

# Federal Highway Administration Eastern Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP)



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Access Program Manager

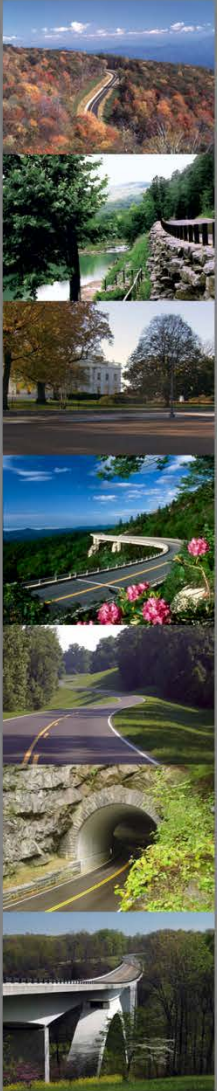
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Planning Team Leader

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Ms. Charlie Costello  
FLAP Programming Coordinator



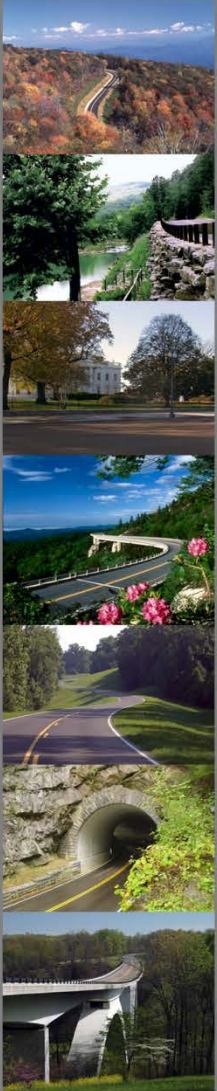
U.S. Department of Transportation  
**Federal Highway Administration**  
Eastern Federal Lands Highway



# Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21)

- ◆ MAP-21 was signed into law on July 6, 2012 and sunset on September 30, 2015.
  
- ◆ MAP-21 authorized the Federal Lands and Tribal Transportation Programs (FLTTP):
  - ◆ Federal Tribal Transportation Program, (TTP)
  - ◆ Federal Lands Transportation Program, (FLTP)
  - ◆ Federal Lands Planning Program (FLPP)
  - ◆ **Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP)**

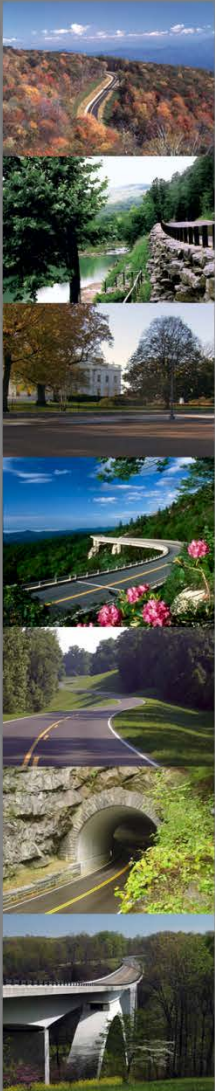




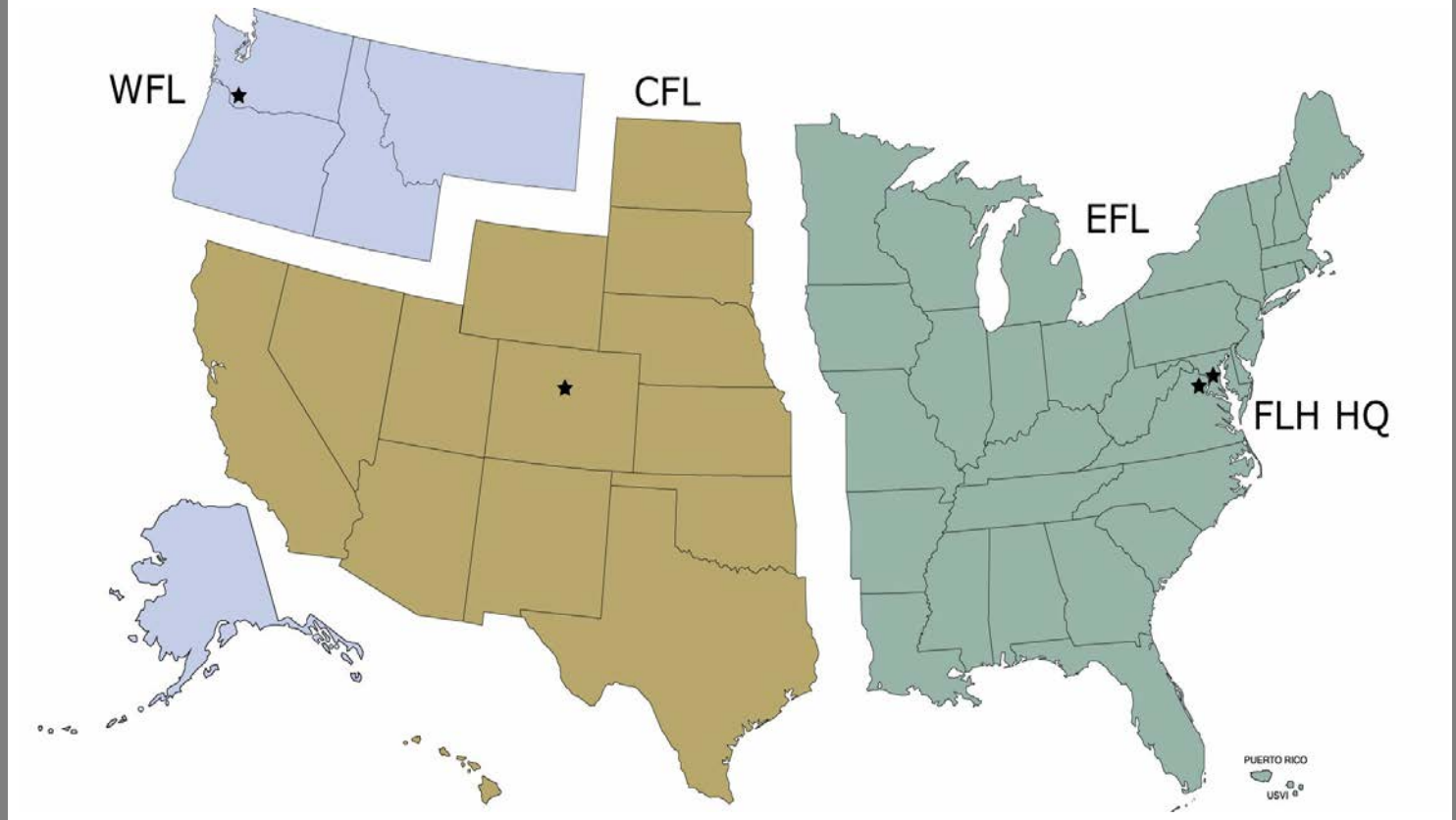
# Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST)

- ◆ FAST Act was signed into law on December 4, 2015 and was made retroactive to October 1, 2015.
  - Builds on program structure and reforms of MAP-21
- ◆ It provides 5 years of funding certainty for infrastructure, planning and investment, FY 2016-2020.
- ◆ Creates the Nationally Significant Federal Lands and Tribal Transportation Projects Program (**NEW**)
- ◆ Minor Changes to the overall FLTTP programs
- ◆ Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP)- **NEW** - \$5 million increase per fiscal year authorized nationally
  - from \$250 million in FY 2016 up to \$270 million in FY 2020



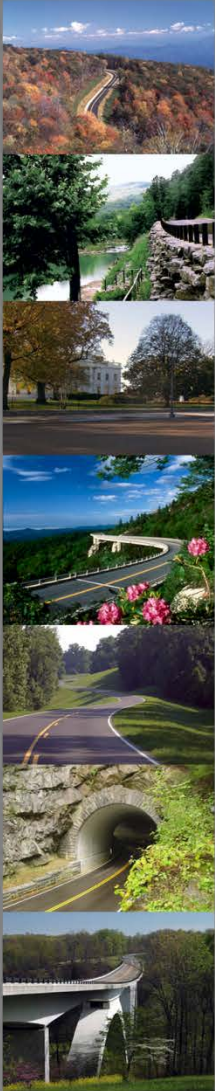


# Federal Lands Highway Division Offices



U.S. Department of Transportation  
Federal Highway Administration  
Eastern Federal Lands Highway

