



# Government Affairs Update

November 3, 2024

## USDOT Announces Notice of Funding Opportunity for \$876 Million from the Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-Saving Transportation (PROTECT) Discretionary Grant Program

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has posted [Notice of Funding Opportunity \(NOFO\) for the Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-Saving Transportation \(PROTECT\) Discretionary Grant Program](#) for Fiscal Years 2024-2026.

PROTECT is a competitive grant program established by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) to enhance the resilience of surface transportation to natural hazards, including extreme temperatures, sea level rise, flooding, extreme weather, and other natural disasters. The NOFO offers two application periods for up to \$576 million in funding for FYs 2024 and 2025, and up to \$300 million for FY 2026.

For the Fiscal Years (FY) 2024-2025, the application period opened on October 25, 2024 and will remain open for applications through February 24, 2025. The FY 2026 application deadline is February 24, 2026.

The PROTECT program provides funding for a variety of resilience activities:

- Planning grants to support resilience planning, design, or development of data tools to support decision-making;
- Resilience Improvement grants to improve the ability of existing assets to withstand severe events, or to increase infrastructure changing conditions, such as sea level rise, flooding, wildfires, extreme weather events, and other natural disasters.;
- Community Resilience and Evacuation Route grants to strengthen and protect evacuation routes; and
- At-Risk Coastal Infrastructure grants to strengthen, stabilize, harden, or relocate highway and non-rail infrastructure for enhanced resilience.

Virtual meetings on how to apply will be held on the following dates:

- PROTECT NOFO – How to Apply (Webinar #1) Nov. 7, 1-2 pm EST  
[https://usdot.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN\\_YelwxJtFRtyeMPaeEaT9Tg#/registration](https://usdot.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_YelwxJtFRtyeMPaeEaT9Tg#/registration)
- PROTECT NOFO – How to Apply (Webinar #2) Nov. 19, 4-5 pm EST  
[https://usdot.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN\\_YelwxJtFRtyeMPaeEaT9Tg#/registration](https://usdot.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_YelwxJtFRtyeMPaeEaT9Tg#/registration)
- PROTECT NOFO – How to Apply (for Tribes) Nov. 12, 2-3 pm EST  
[https://usdot.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN\\_TiRc8kP3TiSAcmeDHUGqww](https://usdot.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_TiRc8kP3TiSAcmeDHUGqww)
- Preparing a Benefit Cost Analysis for the PROTECT Program Nov. 18 2-3:30 pm EST  
[https://usdot.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN\\_psWWOEzmS4OSdnJQK5AT\\_A](https://usdot.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_psWWOEzmS4OSdnJQK5AT_A)

Webinar slides and recordings will be posted on FHWA's [PROTECT Discretionary Grant Program Website](#).

IBTTA remains committed to working with Federal and State partners and our membership to support investments and actions to strengthen infrastructure resilience.

Please see IBTTA's [Sustainability and Resilience Framework](#) or contact Mark Muriello ([mmuriello@ibtta.org](mailto:mmuriello@ibtta.org)) for more information.