Utilizing DOT's Build America Bureau resources to support INFRA Grant objectives

The U.S. Department of Transportation, through its Build America Bureau (Bureau), develops and promotes best practices in innovative finance, including public-private partnerships (P3s), and provides extensive technical resources for states, municipalities, and other public and private sector entities that are considering P3s. The Bureau also provides advice, expertise, loans, and other types of credit assistance to project sponsors that are seeking ways to leverage existing funding sources. The Bureau's Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) and Railroad Rehabilitation and Improvement Financing (RRIF) loan programs and the Private Activity Bonds (PABs) program can serve as critical components of innovative project finance structures that maximize State, local, and private sector funding.

Potential INFRA Grant applicants are encouraged to utilize the Bureau's extensive resources in development of an application that meets the INFRA Grant program objectives. Relevant resources may include, but are not limited to:

I. **Technical support for pursuit of credit assistance from the Bureau's Outreach and Project Development team:** If a potential applicant is considering the use of a TIFIA loan, a RRIF loan, or PABs as part of an overall financing plan, it is important to contact the Bureau's Outreach and Project Development team (buildamerica@dot.gov) as soon as possible. The team will work with the project sponsor to determine the specific questions, challenges, opportunities, and information needs that must be addressed before the project formally starts the Bureau process for pursuit of credit assistance.

II. **Case Study webinars on recent P3s and innovative financing strategies:** The Build America Bureau has partnered with the Build America Transportation Investment Center (BATIC) Institute: An AASHTO Center for Excellence to develop a series of webinars focused on recent project case studies, including the Pennsylvania Rapid Bridge Replacement P3, the Denver Union Station Development, the Denver Eagle Commuter Rail P3, and a variety of Priced Managed Lanes. These are located at http://www.financingtransportation.org/.

III. **Online Documents:** A variety of P3 resources are available on the Bureau website (https://www.transportation.gov/buildamerica/programs-services/p3/resources) and on the website of the Bureau's partner organization in FHWA, the Center for Innovative Finance Support (https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/ipd/p3/toolkit/). Some of the more recent and relevant resources include:
  - Report on Successful Practices in P3s
  - Guidebook on Financing of Highway P3s
  - Primers on Establishing a P3 Program; P3 Risk Assessment; P3 Financial Structuring and Assessment; and P3 Value for Money Assessment.
  - Discussion Papers, including those focused on Revenue Risk Sharing for Highway P3s, Uses of Performance Requirements in P3s, and Early Involvement of Private Developers in the Consideration of Long-Term P3 Concession Options
  - Report on Highway P3 Concessions in the US

IV. **P3 Evaluation Training Course:** The Bureau and FHWA's Center for Innovative Finance Support offer a series of training sessions for interested state, regional, and local government officials. The purpose of this training is to provide information and tools to government officials looking to improve their understanding of how to evaluate potential P3 proposals across a range of transportation modes. Any state, regional, or local transportation entity can request the training. Depending upon the training course options selected, the training can be as short as 1/2 day or as long as 3 days. The intent is to fit the training schedule to meet the needs of the agency. The agenda and training modules presented would be determined through an evaluation of needs.

For more information about the Build America Bureau's P3 resources, please see www.transportation.gov/buildamerica or contact us at buildamerica@dot.gov or 202-366-2300