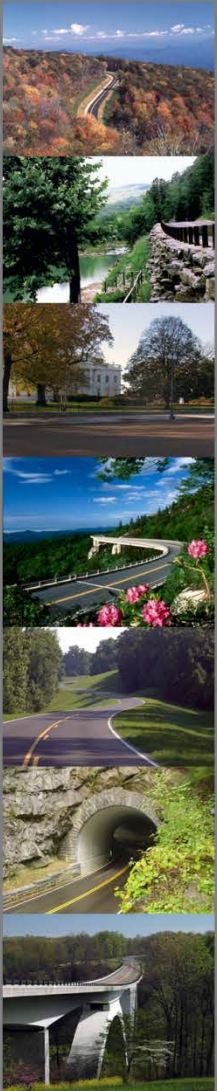
*Accessing America's Treasures*



# Federal Lands & Tribal Program Funding

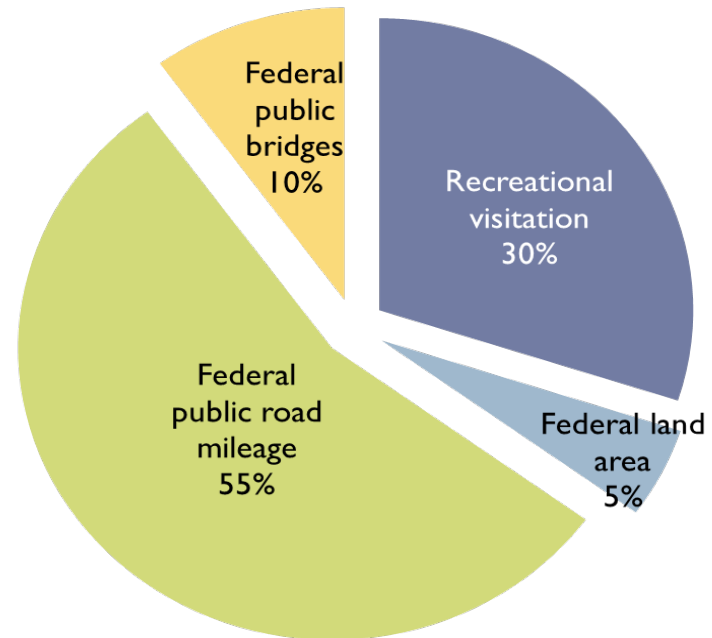
Program	Average Annual Funding (Millions)	Change from MAP-21 / FY2015
Federal Lands Transportation Program (FLTP)	\$355	+ 18%
National Park Service	(284)	
US Fish & Wildlife Service	(30)	
US Forest Service – <b>NEW</b>	(17)	
Remainder (competitive)	(24)	
Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP)	\$260	+4%
Tribal Transportation Program (TTP)	\$485	+8%
Nationally Significant Federal Lands and Tribal Projects (General Fund) - <b>NEW</b>	\$100	

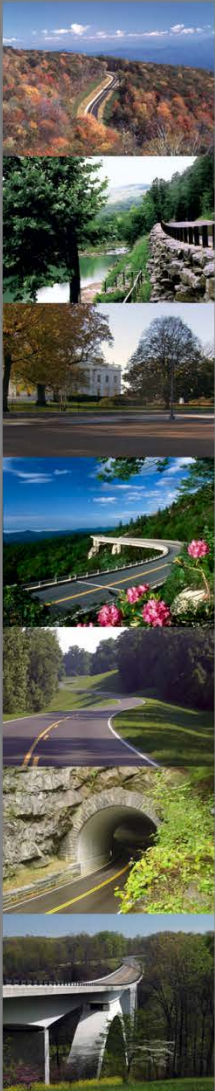




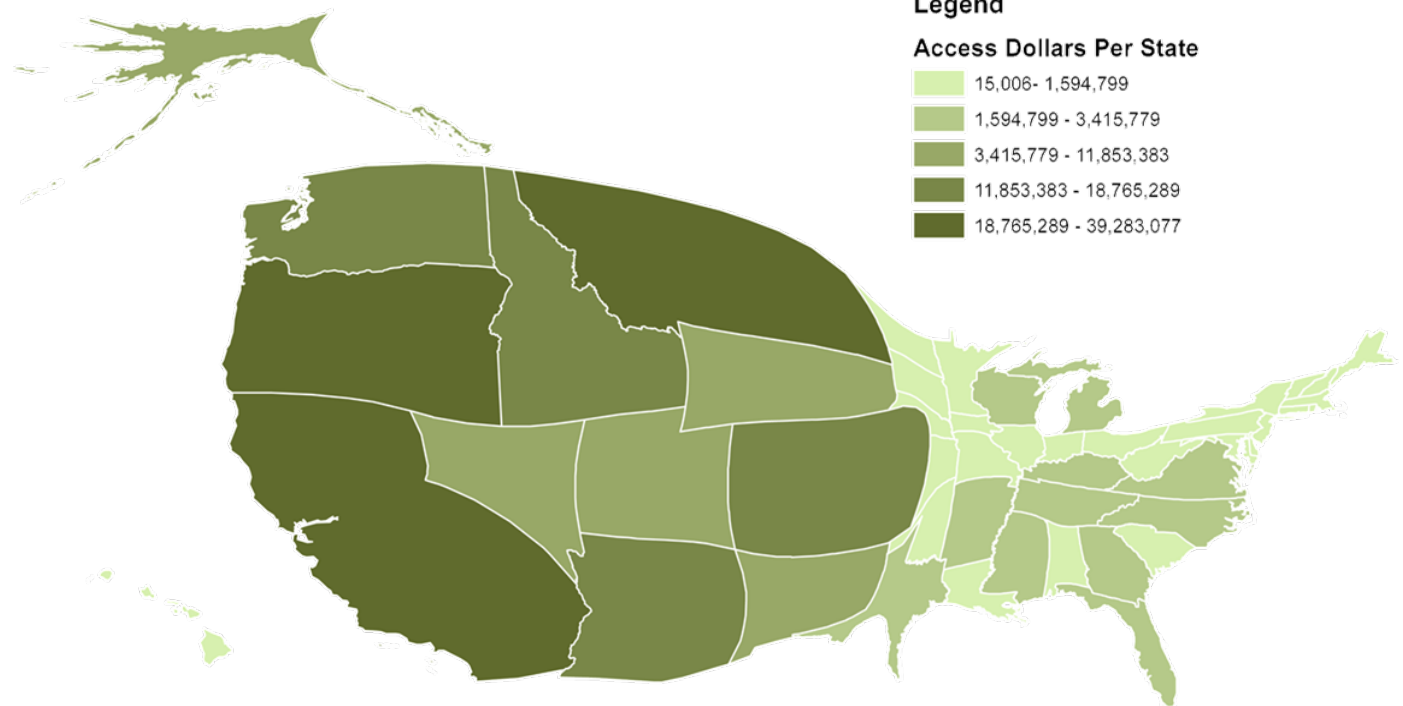
# How are the FLAP funds allocated?

- ▶ Funding
  - ▶ **\$250 million per year**
  - ▶ Distributed by formula
- ▶ Period of availability: allocation year + 3 more years
- ▶ FLAP is **not** a grant program; rather, it is a federal-aid highway reimbursement program.





# Access Program Dollars by State



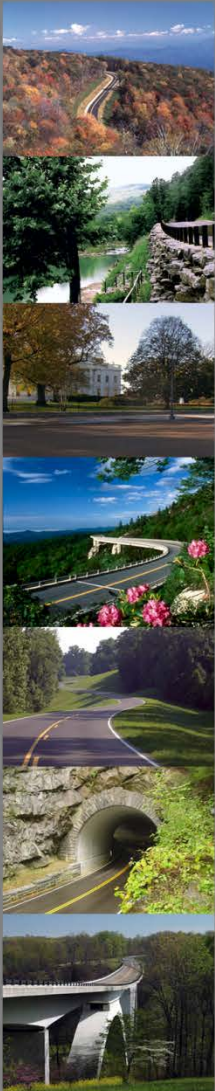
Sources:  
 State Shapefile: US Census  
 Access Dollars: FLHD, Access Program Funding Table Dated 10/26/2012

Puerto Rico is not represented, but will receive around \$78,000 per year in Access Funds

