance

• Available to States and Indian Tribes

• Congress last authorized discretionary NSBP funds in 2012

• $505,724,360 awarded between 1992-2012

• The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 appropriated $16 million for the NSBP

• The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022 appropriated $6 million for the NSBP
Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021

• $16 million available for the NSBP under 23 USC 162

• Directs FHWA to issue a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) after 2021 Designations announced
  • Funding should be prioritized for roads in rural areas
  • Funds must be obligated by recipients by September 30, 2024
  • Funds must be expended by September 30, 2029

• Directs FHWA to study economic benefits of scenic byways
Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022

• Additional $6 million available for the NSBP under 23 USC 162

• $22 million total available
Eligible Applicants

• Per 23 USC 162(b), Grants and Technical Assistance are made available to States and Indian Tribes

• Other entities may partner with a State DOT or Tribal government to submit an application, but may not act as lead applicant

• Tribes may apply through the State DOT or directly to FHWA

• Federal Land Management Agencies (FLMAs) are NOT eligible to apply.
  • FLMA may coordinate with State DOTs or Tribes to submit an application, but may not act as lead applicant
  • If awarded, funding allocated to the State DOT / Tribe, who may enter into an agreement with the FLMA to carry out the project
  • State DOT may also request the funding allocated directly to the FLMA for administration
Eligible Byways

• Per 23 USC 162(b), Grants and Technical Assistance are made available to States and Indian Tribes to implement projects on highways designated as:

  • National Scenic Byways
  • All-American Roads
  • State scenic byways
  • Indian tribe scenic byways

Fun Fact:
National Scenic Byways + All American Roads
= America’s Byways
Eligible Projects

Under 23 USC 162(c), the following 8 project types are eligible for NSBP grants:

1. State and Indian Tribe Scenic Byway Programs
2. Corridor Management Plans
3. Highway Safety Improvements
4. Construction of Byway Facilities
5. Access to Recreation
6. Resource Protection
7. Tourist and Interpretive Information
8. Marketing Programs
Example Activities 1

State and Indian Tribe Scenic Byway Programs

• Program Creation (Vision Statement & Goals, Resource Inventory, Citizen Participation Meetings)

• Revisions/Updates to Outdated Material and Guidelines

• Technical Assistance and Education to various Groups and Organizations

• Assistance with Continuing Education (Conferences, Seminars, Classes)

Corridor Management Plans

• Outreach Strategy to involve Community Groups and Stakeholders

• Conduct Community Meetings

• Development of CMP Implementation Plan

• Revisions/Updates to CMP

• Implementation of Activities described in the CMP
Example Activities 2

Highway Safety Improvements

• Improvement that increase safety and access for vehicles, pedestrians and bicyclists, through traffic, etc.
  • Turn lanes
  • Pedestrian crossing facilities
  • Expanded roadway shoulders
  • Clearer signage
• Improvements at sites with high accident frequency and severity rating

Byway Facilities

• Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Improvements to enhance access
• Pedestrian and Bicyclist Facilities
• Rest Area
• Turnout
• Highway Shoulder Improvement
• Overlook
• Interpretive facility
Example Activities 3

Access to Recreation

• Safe Visitor Access
• Resource Protection, Rehabilitation, Education
• Trails / Trailheads
• Expanded Parking Areas
• Facilities for Picnics and Resting
• Recreational Plan Development

Resource Protection

• Viewshed Protection
• Acquisition of Land and Conservation Easements
• Repair and Renovation of Landmarks
• Wayside Exhibit Pullouts
• Removal of Billboards
• Resource Inventories, Plans, and Education
Example Activities 4

Tourist and Interpretive Information
- Byway Logo Signs
- Guidebooks
- Websites
- Interpretive Markers and Signs
- Walking, Driving, Virtual Tours
- Byway Condition Information
  - 511 Telephone Info Service
  - Radio Broadcasts
  - Interactive Kiosks
  - Road Weather Info

Marketing Programs
- Marketing Material Development, Printing, & Distribution
  - Brochures
  - Videos
  - Websites
  - Guidebooks
- Travel Kiosks
- Media Press Kits
- Statewide / Byway Marketing Plans
Principles & Practices for Eligible Projects

Principles and Practices for Eight Categories of Eligible Project Activities

There are eight categories of eligible project activities. After reviewing the Grant Information, select the category that most completely reflects what will be accomplished by the proposed project. Respond to the Principles, Practices and "Complete Applications Include" sections of these instructions for the selected category as you prepare your application. The electronic application form will include additional statements to help applicants focus their proposals. See [http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/hep/scenic_byways/grants/](http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/hep/scenic_byways/grants/).

