

Potomac Yard

Overview of Federal Financial Assistance Programs



November 9, 2009

Types of Federal Financial Assistance

2. Formula grant programs

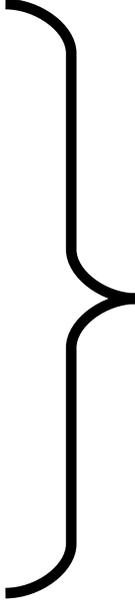
- VDOT's flexible highway funds
- WMATA's formula transit funds (e.g., Section 5307)
- MWCOCG's CMAQ and Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds

3. Discretionary grant programs

- Competitive grant programs (e.g., FTA New Starts)
- Earmarks

4. Financing programs

- TIFIA
- SAFETEA-LU Private Activity Bonds



Focus of this presentation

Discretionary Grant Programs

- Federal Transit Administration New Starts or Small Starts
 - a. New Starts competitive process
 - Eligible selected projects could receive 50-80% of the project cost
 - Multi-year application process with multiple checkpoints – one of the most rigorous reviews in federal government
 - Lengthy travel demand modeling exercise required to see whether key thresholds could be met
 - b. Small Starts competitive process
 - Eligible selected projects costing <\$250M could receive up to \$75M
 - Slightly simpler than New Starts process but still rigorous and lengthy application effort
 - c. New Starts appropriations bill earmarks
 - Exempt projects cannot receive more than \$25M
 - Exempt from rigorous New Starts criteria

Discretionary Grant Programs (cont.)

- SAFETEA-LU Reauthorization bill earmarks
- Annual transportation appropriations bill earmarks
- Other FHWA or FTA discretionary programs
 - Transportation and Community and System Preservation Program
 - Section 5309 Bus Facilities
- DOT-HUD-EPA Livability Initiative
 - Coordinated tax credits, grants, or loans

Federal Financing Programs

- USDOT TIFIA Credit Assistance
 - Direct Loan
 - Flexible repayment terms
 - Potentially lower cost of borrowing
 - Loan Guarantee or Standby Line of Credit
 - Credit enhancement

- SAFETEA-LU Private Activity Bonds
 - Reduced developer infrastructure costs →
Increased capacity for financial contribution