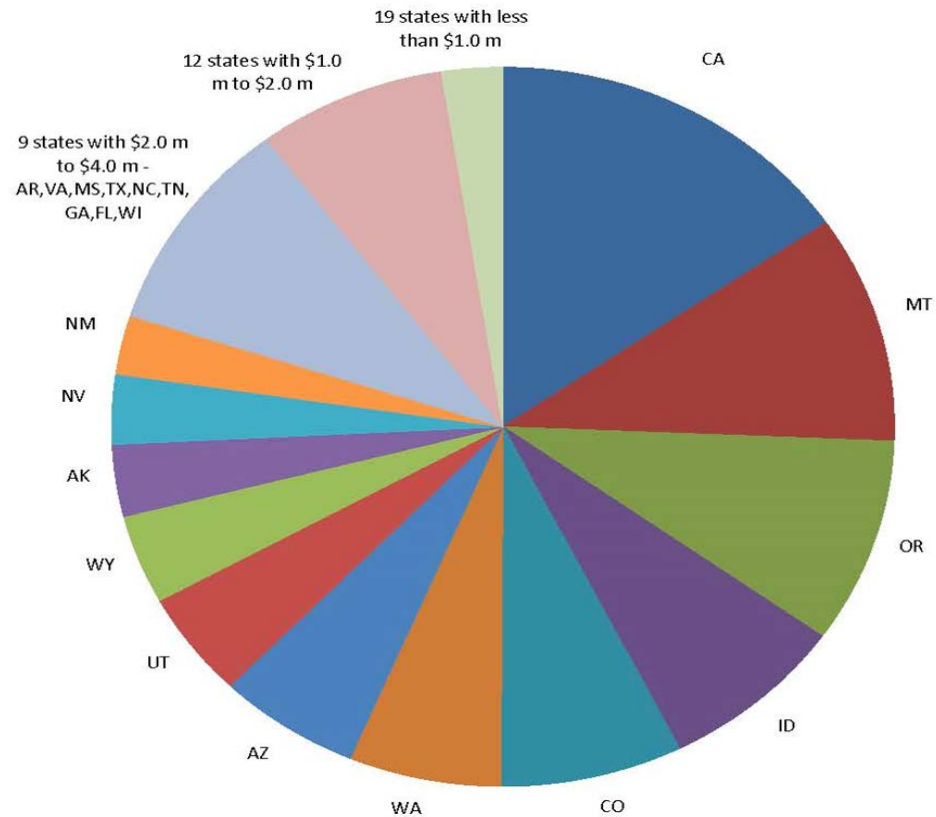


U.S. Department of Transportation  
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*Accessing America's Treasures*



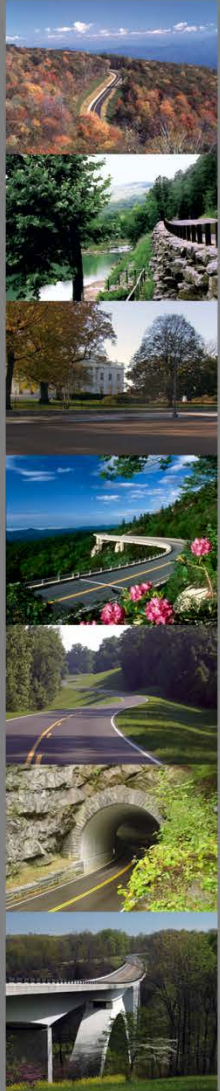
# Access Program Dollars by State

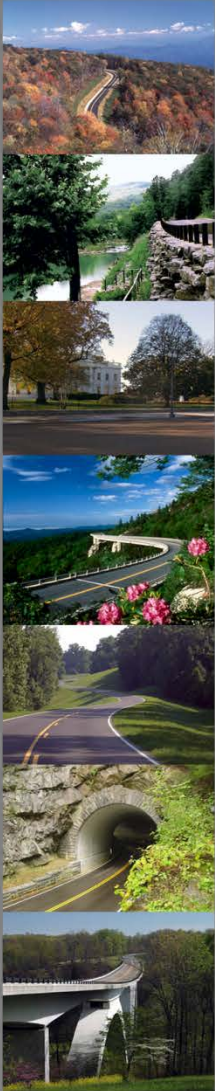




# FLAP Framework

- ◆ Modeled after Forest Highway Program
- ◆ Goal: **Improve state & local transportation facilities** that provide access to, are adjacent to, or are located within Federal lands. Facility title or maintenance responsibility is vested with State, County, Local Government or Tribe
- ◆ **Supplements State and local resources** for public roads, transit systems & other transportation facilities
- ◆ Emphasis: **High-use recreation facilities & economic generators**
- ◆ Requires local **match (20% with sliding scale)**
- ◆ Programming decisions made by a **Programming Decisions Committee (PDC) in each State**





# FLAP Programming Decisions Committee (PDC)

- ◆ The State PDC must be comprised of a representative of:
  - The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) – Eastern Federal Lands (EFL)
  - The State Department of Transportation
  - An appropriate political subdivision of the State (i.e. State Association of Counties)

The PDC in each State develops their own processes

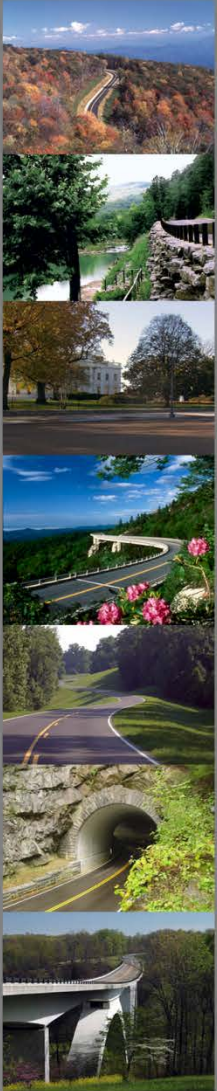


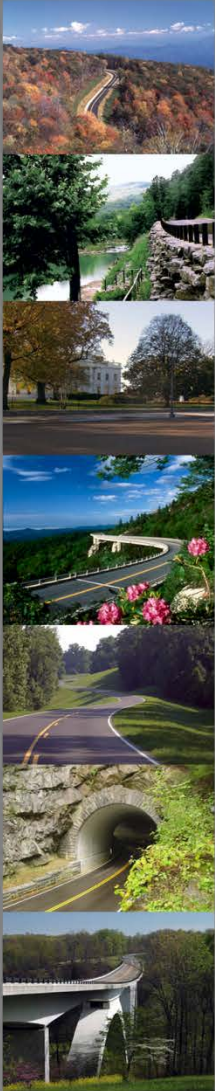
# FLAP Eligibility

Per base enabling legislation (MAP 21):

(A) Transportation planning, research, engineering, preventive maintenance, rehabilitation, restoration, construction, and reconstruction of Federal Lands that Access Transportation Facilities located on or adjacent to, or that provide access to, Federal lands, and —

- (i) adjacent vehicular parking areas; (adjacent parking areas can be under Federal maintenance responsibility)
- (ii) acquisition of necessary scenic easements and scenic or historic sites;
- (iii) provisions for pedestrians and bicycles;



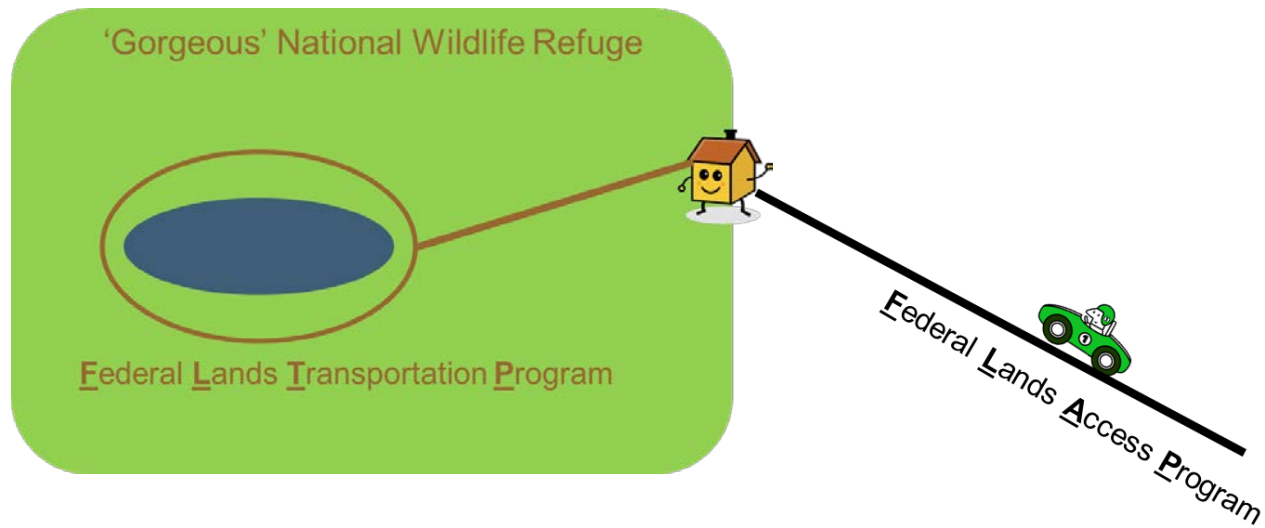
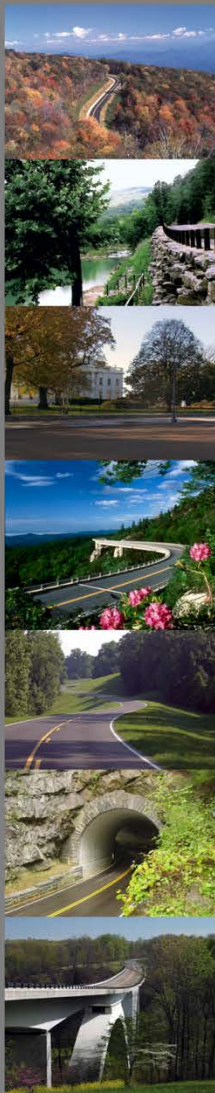


