

# Indiana Association of County Commissioners

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# INDOT Local Programs

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- Section 130 – Railroad Crossing Safety
- Local Trax – Grade Separation Projects
- Community Crossings Matching Grant Program
- Local Federal Aid (call closes December 2, 2022)

# BIL - Informational websites

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- <http://www.transportation.gov/dot-navigator>
- [www.indot.in.gov](http://www.indot.in.gov)

Local Government Resources

Federal Grant Opportunities

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law – Discretionary Grants

# BIL – Formula vs Competitive Grants

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**Formula Funding Grants**– Funding that is distributed from USDOT to State DOT's who then program projects throughout the state and metropolitan transportation planning areas.

**Competitive Grant Programs** – Potential recipients develop list of priority projects suited for applications and will apply directly to USDOT

**Recipients** – State, MPO, units of local government, tribal government, railroads, federal land management agency etc.

# Funding Considerations for Cities, Towns & Counties

## **FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY**

	<b>BIL Discretionary “Direct Recipients”</b>	<b>BIL Formula Funding</b>	<b>Community Crossings</b>	<b>Local Funds</b>
<b>Financial Management Systems</b>	Must be reviewed by FHWA, HQ	Existing State Process	Locally controlled	Locally controlled
<b>Federal Environmental Review (NEPA)</b>	Required	Required	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
<b>Consultant Procurement Procedures</b>	Must be reviewed by FHWA, HQ	Existing State Process	Locally controlled	Locally controlled
<b>Right-of-Way Procedures</b>	Must be reviewed by FHWA, HQ	Existing State Process	Locally controlled	Locally controlled
<b>Letting Results &amp; Procedures</b>	Must be reviewed by FHWA, HQ	Existing State Process	Locally controlled	Locally controlled
<b>Progress Billings</b>	Must be reviewed by FHWA, HQ	Existing State Process	Locally controlled	Locally controlled

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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1. What does “direct recipient” mean?
2. How can I make my project more competitive?
3. If I receive a grant, can I start using federal dollars right away?
4. Are there timelines involved with these grants and are they flexible?
5. How is INDOT involved in these direct recipient grants?
6. What federal regulations do I need to comply with to administer the grant?
7. What entity has approval authority over the grant funds, environmental documentation and other required approvals?
8. Are the grants reimbursable, or lump sum?
9. When can I start expending funds on my project that will count toward my non-federal match for the grant?

# NEPA - National Environmental Protection Act

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- **Pre Grant-Award**

- If project has been awarded federal funds through formula funding, INDOT will assist in reviews/oversight
- **If project has no prior federal funding approved**
  - Must file paperwork with State Budget Agency
  - No INDOT or FHWA review/oversight
  - INDOT working with LTAP to provide On-Call Review Services
  - LTAP will work with locals to make assignments for on call reviews
  - Locals will work with on-call consultant to determine their fees – 100% Locally funded
  - On-Call Consultant could serve in oversight role to assist with any process or review elements that the NEPA consultant hired by the local might need.
  - On-Call Consultant can complete a PEL-like pre-NEPA study.

# Post Grant Award

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- By using on call consultant, you potentially improve the overall timeline for grant implementation on projects where grant funds will be spent on PE and NEPA as well as construction
- All contracts and consultant agreements with direct recipients must be approved by FHWA before costs are incurred
- Utilizing INDOT on-call NEPA consultants ensures that local recipient is using a consultant that has met all federal requirements. Positions you to begin incurring costs the day the pre-award agreement is signed.
- LPA consultant can use one of INDOT on-call consultants to complete a CE or NEPA study. There may be an ability to include preliminary engineering, utility or right of way services with the on-call consultant.



**Thank You!**