List of Eight Grant Categories

1. State and Tribal Programs
2. Corridor Management Plan
3. Safety Improvements
4. Byway Facilities
5. Access to Recreation
6. Resource Protection
7. Interpretive Information
8. Marketing Program

Archive of Funded Grant Projects

https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/hep/scenic_byways/grants/funded/
Cost Sharing or Matching

• Per 23 U.S.C. 162(f), the Federal share of the cost of carrying out a project is limited to 80 percent [of total project costs].
  • Exception – if a scenic byway project along a public road provides access to or within Federal or Indian land, an FLMA may use funds authorized for use by the agency as the non-Federal share.

• Private, local, Indian Tribe and State funds may be used as the non-Federal matching share.

• Property, materials, and services are accepted toward the match share if the source is an individual or a private entity, local government, or Indian Tribe submitting an application through the State DOT

• Indirect costs are allowable only if a State DOT or Indian Tribe has an indirect cost rate approved by the FHWA Division Office

• Additional information on non-Federal matching requirements can be found at https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/legsregs/directives/policy/fedaid_guidance_nfmr.pdf
NOFO Application
2022 NSBP Grants NOFO

• The FY 2022 NSBP Grants & Technical Assistance Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) outlines the application requirements

• All applications must be submitted electronically through grants.gov by 11:59 pm (Eastern Time) on Monday, May 16, 2022.

https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=338707
Letter of Intent

• Optional, but strongly encouraged
• Fillable PDF form available on grants.gov and the NSBP Grants webpage

• Core components:
  • Information about the applicant and impacted byway
  • Proposed project title and brief abstract
  • Alignment with project type and byway goals

• Separate LOI requested for each project
• Email completed form to scenicbyways@dot.gov by 4:00 pm ET on Monday, April 11, 2022
Application Coordination

• A State DOT or Tribe may submit more than one application
  • One project per application
  • If submitting more than one application, please rank the projects ("1" highest priority)

• State DOTs may submit multi-State byway applications and Indian Tribes may submit multi-Tribe byway applications
  • Must assign a single lead agency to prepare the application and administer the grant
  • The lead State DOT or Indian Tribe determines the priority ranking of the projects

• If the proposed project falls on or is adjacent to both State DOT and Tribal land, the State DOT and Tribe should coordinate to determine who will act as lead
Application Outline

• Application must include:
  • Cover page
  • Project abstract
  • Project narrative
  • Cost breakdown

• Standard formatting (a double-spaced PDF document, using standard 12-point Times New Roman font, with 1-inch margins)

• 8 pages maximum; 4 additional pages for attachments (maps, graphics, etc.)
Mandatory Forms

• In addition to the application, the following forms must be submitted as individual PDF documents:
  
  • Standard Form 424 (Application for Federal Assistance);
  
  • Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs (SF424A) & Assurances for Non-Construction Programs (SF-424B); OR Budget Information for Construction Programs (SF-424C) & Assurances for Construction Programs (SF-424D);
  
  • Disclosure of Lobbying Activities form (SF-LLL);
  
  • Grants.gov Lobbying Form; and
  
  • Key Contacts (optional)

• Forms are available for download at https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/forms/sf-424-mandatory-family.html.

• Forms do not count against the page limit
Project Narrative

• The following outline is recommended:
  • Project Abstract (maximum five sentences)
  • Applicant information
  • Project Description
  • Requested Grant Amount/Local Match Sources
  • Project Selection Criteria

• Project narrative should include the information necessary for reviewers to determine that the project meets the statutory eligibility requirements and to assess the project selection criteria
Statutory Eligibility Criteria

Applicants must identify:

1. The State DOT or Indian Tribe applying for funding.
2. Name and contact information for the application points of contact.
3. Cooperating or partner entities involved in the funding and/or implementation of the project, including a description of the entities’ specific role(s) in the project.
4. Name of the byway impacted by the proposed project, including the type of byway designation.
5. Name/title of proposed project.
6. If applicable, identifying information for other projects submitted by the applicant and the priority ranking of the proposed project (if a Tribe or State DOT is submitting applications for more than one project).
7. The eligible project under 23 U.S.C. 162(c).