## FLAP Eligibility (Continued)

- (iv) environmental mitigation in or adjacent to Federal land to improve public safety and reduce vehicle-caused wildlife mortality while maintaining habitat connectivity;
  - (v) construction and reconstruction of roadside rest areas, including sanitary and water facilities;
- (B) operation and maintenance of transit facilities; and
- (C) any transportation project eligible for assistance under Title 23 that is within or adjacent to, or that provides access to, Federal land.



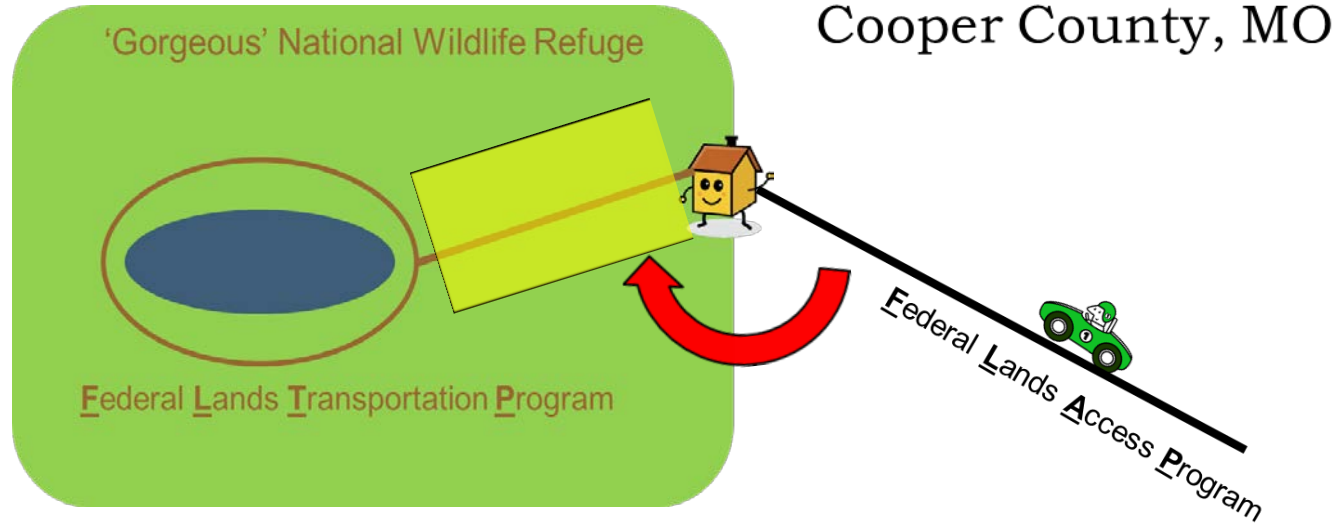
# FLAP Eligibility



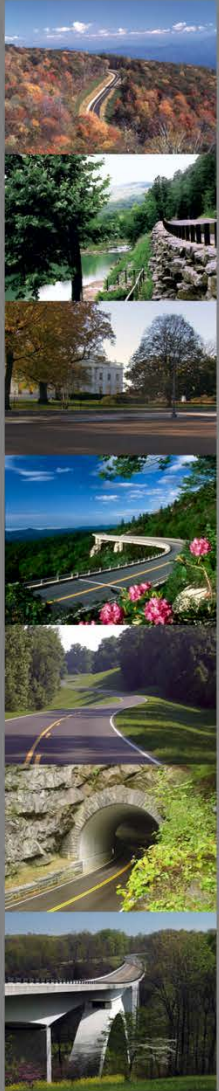
Cooper County, MO



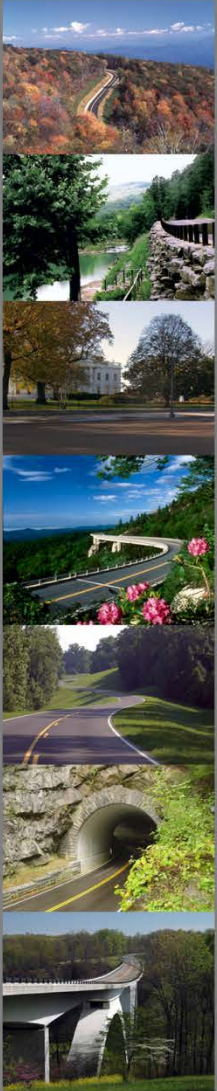
# FLAP Eligibility



**State or Local Agency Title or Maintenance  
Responsibility inside the Federal boundary?  
= FLAP Eligible**



# Types of projects



## Capital Improvement

- Rehabilitation, restoration, construction, & reconstruction of roads & trails
- Safety improvements, widening, realignments, surfacing, culverts, bridges, signing & associated road appurtenances

## Enhancement

- Road and trail improvements
- Interpretive signs, kiosks, viewpoints, restrooms, provisions for pedestrians and bicycles, scenic easements, trailheads, and improvements that reduce vehicle-wildlife conflicts

## Transit

- Construction of transit facilities (passenger waiting shelters, ferry docks, helipads, etc.)
- Short term Operation & maintenance of transit facilities, including vehicles
- Purchase of transit vehicles

## Planning

- Engineering studies, corridor management planning, bicycle/pedestrian planning, & alternative transportation planning



# Safety Projects

## **Certain types of safety projects are eligible for 100% of the federal share:**

Title 23 U.S.C. Section 120(c)(1) allows certain types of Highway Safety Improvement Projects (HSIP) to be funded at 100 percent.

<https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/federalaid/141125.cfm>

◆ This applies to projects that may include but are not limited to:

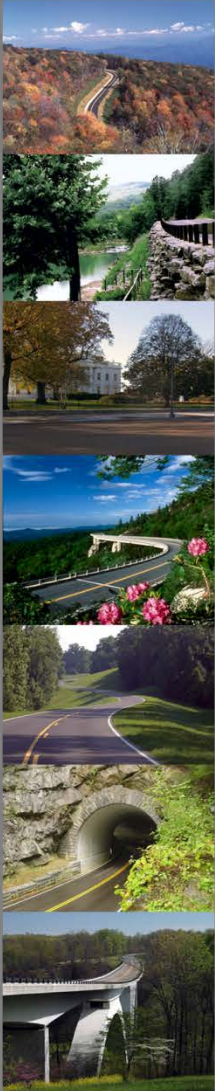
- ◆ Traffic control signalization;
- ◆ Priority signal controls for emergency vehicles or transit vehicles;
- ◆ Installation of traffic signs, traffic lights, guardrails, impact attenuators, concrete barrier end treatments, breakaway utility poles;
- ◆ Traffic circles/roundabouts;
- ◆ Safety rest areas;
- ◆ Pavement markings;
- ◆ Shoulder and centerline rumble strips;
- ◆ Retroreflectivity of highway signs and pavement markings

◆ Please coordinate with your State DOT's Safety Engineer or FHWA Federal Aid Office Safety Engineer for eligibility approval; Include signed HSIP form with your application. <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/about/field.cfm>

