

AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT (ARRA) TRANSPORTATION MILESTONES JUNE 25, 2009

The Obama Administration is committed to injecting American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) dollars into the economy as quickly as possible to help get the economy back on track. A group of senior officials from the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), known as the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) team, is monitoring the Department's Recovery program to make sure its money is rapidly made available and the spending is closely monitored and transparent to the public.

- The U.S. Department of Transportation has made **\$48.1 billion** available for highway, road, transit, bridge and airport construction and repairs nationwide. Of that, **\$19 billion** already has been obligated to fund more than **5,300 approved projects in 53 U.S. States and Territories**.
- Currently, more than **1,900 transportation projects**, using \$6.4 billion in Recovery Act funds, are underway across the country.
- Many transportation projects funded by the Recovery Act are coming in under budget and ahead of schedule. State DOTs and airport sponsors are routinely receiving low bids for highway and airport construction projects that are **below initial estimates by 10 to 20 percent and, in some cases, 30 percent**. These lower-than-expected bids are allowing states to stretch taxpayer dollars, complete additional projects, and create even more American jobs.
- The DOT has made more ARRA money available to states more quickly than any of its routine programs. The highway portion of the stimulus package is flowing at the rate of nearly **\$4 billion a month**.
- The Federal Aviation Administration has selected projects comprising **99.5 percent** of its total ARRA funding. Nearly **\$1 billion** has been allocated to airports throughout the country. **Already, 310 airport projects have been approved**.
- The Federal Highway Administration has **obligated \$15.8 billion** to date for more than **4,800 projects**.
- The DOT is accepting applications until September 15 for **\$1.5 billion** in the TIGER Discretionary Grants Program. The DOT will award TIGER Grants on a competitive basis to projects that have a significant impact on the nation, a region or metropolitan area, in particular, those located in economically-distressed areas and with strong job-creation potential.
- The Federal Transit Administration has awarded **114 grants** to transit agencies for a total obligation to date of **\$1.4 billion** in ARRA funds.
- On June 17, the Federal Railroad Administration released guidance for applicants interested in the **\$8 billion** in competitive grants for High Speed and Intercity Passenger Rail. Initial awards will be made by mid-September.
- The Federal Railroad Administration has approved **\$1.1 billion for eight ARRA-funded Amtrak projects**.