

## **Highway Infrastructure**

**Total Funding Available:** \$27.5 billion (NC: \$735m)

**Overview:** The highway infrastructure funding will be apportioned to states using existing formulas (50% STP State distribution formula and 50% according to the FFY 2008 Obligation Limitation) with 30% of the funds within each state being suballocated under the population formulas of the STP program (to Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs)). Funds can be used for any project eligible under the surface transportation program, passenger and freight rail, and port infrastructure. Funds cannot be used for Advance Construction.

### **Special Factors:**

- No matching funds required.
- Priority is to be given to projects in economically distressed areas.
- Priority is to be given to projects that can be completed within three (3) years.
- Funds cannot supplant existing funding, and states must certify within 30 days of apportionment that existing funding is maintained.
- Fifty percent of funding to states (excludes suballocation to MPOs) must be obligated within 120 days after apportionment. Any funds not obligated within 120 days will be withdrawn and reapportioned to other states that are able to obligate the funds.
- All funds must be obligated within one (1) year of apportionment. Any funds not obligated within one (1) year will be withdrawn and reapportioned to other states that are able to obligate the funds. The Secretary of the Federal Highway Administration can grant an extension of one (1) year if a state is experiencing “extreme conditions” that create an “unworkable bidding environment”.
- Periodic reports to the Federal Transit Administration that include information on spending and job creation will be required.

**How to Access Funding:** Funds will be apportioned within 21 days after enactment of the legislation to the state and MPOs. MPOs have been compiling lists of eligible projects, and it will be up to the Boards to allocate the funding. Municipalities should immediately contact their MPO to determine if their project is eligible and work with Board members to secure necessary funding. The Federal Highway Administration has released spending guidance that can be accessed at <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/economicrecovery/index.htm>.

**Federal Contact:** Federal Highway Administration  
<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/economicrecovery/index.htm>

**State Contact:** Municipalities should contact their local Metropolitan Planning Organization.

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