**States can be more restrictive and limit the types of eligible safety activities**



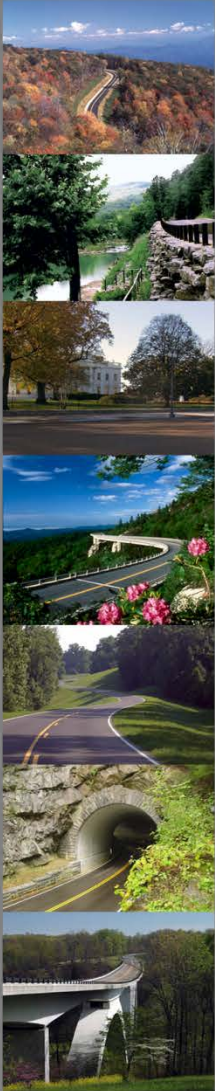




# FLAP Matching Funds

- ◆ Local Match Requirement: 20% of total project cost with sliding scale
- ◆ Other Federal agency funds (**non-title 23 or 49**) may be used as match. Hard matches are in the form of cash (preferred)
  - ◆ Match Exception- FLTP and TTP funds may be used
  - ◆ Access funds may **NOT** be used to match other Federal-Aid program funds
- ◆ “Soft-matches” or “in-kind matches” are permitted if approved by the FLAP PDC; Typically follows State Federal Aid guidelines for match
  - ◆ Soft match examples: toll credits, labor for PE/NEPA/Permitting, CEI, right-of-way/easements, equipment rental valued at fair market price
- ◆ Match Funds must be generated and applied **after** a project agreement is signed;
- ◆ A 2-8% EFL Project Management fee may be added to project budget & will require a match





# Lead Delivery Agency

- ◆ Select from EFLHD, State DOT or Local Public Agency on EFLHD application
- ◆ EFLHD welcomes the opportunity to deliver your project from “cradle to grave”. This includes: Planning Studies, Engineering Design, Environmental Compliance, Contract Advertisement and Award, Construction Engineering & Inspection and Federal Stewardship and Oversight.
  - ◆ Please contact EFLHD to coordinate a project cost estimate a minimum of 30 days prior to the closing of the Call for Projects.
- ◆ Local Public Agencies requesting to deliver their own project must be certified by the State DOT to deliver projects in compliance with Federal Highway Administration regulations.

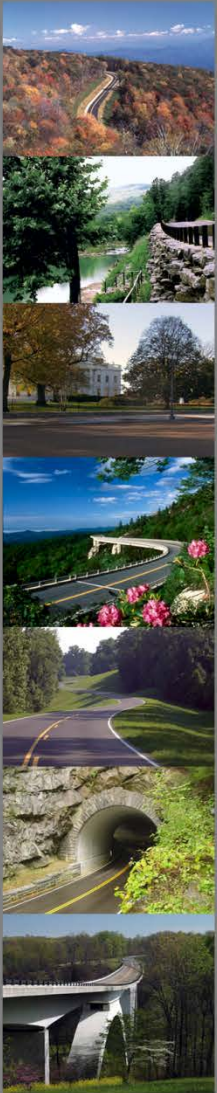
<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/federal-aidessentials/stateresources.cfm>



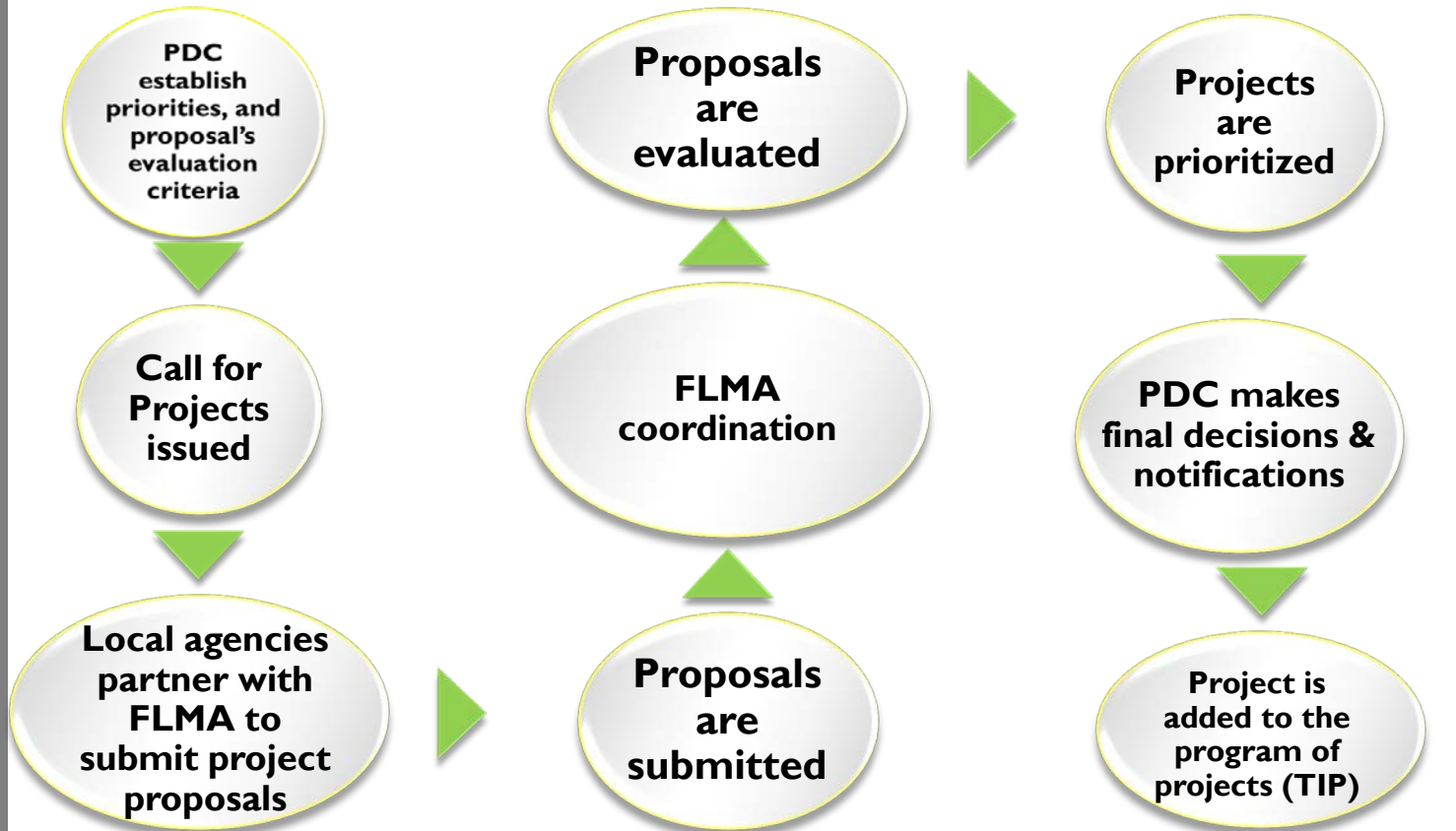
# Eastern Federal Lands (EFL) FLAP Framework

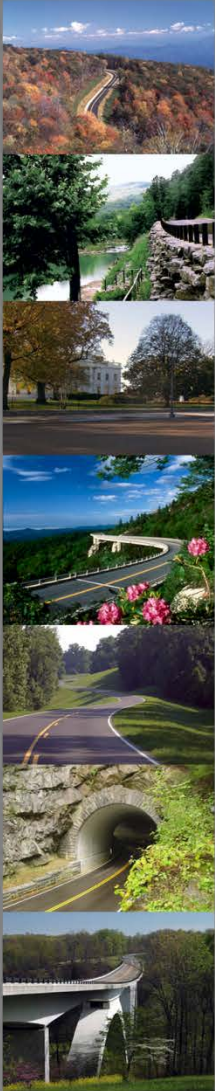
- ◆ Call for Projects issued with call timeframes that vary by state
- ◆ Multi-year program contingent on available funding and authorizing legislation
- ◆ PDC will score and rank project applications based on criteria listed in the State's Call for Projects SOP & State Goals
- ◆ PDC coordinates priorities with each FLMA in each State before any joint PDC discussion prior to making programming decisions
- ◆ Selected projects will be programmed in the EFL Access Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and included in the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)





# FLAP Decision-making process

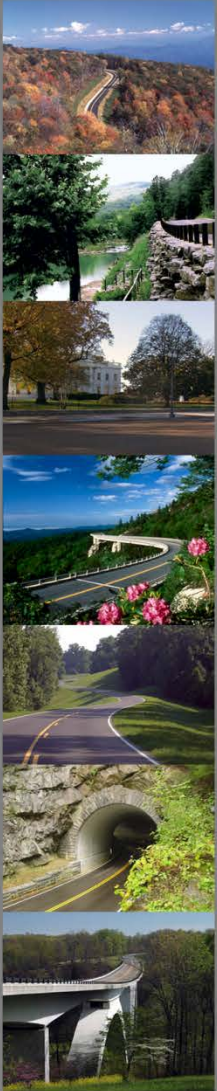




# FLAP Evaluation Criteria

- ◆ Endorsed by pertinent Federal agency as a high priority?
- ◆ High-use Federal facility/Federal economic generator?
- ◆ Consistent with State's PDC goals?
- ◆ Project sponsor can provide the required 20% match?
- ◆ Realistic scope, schedule, and budget?
- ◆ Additional Factors:
  - Safety
  - Accessibility & Mobility
  - Preservation
  - Environmental Quality & Sustainability

