



TEXAS TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

J. Bruce Bugg, Jr.
Chairman

March 27, 2020

Laura Ryan
Commissioner

The Honorable Daryl Melton
PO Box 716
Hemphill, TX 75948-0716

Alvin New
Commissioner

Robert C. Vaughn
Commissioner

Dear Judge Melton,

Yesterday, March 26, 2020, the Texas Transportation Commission (Commission) approved the submission of applications, the application timeline, and estimated available funds for the County Transportation Infrastructure Funds (CTIF) grant program for transportation infrastructure projects located in areas of the state affected by increased oil and gas production. During the 86th Legislative Session (2019), the Texas Legislature modified the existing Transportation Infrastructure Fund, referred to as CTIF, and appropriated \$250 million for the CTIF Program

This legislation and funding will enable counties in areas affected by energy-sector activities to apply for and obtain grants through the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) to repair or improve county roads. The Texas Transportation Commission has expedited the process to provide funds to counties.

The Commission welcomes this opportunity to partner with you in the State's continuing efforts to address the mobility, safety and preservation of Texas' transportation system. We recognize that counties are on the front lines in the joint efforts to address the challenge of ensuring Texas continues to provide the best road system in the country to our citizens and visitors.

This program will be administered in a manner that provides counties with the ability to focus on their specific needs in relation to energy-sector activities. These activities are a large part of our State's vibrant economy; however, they do impact and damage county roads. The CTIF funds provide vital dollars to ensure that the construction and preservation of your county road system can be maintained, while providing the travelling public with enhanced safety on the roads.

The CTIF program may not provide enough funding to address all the challenges created by energy-sector activities in your county, but we believe that it does provide a mechanism for Texas counties and TxDOT to strengthen our partnership to provide Texas an effective and safer transportation experience for the traveling public.

We look forward to working with your county and advancing the efforts the Legislature has entrusted with both of our organizations. Please do not hesitate to contact me at (512) 305-9509 for additional information or your staff may contact John Jameson, TxDOT's Director of Local Government Programs at (512) 416-2152 or John.Jameson@txdot.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Bruce Bugg, Jr.', with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

J. Bruce Bugg, Jr.

Chairman, Texas Transportation Commission

cc: Texas Transportation Commission
James M. Bass, Executive Director
Marc D. Williams, P.E., Deputy Executive Director
Mary Anne Griss, Chief of Staff
Bill Hale P.E., Chief Engineer
Brian R. Barth P.E., Director of Project Planning and Development
Quincy D. Allen P.E., Director of District Operations
Trent W. Thomas, Director of State Legislative Affairs
John C. Jameson, Director of Local Government Projects

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March 27, 2020

The HONORABLE DARYL MELTON
SABINE COUNTY
PO Box 716
HEMPHILL, TX 75948-0716

Dear Judge Melton:

During the 86th Regular Legislative Session (2019), the Texas Legislature passed House Bill 4280, which was signed by Governor Greg Abbott and became effective on September 1, 2019. HB 4280 modifies the existing Transportation Infrastructure Fund (Chapter 256, Texas Transportation Code), referred to as the County Transportation Infrastructure Fund (CTIF). The 86th Legislature also appropriated \$250 million for the CTIF Program, \$125 million in Senate Bill 500 from the Economic Stabilization Fund, and \$125 million in House Bill 1 (General Appropriations Act, Rider 47) from available sources of revenue to the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT). This funding will enable counties in areas affected by energy-sector activities to apply for and obtain grants through TxDOT to repair or improve county roads. On February 27, 2020, the Texas Transportation Commission adopted rules to comply with the statutory changes in HB 4280.

As outlined in HB 4280 and TxDOT rules, grant funding will be distributed to each county according to the following formula: 10% - weight tolerance permits, 20% - oil and gas production taxes, 45% - horizontal well completion, 15% - vertical well completions, and 10% - volume of oil and gas waste injected. The methodology and data used to develop the allocations under the formula were determined by the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles, the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, and the Railroad Commission of Texas, respectively.

The estimated allocation for each county in the state, assuming all 254 counties apply, will be provided as part of the NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS FOR COUNTY TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUTURE FUND GRANT PROGRAM included with this letter. Actual grant awards may vary from the estimate. Accordingly, it is estimated that Sabine County is eligible for a minimum grant award of \$74,190. The total grant award to your county will not be known until the application period closes and all applications are reviewed by TxDOT. TxDOT will then provide a written notice to each applicant that states the amount of the grant award. TxDOT will begin accepting electronically submitted applications on Monday, April 27, 2020. The application period will end Wednesday, May 27, 2020.

OUR VALUES: *People • Accountability • Trust • Honesty*
OUR MISSION: *Connecting You With Texas*

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NOTIFICATION

NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS FOR COUNTY TRANSPORTATION
INFRASTRUCTURE FUND GRANT PROGRAM

On February 27, 2020, the Texas Transportation Commission (commission) adopted rules, codified as Title 43 Texas Administrative Code §§15.180 – 15.197 (rules), that prescribe the policies and procedures governing the Texas Department of Transportation's (TxDOT) implementation of the County Transportation Infrastructure Fund Grant Program (program) under Transportation Code, Chapter 256, Subchapter C. Pursuant to the program, TxDOT will administer a grant program using the transportation infrastructure fund and **provide funding to eligible counties for transportation infrastructure projects located in areas of the state affected by increased oil and gas production.**

On March 26, 2020, the commission specified the period of time in fiscal year 2020 for submission of grant applications for the program, and the total amount of grant money available for the designated period.

This NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS is being sent to the county judge of each county in the state pursuant to the rules. Applications are required to be submitted electronically by email to TxDOT at CTIF2020@txdot.gov. The grant application form, a copy of this notice, and all other information for the program is also available on the TxDOT website at <https://www.txdot.gov/government/funding/county-fund.html>. This notification and information are provided to each county:

APPLICATION PERIOD: April 27, 2020 – May 27, 2020

Any county application submitted before April 27, 2020, will be deemed received by TxDOT on April 27, 2020, for purposes of TxDOT's review timeline under the applicable statute and rules.

NO application will be accepted after May 27, 2020.

ESTIMATED GRANT FUNDS AVAILABLE: \$250,000,000

ENCLOSURES:

1. Grant Application Form
2. List of Transportation Infrastructure Projects (Prioritized List)
3. Estimated allocation for each county in the state - *Estimate assumes all 254 counties will be eligible and apply; actual grant awards may vary from the estimate*
4. List of "economically disadvantaged counties." - *Determined pursuant to Transportation Code, § 222.053.*