

City of
Bellevue



MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 1, 2009

TO: Chair Tanaka and Members of the Transportation Commission

FROM: Jen Benn, Transportation
Transportation Grants Program Manager

SUBJECT: Grant Development Process

Staff will be present at your October 8, 2009 meeting to review the Transportation Department's grant development process, with particular emphasis on how we identify and prioritize projects for specific applications. Staff will also provide an overview of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, also known as the Economic Stimulus act, and how it is likely to alter the future of the transportation grants landscape.

Background

The Transportation Department typically manages several grant awards through various states of project implementation. In general, approximately 10-15 percent of the department's Capital Investment Program budget is funded from a portfolio of state and federal grant sources. See attached chart of the major grant programs the department actively monitors. This information is provided as background and will not be reviewed during the presentation.

To maximize the city's position in competitive grant programs, department staff follow a three step process to identify and prioritize the strongest candidate projects to advance for application.

- 1) Candidate Project Identification – includes review of previously approved lists including the Capital Investment Program (CIP) plan, Transportation Facilities Plan (TFP), and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).
- 2) Prioritization using mock scoring exercises.
- 3) Direction to Apply, including qualitative as well as quantitative considerations.

Because every grant program and associated call for projects is different, the three steps will be reviewed at a general level with specific examples from past experience provided for illustration.

Stimulus Grants

In February 2009, President Obama signed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) into law and launched a flurry of grant activity. Funding for "shovel-ready" projects was made available through a variety of avenues that could benefit the transportation department's efforts. Staff will review the department's response to these opportunities.

If you have any questions about the attached grant listing, the grant development process, in general, or stimulus funding for transportation, please contact me at 425-452-4270 or jbenn@bellevuewa.gov.

Transportation Grant Program Summaries

ATTACHMENT 8-C (1)

SOURCE	DESCRIPTION	SELECTED RECENT AWARDS
Federal		
PSRC Regional Competitive (STP/CMAQ)	Supports projects that produce a significant benefit to the regional transportation system as it relates to the development of urban centers or connecting corridors between centers. In the 2009 cycle, 13 projects received awards ranging from \$1 – 8 million. Next competition expected Spring, 2011.	2004 – \$1,500,000 I-90 Two-Way HOV Early Implementation 2006 – \$2,049,000 NE 8 th Street Widening (106 th – 108 th Aves NE)
Countywide Competitive (STP/CMAQ)	Supports improvements to the local surface transportation system or for congestion mitigation/air quality through reduced traffic-related emissions. Also utilizes the PSRC Urban Center and Connecting Corridor policy framework as applied to locally designated centers and facilities. In the 2009 cycle, 12 projects received awards ranging from \$1 – 5 million in the King County Large Jurisdiction competition. Next cycle expected Spring 2011.	<u>2004</u> \$1,397,095 2005 Urban Overlay \$1,000,000 NE 24 th Street \$304,166 NE 2 nd Street Pre-Design <u>2009</u> \$2,600,000 120 th Avenue NE Widening
PSRC Non-Motorized Competitive	Funds improvements to the local/regional pedestrian and bicycle environment. In the 2009 cycle, 12 projects received awards ranging from \$250,000 to 1million in the King County Non-Motorized competition. Next cycle expected Spring 2011.	<u>2009</u> \$354,400 124 th Avenue SE Connection to I-90 Trail \$150,493 East King County Bicycle Wayfinding
WSDOT Highway Safety Improvement Program	Funds cost effective solutions to reduce fatal/injury accidents at high accident intersections and along high accident corridors. Average grant range \$100,000 – 1 million. Grant calls occur every 1-2 years.	<u>2008</u> \$385,000 102 nd Avenue NE Pedestrian Safety Improvements
Economic Development District Public Works Program	Program funds infrastructure improvements directly supportive of economic development and the creation/retention of jobs in the region. Region selects top candidate annually to receive \$1-3 million.	

Key to Acronyms:

CMAQ = Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality

STP = Surface Transportation Program

WSDOT = Washington State Department of Transportation

PSRC = Puget Sound Regional Council

TIB = Transportation Improvement Board

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State		
TIB Urban Arterial Program	Program focuses on improving existing arterial infrastructure to address poor pavement conditions, major safety issues, and missing links. Average awards range from \$1 - \$3.5 million. Usually offered annually, but due to funding shortfalls the 2009 (and most likely 2010) calls have been cancelled.	
TIB Urban Corridors Program	Program focuses on completing mobility improvements along key transportation corridors, especially those supporting growth and development. Average awards range from \$1 - \$5 million. Usually offered annually, but due to funding shortfalls the 2009 (and most likely 2010) calls have been cancelled.	<u>2003</u> \$1,400,000 148 th Avenue SE
TIB Urban Sidewalk Program	Program focuses on improving pedestrian mobility through traditional facilities (no separated paths). It does not support bicycle facilities. Maximum award seldom exceeds \$200,000. Usually offered annually, but due to funding shortfalls the 2009 (and most likely 2010) calls have been cancelled.	<u>2003</u> \$150,000 164 th Avenue NE Sidewalk <u>2008</u> \$200,000 NE 8 th Street Sidewalk
WSDOT Ped/Bike Safety Program	Supports lower cost solutions to areas with ped/bike safety concerns. Average grant range \$100,000 – 1.5 million. Grant calls occur every 1-2 years	<u>2008</u> \$605,000 124 th Avenue SE Connection to I-90 Trail
WSDOT Safe Routes To School Program	Supports engineering, education, and/or enforcement efforts designed to create a safe environment that encourages kids to walk to school along recommended walk routes. Average grant range \$50,000 – 750,000. Grant calls occur every 1-2 years.	<u>2004</u> \$124,950 Sherwood Forest Elementary and 164 th Avenue NE Sidewalk <u>2006</u> \$132,000 Stevenson Elementary School and NE 8 th Street Crossing <u>2008</u> \$192,500 Eastgate Elementary and 152 nd Avenue Se Sidewalk

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