Applicants must also include an explanation as to how the project will protect the scenic, historical, recreational, cultural, natural and archaeological integrity of a highway and adjacent areas.
Project Selection Criteria

Applications must clearly describe the following:

1. Challenge(s) or issue(s) the proposed project is seeking to mitigate and/or address

2. How the proposed project will achieve one or more of the four NSBP goals: (1) Safety, (2) Equity and Accessibility, (3) Economic Strength, (4) Climate and Sustainability

3. The proposed timeline for the project, identifying any planning or other efforts that have already been put into the project and the project’s readiness for implementation if funding is awarded

4. The proposed project budget

5. How the project will benefit the byway community and/or traveler and how it will help manage the byway’s intrinsic qualities

6. How you will evaluate the success of the proposed project in meeting its stated purpose and goal(s), including specific evaluation metrics

Each criterion will be given a ranking of “Highly Qualified,” “Qualified,” or “Not Qualified.”
Statutory Priority and Policy Considerations

Statutory Priority

Per 23 USC 162(b)(2), in making grants, FHWA shall give priority to:

• Each eligible project that is associated with a highway that has been designated as a National Scenic Byway or All-American Road and that is consistent with the corridor management plan (CMP) for the byway

• Each eligible project along a State or Indian Tribe scenic byway that is consistent with the corridor management plan for the byway, or is intended to foster the development of such a plan, and is carried out to make the byway eligible for designation as a National Scenic Byway or an All-American Road

• Each eligible project that is associated with the development of a State or Indian Tribe scenic byway program

Project Goal Priorities

FHWA shall give priority consideration to a project that will advance two or more of the NSBP goals.
Policy Considerations

FHWA will give priority consideration to applications that address one or more of the following priorities:

- The majority of the project’s costs will be spent within (or on the boundary of) a Census-designated rural area.

- At least part of the project falls within an economically distressed community per the U.S. Economic Development Administration. See http://www.statsamerica.org/distress/distress.aspx.

- The total cost of the project is $500,000 or larger.

- Applicant has identified cost sharing and leveraging of non-Federal funds beyond the required 20 percent non-Federal match.
Review and Selection Process

1. FHWA Byways Team conducts eligibility reviews.

2. Technical Review Team (FHWA staff) reviews and assigns applications a rating of “Highly Qualified,” “Qualified,” or “Not Qualified.”

3. Second Level Review Team (FHWA Senior Leadership) decides which projects to recommend to the FHWA Administrator.

4. FHWA Administrator selects final project awardees.

5. FHWA will announce the awarded projects by posting a list of selected projects on the National Scenic Byways Program website.

6. Successful applicants and unsuccessful applicants will receive notification emails.
## FY2022 Grants Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Milestone</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NOFO posted on Grants.gov</td>
<td>March 16, 2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>Division Office Webinar</td>
<td>March 28, 2022 @ 2:00-3:30 pm EDT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Webinar</td>
<td>March 31, 2022 @ 2:30-4:00 pm EDT</td>
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<td>Letter of Intent Due <em>(optional)</em></td>
<td>By 4:00 pm EDT on <strong>April 11, 2022</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Applications Due</td>
<td>By 11:59 pm EDT on <strong>May 16, 2022</strong></td>
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<td>Awardees Announced</td>
<td>Fall 2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>Funds must be Obligated</td>
<td>September 30, 2024</td>
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<tr>
<td>Funds must be Expended</td>
<td>September 30, 2029</td>
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Roles & Responsibilities
FHWA Byways Team

• Provide overall program and policy direction.
• Review grant applications.
• Prepare decision materials for use by the FHWA Administrator.

For all grant application inquiries, please email scenicbyways@dot.gov.
FHWA Office of Acquisition & Grants Management

• Answer technical questions related to the NOFO.

• Solicit and monitor application submissions on grants.gov.

• Conduct initial eligibility review of applications.

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<tr>
<th>Lead POC</th>
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<tr>
<td>Rick Murray</td>
<td>Robin Hobbs</td>
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<tr>
<td>(202) 366-4250</td>
<td>(202) 366-4004</td>
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<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:scenicbyways@dot.gov">scenicbyways@dot.gov</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:scenicbyways@dot.gov">scenicbyways@dot.gov</a></td>
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FHWA Division Offices / Federal Lands

- Provide technical assistance and guidance to applicants but cannot assist in the development or preparation of applications.

- Notify State & Tribes of important updates and deadlines.

- Conduct concurrence review of potential awarded projects. Indicate any risks or concerns.

- Conduct Federal-aid oversight of awarded projects.
State DOTs & Indian Tribes

• Coordinate with byway organizations, local government agencies, FLMAs, and/or other States and Tribes to develop project applications.

