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NOTIFICATION OF GRANT GUIDANCE

To: Members of Congress

From: Federal Emergency Management Agency

Subject: American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Grant Opportunities

Date: May 29, 2009

Comments:

This serves as notification that the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency is releasing grant guidance under the Port Security Grant Program, Transit Security Grant Program, and Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program on May 29, 2009 for grant funding provided under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

Background:

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) provided funding for three of FEMA's preparedness grant programs: \$150 million for the Port Security Grant Program (PSGP), \$150 million for the Transit Security Grant Program (TSGP), and \$210 million for Assistance to Firefighters Station Construction Grants (SCG).

Transit Security Grant Program

The purpose of the FY 2009 ARRA TSGP is to focus on the use of visible, unpredictable deterrence through the funding of Operational Packages for canine teams, mobile explosives detection screening teams, and Anti-terrorism teams, both due to their effectiveness in reducing risk to transit systems and their potential for job creation. In addition, funding will be provided for capital projects including Multi-User High-Density Key Infrastructure Protection, Single-User High-Density Key Infrastructure Protection, Key Operating Asset Protection, and Other Mitigation Activities. In the capital project category, preference will be given to projects demonstrating that they can be started within 90 days of release of grant funds and can be completed within 24 months.

With the exception of ferry systems, those eligible for funding through the FY 2009 TSGP and Amtrak are eligible for funding through the FY 2009 ARRA TSGP.

Eligibility for Operational Packages (Priority 1) is determined based on the number of authorized sworn positions for transit agency police departments and law enforcement agencies with



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dedicated transit bureaus. Eligible transit agencies and request thresholds were determined by the following transit police force or law enforcement provider characteristics:

- Transit police forces or law enforcement providers must employ at least 100 authorized positions dedicated to transit security as of January 1, 2009;
- Funding requests are limited to no more than five percent (5%) of the force's current authorized sworn positions and the associated support equipment requests are based on number of officers requested.

Law enforcement agencies with dedicated transit bureaus are eligible through the transit agency they provide security for; the transit agency itself is the grantee, and as such must apply on behalf of the law enforcement agency. Security service providers with unsworn law enforcement officers or guards are not eligible.

To qualify for a Priority 2 Project, Shovel Ready Capital Projects for Asset Hardening, applicants must certify that the project can begin within 90 days of the release of funds. Applicants must also certify that the project will be completed within 24 months of the release of funds date. This is intended to fund construction projects that can quickly create job opportunities. As part of this fast-tracked project, applicants must submit all required Environmental and Historic Preservation (EHP) documentation, construction schedule and full construction budget at the time of application.

Of the \$150,000,000 available for funding, up to \$100,000,000 will be available for Operational Packages, and at least \$50,000,000 will be available for capital projects.

Port Security Grant Program

The purpose of the FY 2009 ARRA PSGP is to create a sustainable, risk-based effort to protect critical port infrastructure from terrorism, particularly attacks using explosives and non-conventional threats that could cause major disruption to commerce through projects that can be implemented quickly and create jobs.

Seven port areas have been selected as Group I (highest risk) and forty-seven port areas have been selected as Group II. Each Group I and Group II port area will compete for funding identified in their corresponding Group. These amounts are based upon the FY 2009 DHS risk analysis model. This will allow applicants to submit Investment Justifications (IJs) for projects without being confined to a set dollar amount, providing DHS the opportunity to conduct field and national review of each project and make awards based on the two overarching priorities of the ARRA PSGP, risk-based funding and regional security cooperation, as well as evaluating the extent to which each IJ buys-down risk for their port area.

The Fiduciary Agent process will not be utilized in the ARRA PSGP. Eligible applicants will apply directly to FEMA for funding under this program.



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Ports not identified in Group I or II are eligible to apply as a Group III or “All Other Port Areas” applicant. Group III and “All Other Port Areas” will compete for the funding identified in their corresponding Group. “All Other Port Areas” included within Group I, II or III’s Area Maritime Security Plans (AMSP) are allowed to receive grant funds from their geographically proximate higher Group if the project has regional impact across the entire port area, but not from both funding groups for the same project.

Under a fifth group, eligible ferry systems may also apply for funding. Not all eligible ferry systems are guaranteed to receive an award.

Awards will be made on a fully competitive basis.

Assistance to Firefighters Station Construction Grants

The purpose of the FY 2009 ARRA SCG is to create or save jobs in recession-hit areas and achieve other purposes stated in the ARRA, and achieve Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program goals of firefighter safety and improved response capability/capacity based on need through the construction, renovation or modification of fire stations.

Non-Federal Fire Departments and state and local governments that fund/operate fire departments are eligible for SCG.

Awards are limited to a maximum of \$15,000,000 statutorily. Program Guidance limits funds for each project within a grant application to \$5,000,000. No allocations are made within the total appropriation to new construction versus renovation – each will compete for grant awards on the same funding priorities and rating criteria. Application reviews will begin in late August or early September. Estimates of the number of applications received will vary from a few thousand up to 8,000. The number of awards is estimated to range between 60 and 80.

Contact Information:

The FY 2009 ARRA PSGP, TSGP, and FSC Guidance and Application Kits are located online at <http://www.fema.gov/grants> and www.grants.gov. For additional information contact Chris Rizzuto at 202-786-9450, Andrew White at 202-786-9452, or Mike Cappannari at 202-447-5457.