



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

Central Federal Lands Highway Division

12300 West Dakota Avenue
Suite 380B
Lakewood, CO 80228

Request for Federal Land Management Agency Coordination for Arizona Federal Lands Access Program

The Federal Lands Access Program (Access Program) presents an exciting opportunity for state, county, and local entities to obtain funding for a variety of transportation projects accessing Federal lands in the state of Arizona. This new program was established by the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21), the new transportation authorization that was signed into law by the President on July 6, 2012, and was officially enacted on October 1, 2012. Project applications are being solicited to develop a robust 5 – 7 year program of transportation projects (estimated program availability from \$74 to \$105 million).

A Call for Projects will be issued during January for proposed projects in the state of Arizona. Preference will be given to proposed projects illustrating the emphasis on **Federal high-use recreation sites** and **Federal economic generators**.

To assist the Program Decision Committee (PDC) in evaluation of the applications, CFLHD is requesting input from the FLMA's to identify those areas within Arizona that the FLMA would deem **Federal high-use recreation sites** and **Federal economic generators**. We request a list of the FLMA sites that would be applicable to the criteria. We have included a short form for your use in compiling the list and would request that the sites be listed in descending order of importance. It will assist us further if you include a short paragraph describing your agency's criteria for defining high-use recreation sites and economic generators. Each FLMA will have differing thresholds for these descriptions and unique recreational or economic opportunities on the Federal estate. We ask that the lists be submitted to the PDC through CFLHD at the contact names listed under the "Who should I contact if I have questions?"

A key distinction between the Access Program and the other FLMA funding opportunities is the requirement for matching funds on the project costs. For Arizona, the match that is required is 5.7% local, county, state or other agencies to the access program fund's contribution of 94.3%. The match is to provide fund leveraging with a goal of impacting more of the transportation system.

Frequently asked questions are included in this document for the FLMA use in working with the local/state maintaining agencies to prepare their applications.

What is the purpose of the program?

The goal of the Access Program is to improve transportation facilities that provide access to, are adjacent to, or are located within Federal lands.

Who is eligible to apply?

Eligible applicants included State, county, tribal, or city government agencies that own or maintain the transportation facility.

What types of projects will be considered?

The Access Program supplements State and local resources for public roads, transit systems, and other transportation facilities, with an emphasis on federal high-use recreation sites and Federal economic

generators. Access Program funds are intended for design, construction, or reconstruction and are not intended for maintenance projects (e.g. crack sealing, chip seal, potholes, drainage repair, etc.).

How would the projects be delivered?

CFLHD is looking forward to the opportunity to provide “Cradle to Grave” project delivery services under this program. This approach allows State, county, or local resources to be utilized on their other priorities with the knowledge that projects under this program will be delivered by CFLHD.

How do applicants submit a project application?

1. Complete the Arizona Access Program Application found at <http://www.cflhd.gov/programs/flap/az/index.cfm>
2. **Obtain endorsement from the appropriate Federal Land Management Agency (FLMA)**
3. Email your completed application to cfl.planning@dot.gov

How will projects be evaluated?

For Arizona, the Access Program is administered by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) through the Central Federal Lands Highway Division (CFLHD). MAP-21 mandates that decisions be made through Arizona’s Programming Decision Committee (PDC) in cooperation with the respective Federal Land Management Agencies (FLMA). The PDC consists of three representatives: (a) FHWA, (b) the State DOT and (c) a “representative of any appropriate political subdivision of the state”. The PDC will review project applications and rank them based on weighted selection criteria developed by the PDC. The selection criteria are reflective of needs in the state of Arizona and Federal regulations and guidelines.

Members of the Arizona PDC Include:

- Mr. Ryan Tyler, Planning and Programs Branch Manager, FHWA - CFLHD (or designated representative);
- Mr. Dallas Hammit, Deputy State Engineer, ADOT (or designated representative); and
- Mr. Mike Ortega, County Administrator, Cochise County, County Supervisors Association of Arizona (CSA) (or designated CSA appointee).

The Arizona PDC will solicit project applications with the intent of developing a 5 to 7 year program. Applications will be due by February 28, 2013. Projects must be prepared to address match requirements (5.7%), have the support of the pertinent FLMA(s).

Preference will be given to those projects which provide access to **Federal high-use recreational sites** or **Federal economic generators**. Projects will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- Access, mobility and connectivity
- Economic development
- Facility condition
- Safety
- Funding, coordination and cost; and
- Resource protection.

Project selection resides with the PDC. The PDC will select a balanced program made up of some large projects with smaller projects used to fill in the gaps. The PDC will make its final decision based on the project proposals ability to meet the aforementioned criteria as well as project support, project readiness, agency priorities, applicant’s share of project costs, availability of funds, project development delivery schedules, previous Federal investment and environmental and right-of-way time constraints.

2013 DRAFT Project Selection Schedule:

January	February	March	April	May	June
1	2	3	4	5	6
Call for Projects		PDC Scores and Ranks Applications	Project agreement and project scoping efforts	PDC Annual Meeting Final Project Selection	Funded Projects Announced
Applications Prepared and Submitted					

Note: Schedule subject to change

What happens if the project is selected?

Applicants will be contacted upon initial selection of the submitted project by PDC. The applicant and CFLHD will enter into a Project Agreement stipulating the scope of the project and the funding arrangements. The applicant funding portion of the initial scoping is not to exceed \$10,000. After execution of the agreement, the scoping project team from CFLHD will meet with the applicant and the FLMA(s) to review the proposed project. This effort will yield a Project Scoping Report, a Project Delivery Plan and a scoping level project construction estimate to be shared with the applicant and the PDC. The results of the initial scoping effort will form the scope of the project and the funding requirements for the project development. A final endorsement by the PDC and a project agreement signed by all appropriate parties will anchor the proposed project in the Arizona 5 -7 Year Plan.

Who should I contact if I have questions?

Questions about the application process or the Access Program can be directed to:

Mr. Allen Grasmick, CFLHD's Federal Lands Access Program Coordinator, at (720) 963-3664, or Allen.Grasmick@dot.gov, or

Ms. Stephanie Lind, CFLHD Transportation Planner, at (720) 963-3555, or Stephanie.Lind@dot.gov.

For agency specific contacts in Arizona, see below.

Agency	Name	Email
National Park Service	Jayne Schaeffer	Jayne_Schaeffer@nps.gov
National Forest Service	Danny Montoya	drmontoya@fs.fed.us
Bureau of Land Management	Terresa Reed	Terresa_Reed@blm.gov
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Rob O'Brien	robert_obrien@fws.gov
Army Corps of Engineers	Scott Rice	Scott.Rice@usace.army.mil
Military Surface Deployment Command	Jason Cowin	Jason.Cowin@us.army.mil

Sincerely yours,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

Allen Grasmick, PMP
Access Program Coordinator

Attachment