• Rank and prioritize applications, if submitting multiple applications.

• Register on Grants.gov and submit completed applications.

• Provide Stewardship and Oversight of projects once awarded.

• Submit quarterly progress reports to FHWA Division Office.
Subscribe for Updates

https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=338707
View NOFO Documents

https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=338707
For Applicants

https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants.html
Workspace Workflow Overview

Get Started on Your Workspace Application

Workspace is the standard way for organizations or individuals to apply for federal grants in Grants.gov. Workspace allows a grant team to simultaneously access and edit different forms within an application. Plus, the forms can be filled out online or offline — your choice.

Grants.gov Workspace also allows applicants and organizations to tailor their application workflow. Here are three approaches that applicants can take when completing a Workspace application:

**Basic**
- Best for organizations with 1-2 registered Grants.gov users
- Application forms are downloaded and emailed to collaborators before being uploaded back to the workspace

**Intermediate**
- Best for organizations with 3-5 registered Grants.gov users
- Applicant teams are typically comprised of an AOR who submits, as well as a Workspace Owner who oversees form completion

**Advanced**
- Best for organizations with external Grants.gov users, such as consultants
- Workspace Owner manages form access
- Workspace Owner adds subforms

Available Training Online

https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/applicant-training.html
Grants.gov Resources

- Grants.gov Online Help
- Introduction to Grants.gov Video Series
The Grants.gov Helpdesk is:

We are available 24 hours a day 7 days a week excluding federal holidays.

1-800-518-4726 (U.S.)
1-606-545-5053 (International)
support@grants.gov
Uploading the Application
Uploading the Application Project Narrative

Project Narrative File(s)

* Mandatory Project Narrative File Filename:

Add Mandatory Project Narrative File  Delete Mandatory Project Narrative File  View Mandatory Project Narrative File

To add more Project Narrative File attachments, please use the attachment buttons below.

Add Optional Project Narrative File  Delete Optional Project Narrative File  View Optional Project Narrative File
Uploading the Application Attachments

**ATTACHMENTS FORM**

**Instructions:** On this form, you will attach the various files that make up your grant application. Please consult with the appropriate Agency Guidelines for more information about each needed file. Please remember that any files you attach must be in the document format and named as specified in the Guidelines.

**Important:** Please attach your files in the proper sequence. See the appropriate Agency Guidelines for details.

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<th>1) Please attach Attachment 1</th>
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Resources
National Scenic Byways Program Website

https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/hep/scenic_byways/
NSBP Grants Webpage

- Letter of Intent Form
- NOFO Application link
- Webinar Recording
- Resources

Scenic Byways Contacts

Contacts

This section contains information about people related to America’s Byways Program.

Program Staff

FHWA HQ

View the contact information for National Scenic Byways Program staff members.

States & FHWA Division Offices

State Contacts

View a list of all state byway coordinators, tourism contacts, and FHWA Division personnel.

FHWA Federal Lands

FHWA FHL

View the contact information for FHWA Federal Lands personnel.

Indian Tribes

Indian Tribe Contacts

View a list of contacts for Indian tribe byway programs.

State Contacts

State Index

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

Alabama [index]

State Coordinator:

Sundae Ragland
State Pedestrian & Bicycle Coordinator
Alabama Dept. of Transportation
(334) 242-6086
ragland54@dot.state.al.us

FHWA Division Office:

Lynne Urquhart
Environmental Engineer
(334) 223-7380
Lynne.urquhart@dot.gov

Alaska [index]

State Coordinator:

Marcheta Moulton
Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities
(907) 465-8769
Marcheta.moulton@alaska.gov

FHWA Division Office:

Miles Brookes
Transportation Specialist
(907) 586-7148
Miles.brookes@dot.gov

Arizona [index]

Federal Lands Contacts

The FHWA Office of Federal Lands Highway (FLH) provides coordination and assistance to Federal Land Management Agencies (FLMAs) and Tribes. Below is a list of FHWA and FLM contacts.

Federal Highway Administration

Amy Gye
FLH Planning Discipline Champion
Planning Program Manager
(202) 266-2167
Amy.Gye@dot.gov

Erika Kasley
Director, Office of Tribal Transportation
(202) 393-9904
Erika.Kasley@dot.gov

National Park Service

Jennifer Miller
Transportation Fee & National Scenic Byways Program Manager
(202) 512-7839
Jennifer.D.Miller@nps.gov

Forest Service

Penny Wu
National Travel Management Program Manager
Questions?