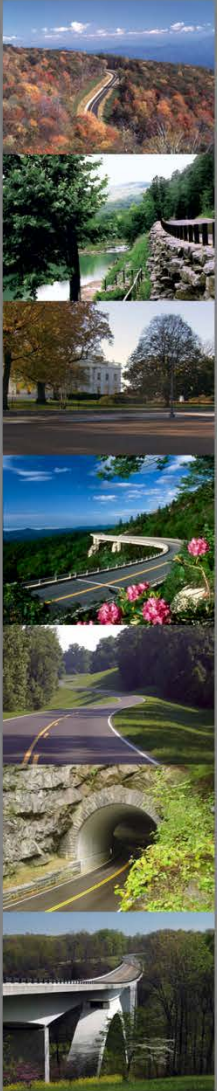




# FLAP Project Agreement Contents

- ◆ Scope, Schedule, and Budget
- ◆ Roles and responsibilities of all parties
- ◆ Maintenance commitment by the Cooperator/Sponsor (Maintenance agreements are usually separate documents)
- ◆ Document local match requirement and strategy for administering and tracking
- ◆ Coordination with pertinent FLMA
- ◆ Designates Stewardship & Oversight responsibility
- ◆ Other conditions as determined by the PDC
- ◆ A Project Agreement does NOT obligate funds





# Federal Land Management Agency Engagement

## ▶ Who are the Federal Land Management Agency (FLMA) Partners in this process?

### ▶ Traditional Partners

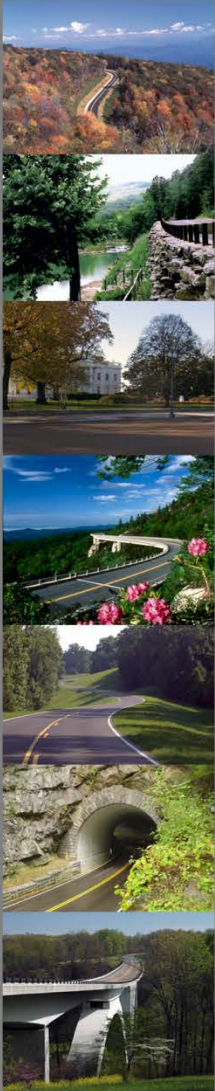
- ▶ Forest Service
- ▶ Fish and Wildlife Service
- ▶ National Park Service
- ▶ Tribes



### ▶ New Partners

- ▶ Bureau of Land Management
- ▶ Army Corps of Engineers
- ▶ Bureau of Reclamation
- ▶ Military ( Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines)
- ▶ Other Federal Estate Owners (NASA, DOE, DHS, etc.)





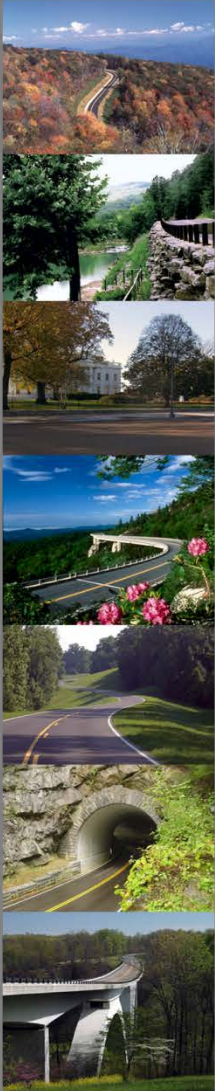
# Federal Land Management Agency Engagement

## ▶ How are FLMAs engaged in the process?

- ▶ Assist in “getting the word out” about the program and notifications of the “calls for projects”.
- ▶ Define for their own agency both “high-use recreation” and “economic generator” sites.
- ▶ Prioritize projects that benefit their agency; FLMA Regional Coordinators will be asked to provide a prioritized list of the applications received in the state that benefit their agency. Bonus points will be given to the top 5 priority applicants to aid in PDC decision making.
- ▶ Requiring signature of Federal Land Unit or Regional Manager helps ensure that project application is supported by FLMA.
- ▶ Engaging FLMAs early = better proposals = better projects



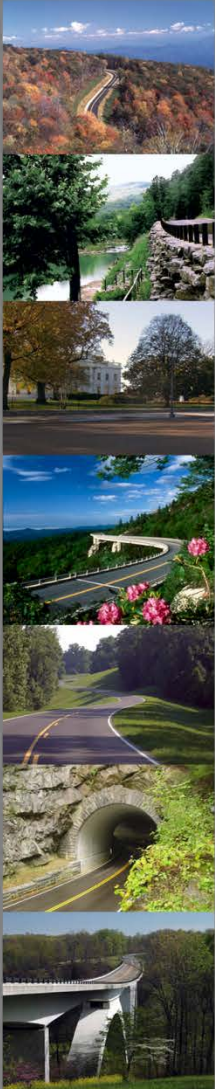




## Project Example: St. Johns River Ferry; Jacksonville FL

- Applicant: City of Jacksonville, FL
- Benefitting FLMAs: Timucuan Ecological & Historical Preserve, USFWS and Mayport Naval Station, US Navy/DOD
- Project Purpose: Provide temporary operating assistance for a vehicle/passenger river ferry linkage on the Florida Route A1A corridor across a 1 mile section of the St. Johns River

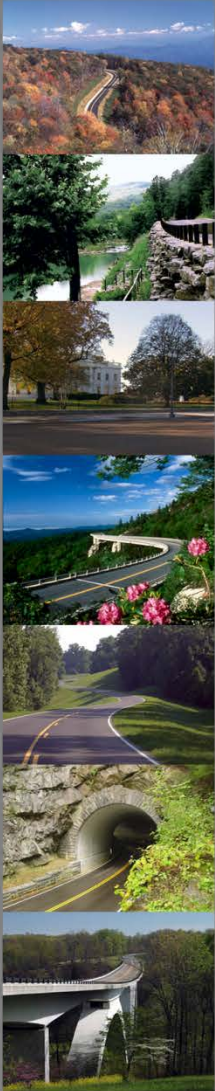




# St. Johns River Ferry; Jacksonville, FL

- Total FLAP amount requested: \$900,000
- Amount of match funding provided: \$900,000
  - Florida DOT Toll Credits (100%)

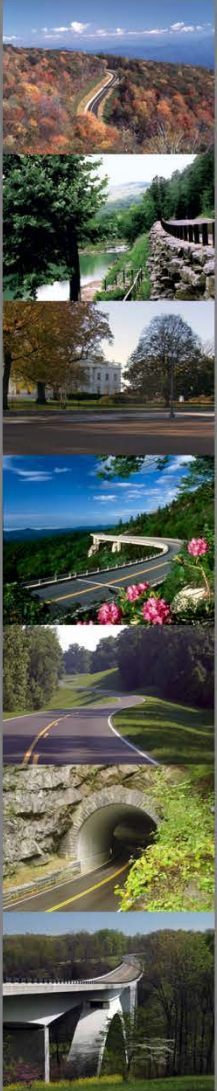




# Project Example: Virginia Potomac Heritage Trail at Featherstone National Wildlife Refuge (NWR)

- Applicant: Prince William County, VA
- Benefitting FLMAs: Fish & Wildlife Service- Featherstone NWR and Potomac Heritage Scenic Trail- National Park Service
- Project Purpose: Boardwalk construction and bridge connecting a Virginia Railway Express (VRE) station and neighborhood to a **new** access entrance to Featherstone NWR (previously boat access only) and NPS Potomac Heritage Scenic Trail.

