

# Coalition for America's Gateways and Trade Corridors

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Project, San Gabriel Valley  
Council of Governments

Broward County's  
Port Everglades

California Department  
of Transportation

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Systematics, Inc.

Canaveral Port Authority

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Chicago Metropolitan  
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COMPASS – Community  
Planning Association of  
Southwest Idaho

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Economic Development  
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Southwest Indiana

Florida Department  
of Transportation

Florida East  
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Florida Ports Council

Freight Mobility Strategic  
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Gateway Cities Council of  
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Memphis Chamber of  
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Metal Fatigue Solutions

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## Freight Infrastructure Takes 66 Percent of BUILD Funding – Highest Percentage in Program's 10-Year History

### Historic Tripling of Program Funding Yields 91 Project Awards in 49 States and the District of Columbia

WASHINGTON, DC (December 12, 2018) – The U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) announced 91 projects will receive funds from the first round of the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) discretionary grant program for fiscal year 2018. According to USDOT, applicants requested a total of \$10.9 billion funding, or \$7.26 of requests for every \$1 available.

The BUILD program, formerly known as TIGER, was designed in 2009 to support projects that have a significant local or regional impact; unlike traditional federal funding silos, the BUILD program is available to all types of infrastructure, including road, rail, transit, and port projects. Typically funded at \$500 million annually, this round saw funding availability tripled – a result of a bipartisan, two-year budget deal that lifted federal spending caps. Recognizing the substantial infrastructure needs across the nation, \$20 billion of that budget deal was promised to infrastructure investments, allowing for \$1.5 billion for this round of BUILD. Of the \$1.5 billion available, freight projects or projects with a freight component received approximately \$977 million, or 66 percent of total dollars (non-highway freight projects received 20 percent of the total funds). This funding round establishes a new high for the percentage of funding awarded to freight infrastructure, besting a previous record set earlier in 2018 by TIGER IX, which awarded 56 percent of total funds for goods movement infrastructure.

“Competitive grant programs provide a funding opportunity for projects that are difficult to fund or do not qualify through traditional funding programs due to their complexity, size, or cost,” said Elaine Nettle, executive director of the Coalition for America's Gateways and Trade Corridors (CAGTC). “These programs, such as BUILD, provide an invaluable tool for critical freight infrastructure projects, which are often large in scale, crossing multiple jurisdictions and modes. We applaud Congress' recognition of these important programs by significantly increasing the program's funding in FY18 and USDOT's commitment to making vital freight investments.”

Underscoring the ability of freight to compete successfully under federal investment programs, such as BUILD, 49 percent of available funds through the 10 rounds of the TIGER/BUILD program have been awarded to goods movement infrastructure projects, totaling around \$3.5 billion. Investment in the U.S. multimodal freight system is an economic multiplier, creating jobs immediately in the construction phase and in the long term by attracting and retaining U.S. businesses. Because of their importance to the private sector, freight projects are also capable of attracting other investment to leverage awards from federal grant programs. The \$3.5 billion awarded to freight projects since 2009 has leveraged a total investment of \$12.6 billion – meaning that successful freight projects under this program have attracted about 72 percent of their funding from other sources.

Moffatt & Nichol

National Railroad  
Construction and  
Maintenance  
Association

NASCO – North  
American Strategy for  
Competitiveness

The Northwest  
Seaport Alliance

Nossaman LLP

Ohio Kentucky Indiana  
Regional Council of  
Governments

Orange County  
Transportation Authority

Port Authority of  
New York & New Jersey

Port Houston

Port Newark Container  
Terminal

Port of Hueneme

Port of Long Beach

Port of Los Angeles

Port of Oakland

Port of Portland, OR

Port of San Diego

Port Tampa Bay

Port of Vancouver USA

Ports America  
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Prime Focus, LLC

Puget Sound Regional  
Council

RAILCET

SANDAG - San Diego  
Association of  
Governments

Southern California  
Association of  
Governments

Tampa Hillsborough  
Expressway Authority

Tennessee Department  
of Transportation

Washington State  
Department of  
Transportation

Will County Center for  
Economic Development

WSP

CAGTC Members put forward, partnered, or consulted on several successful projects in BUILD's initial round, including:

- Imperial County Transportation Commission, subregion of **Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG)**, *Calexico East Port of Entry Bridge Expansion*
- **Washington State Department of Transportation**, *Washington State Rural Rail Rehabilitation*
- Maryland Port Administration, in partnership with **Ports America Chesapeake**, *Seagirt Marine Terminal Berth 3 Modernization P3 Project*
- Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT), in partnership with Port of Duluth (with assistance from CAGTC Member **WSP**), *Twin Ports Interchange Reconstruction*
- Kern Council of Governments, in partnership with the **California Department of Transportation (Caltrans)**, *State Route 46 Widening Segment 4B*

Imperial County Transportation Commission, a SCAG subregion, received funding for the Calexico Bridge Widening in Imperial County. "SCAG applauds the BUILD grant awards announced by the DOT for FY 18 totaling \$1.5 billion," **said Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) President Alan Wapner**. "We are thankful that DOT approved \$20 million for the Calexico Bridge Widening in Imperial County which is a severely congested and critical goods movement corridor between California and Mexico. Bi-partisan support for a continued federal partnership is essential to the movement of goods for the entire nation. We are anxious to work together on further federal funding support in 2019."

Washington State DOT will use their \$5.7 million BUILD grant for a rural rail rehabilitation project in Whitman, Lincoln and Spokane Counties. "Agriculture is a vital economic driver in eastern Washington and a viable rail system to transport their products allows growers to remain competitive in the global marketplace," **said Washington State Secretary of Transportation Roger Millar**. "This federal investment supports the collaborative spirit we've developed that brings together farmers, shippers, communities, and the state to upgrade the state-owned short-line railroad and advance economic vitality in the region."

The Maryland Port Administration, in partnership with Ports America Chesapeake, will use their award to add a second berth at the Seagirt Marine Terminal that will be capable of serving 50-foot draft Ultra Large Container Vessels. "On behalf of Ports America Chesapeake, I want to thank Governor Hogan, the Maryland Congressional delegation and the Maryland Port Administration for working together to secure this important federal funding," **said Bayard Hogans, Vice President, Ports America**. "This BUILD grant funding, along with our private investment and state funding, will ensure Seagirt Marine Terminal can handle continued growth at a high level of efficiency."

MnDOT, in partnership with the Port of Duluth, will use their funds to replace aging ramps and bridges in order to accommodate better freight movement into and out of the Port of Duluth. CAGTC member WSP helped to develop this grant application: "WSP is thrilled to assist MnDOT, Twin Ports Authority and local partners to secure the grant to improve freight movement at the Duluth Superior port," **said Glenn G. Schreiner, WSP Vice President**. "The project has been in planning for many years and will have a significant positive impact on the local economy!"

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### **About the Coalition**

The Coalition for America's Gateways and Trade Corridors (CAGTC) is a diverse coalition of more than 60 public and private organizations dedicated to increasing federal investment in America's intermodal freight infrastructure. In contrast to single mode interests, CAGTC's main mission is to promote a seamless goods movement transportation system across all modes to enhance capacity and economic growth. For more information on the Coalition for America's Gateways and Trade Corridors, please visit [www.tradecorridors.org](http://www.tradecorridors.org).