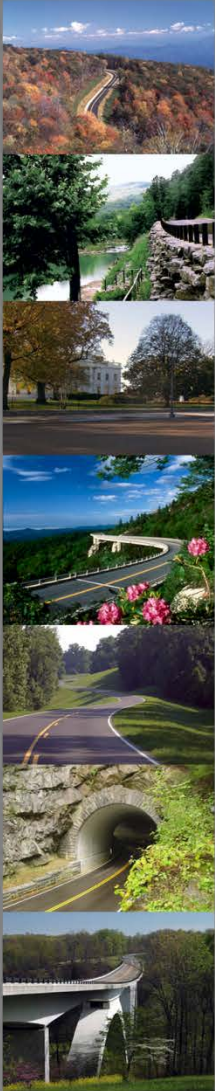




## Potomac Heritage Trail at Featherstone NWR

- Total FLAP amount requested: \$597,000
- Amount of match funding provided: \$165,000
  - Prince William County and Local Developer





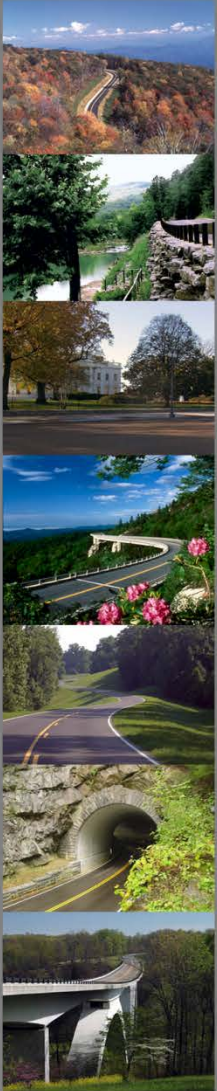
# Project Example: New Hampshire Umbagog National Wildlife Refuge Public Boat Access Floating Dock

- Applicant: New Hampshire Fish & Game Department
- Benefitting FLMA: Fish & Wildlife Service - Umbagog NWR
- Project Purpose: Add a seasonal floating dock system to improve boater access to Lake Umbagog. Dock will facilitate boat launching and loading; thereby reducing congestion & shoreline erosion



Existing Access condition





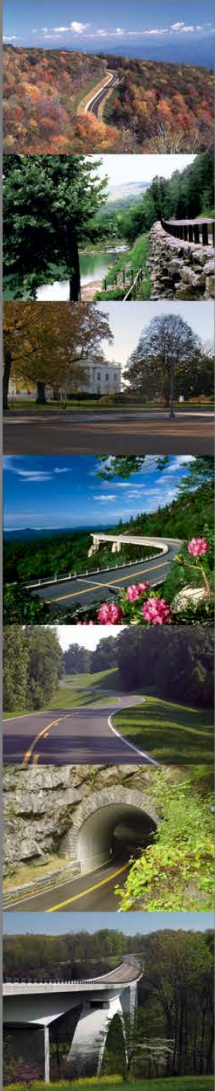
# Umbagog NWR Public Boat Access Floating Dock

- Total FLAP amount requested: \$53,103
- Amount of match funding provided: \$12,613
  - NH Fish & Game Department



Similar floating dock project

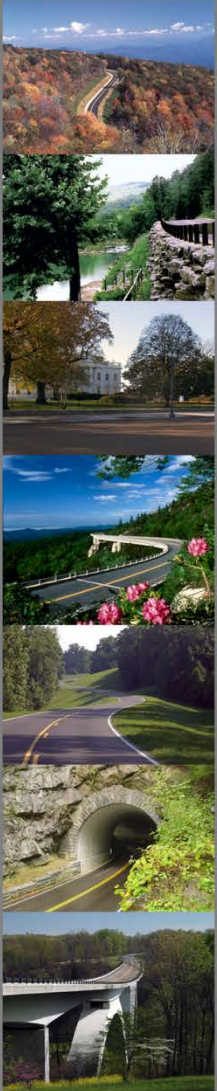




## Project Example: Truman Lake Area Multi-Use Trail; Warsaw, MO

- Project Applicant: Town of Warsaw, Missouri
- Benefiting FLMA unit: US Army Corps of Engineers-Truman Lake Recreational Area
- Project Purpose: Preliminary Engineering and Construction of multi-phased trail network serving the Truman Lake Recreational Area



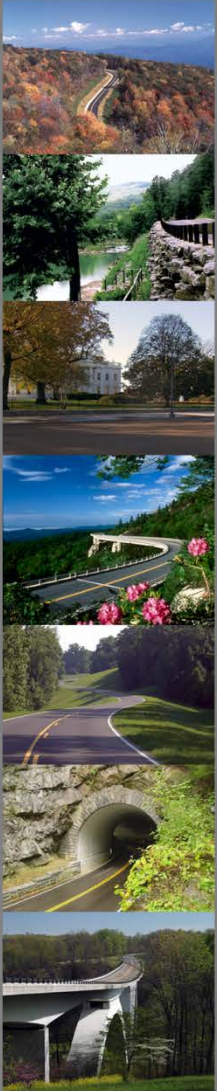


# Truman Lake Area Multi-Use Trail; Warsaw, MO

- Total FLAP amount requested: \$678,948
- Amount of match funding provided: \$305,181
  - Benton County
  - Town of Warsaw
  - Missouri DOT



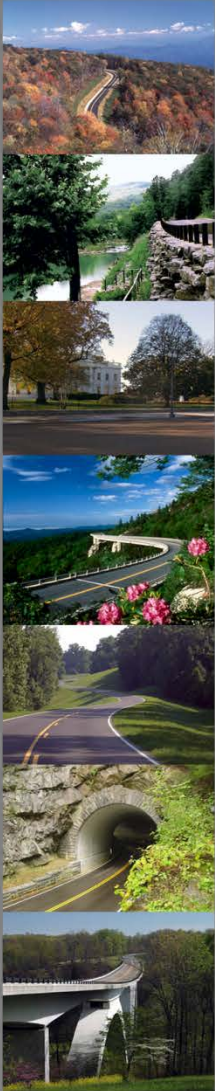




# Project Example: Minnesota River Greenway- Black Dog Trail

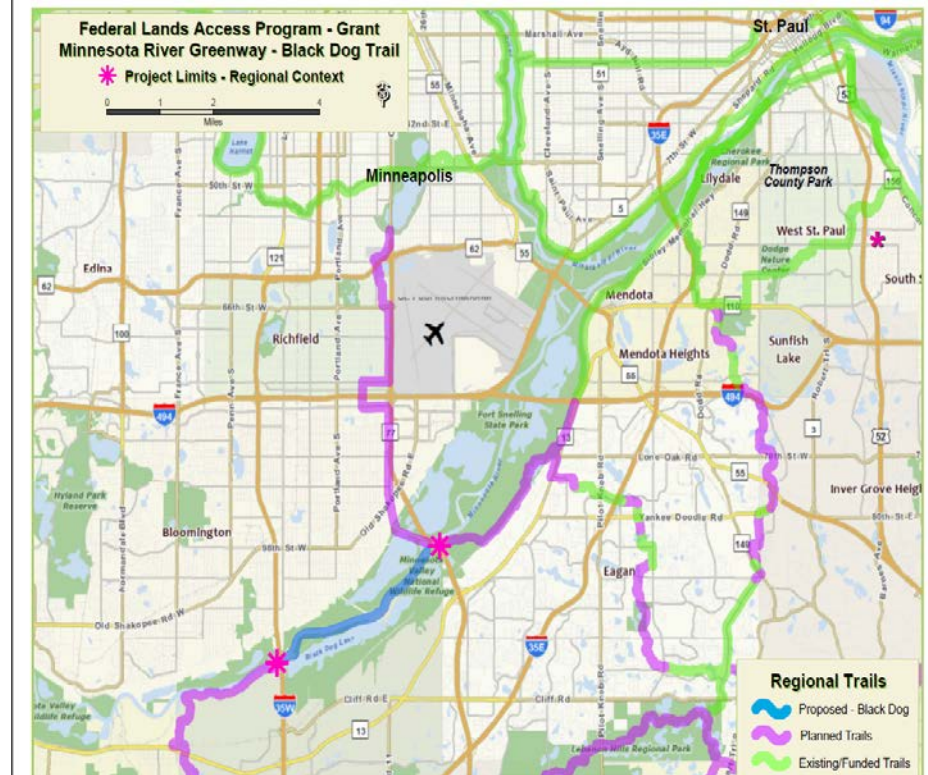
- Applicant: City of Burnsville, MN/Dakota County
- Benefitting FLMA: Fish & Wildlife Service- Minnesota Valley NWR
- Project Purpose: Design and construction of 3.5 mile paved Black Dog Trail along the Minnesota River between I-35 and Highway 77.
- Provides refuge access as well as 60 miles of recreational/commuter bicycle linkage

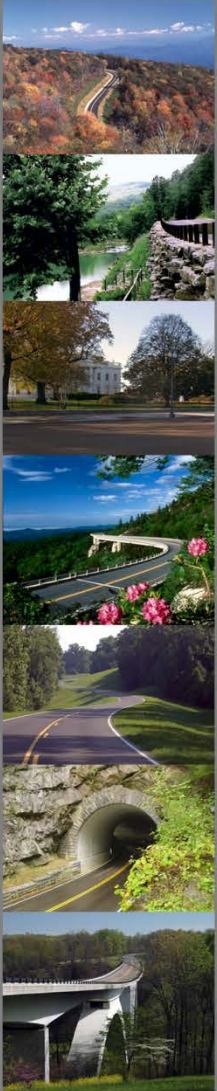




# Minnesota River Greenway- Black Dog Trail

- Total FLAP amount requested: \$510,000
- Amount of match funding provided: \$2,230,000
- Leveraged funds from: City of Burnsville, Dakota Co., Federal Lands Transportation Program
- Project Total \$2.7M





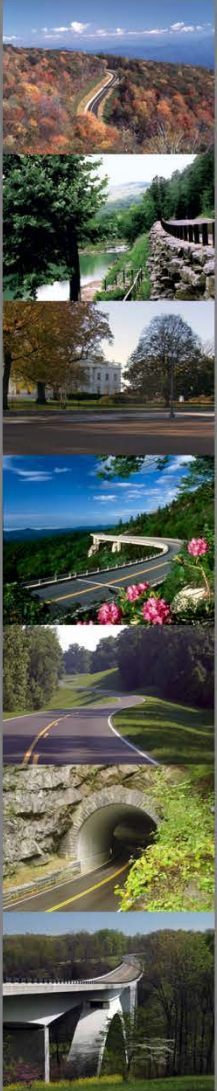
## Out of the box example: Tsali Overlook Helipad, US Route 28, Graham and Swain Counties, North Carolina

- Project Applicant:  
Swain County, North Carolina
- Benefiting FLMA unit:  
U.S. Forest Service –  
Nantahala National  
Forest, Cheoah Ranger  
District
- Project Purpose:  
Construction of a 50-  
foot by 50-foot concrete  
helipad on NCDOT right  
of way to provide  
improved emergency  
services access.



Helipad opening ceremonies





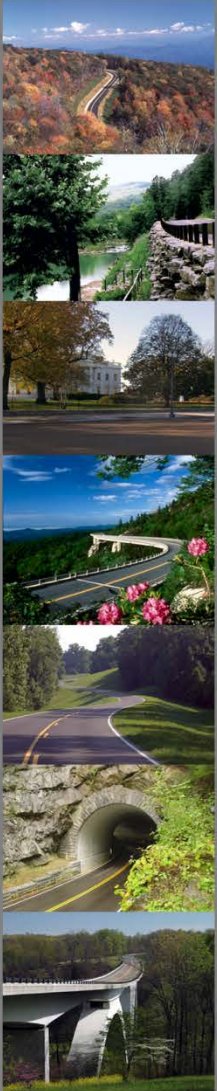
# Tsali Overlook Helipad, US Route 28 Graham and Swain Counties, North Carolina

- Total Construction Contract Amount: \$89,000
- Amount of funding provided:
  - Access Program funding - \$75,000
  - Swain County match funding - \$7,000
  - Graham County match funding - \$7,000
  - NCDOT construction engineering support
  - Southwest Regional Planning Commission grant application support



Swain County Helipad- Utilized for emergency rescue on opening day!

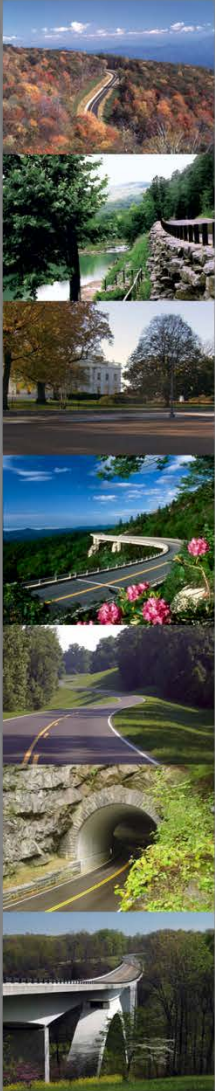




## Tips for preparing a good FLAP Application

- ◆ **Review** PDC documents on website for your state (i.e state goals, tips, scoring) Still have questions? Contact EFL or any PDC member!
- ◆ Facility owner **must** be the applicant (ownership or a long-term maintenance agreement)
- ◆ Be practical, “**right size**” the scope, schedule and budget- include options for scaling/phasing the project if applicable (i.e. a 3 mile resurfacing project broken into 3 separate, 1 mile segments with associated costs) you could receive partial funding!
- ◆ **Coordinate** with the adjacent FLMA for signature/letter of support for the proposed project; Use FLMA to assist with information (i.e. visitation, Land management goals, data etc.)
- ◆ **Answer all** the application questions to the best of your ability; be succinct and concise; Use the best data available, include any assumptions.

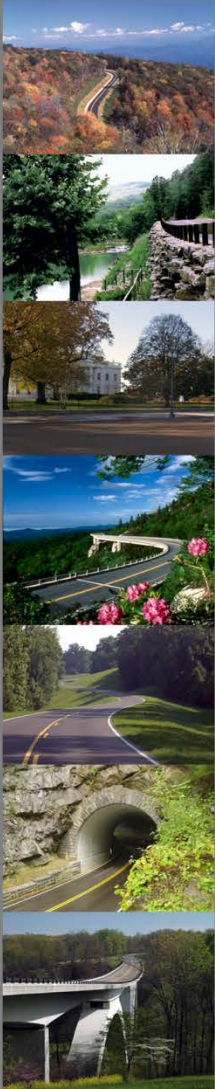




# Tips for preparing a good FLAP Application

- ◆ Provide a **recent/accurate cost estimate** from the delivery agency
- ◆ **Include Photos and quality maps** that show the project location, termini and linkage to the Federal Land accessed  
(10 page supplemental information page limit- not including support letters)
- ◆ **Be clear about your match** amount (20% of Total Project amount) and funding sources, (No Title 23 or 49 funds other than FLTP) Be sure your state allows for soft match; Include resolution of approval of funds (as needed by a governing body such as City Council or County Commissioners)
- ◆ Thinking of a **Safety Project**? Coordinate up front with your State DOT HSIP Safety Manager/FHWA Federal Aid Safety Engineer for eligibility approval of your project's scope. Include the signed HSIP approval form with your application. <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/federalaid/141125.cfm>





# EFL Calls for Projects (CFP)

CFP 2017-2020: July 15 - October 14, 2016

- CT, DE, IA, KY, LA, MA, ME, NH, NJ, NY, RI, VT

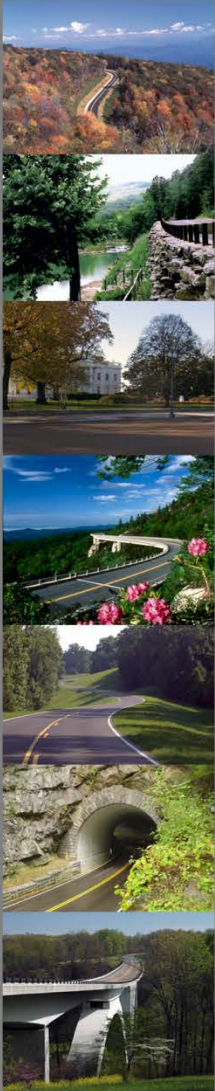
CFP 2017-2020: August 15 - November 15, 2016

- AR, DC, FL, MS, NC, PA, SC, TN, VA, WV, WI

CFP 2017-2020: September 15 - December 16, 2016

- AL, GA, IL, IN, MD, MI, MN, MO, OH, PR



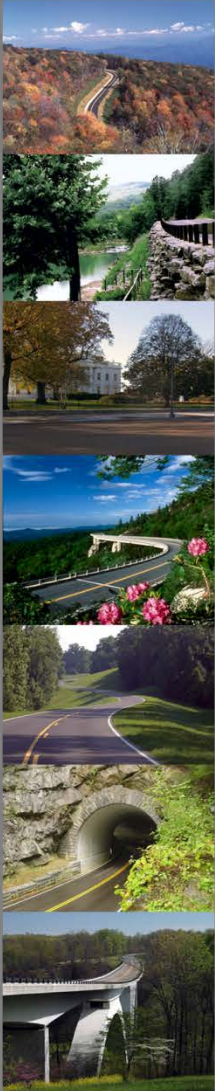


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# FLAP Resources

Status of the program; state pages- (PDC goals, tips, forms, FAQs etc.):

<http://flh.fhwa.dot.gov/programs/flap/>

Fact Sheet: *Revision for FAST Act*

<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/fastact/factsheets/fedlandsaccessfs.cfm>

Match information:

[http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/legsregs/directives/policy/fedaid\\_guidance\\_nfmr.htm](http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/legsregs/directives/policy/fedaid_guidance_nfmr.htm)

Local Agency Delivery Information:

<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/federal-aidessentials/stateresources.cfm>

Safety Project Information:

<https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/federalaid/141125.cfm>

