

Revitalizing Main Streets

FY 2021 Projects

Opportunity 2: Small Multimodal and Economic Resiliency Grant

Eligibility Rules and Selection Process

Program Purpose

The Revitalizing Main Streets: Multimodal and Economic Resiliency Program was developed by the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) and other state agency partners to support infrastructure projects that provide open spaces for mobility, community activities and economic development in the wake of the COVID-19 emergency. These quick-win activities will improve safety and create new community spaces to encourage healthy activity and mobility in Colorado's towns and cities.

Program Goals

Coloradans must work together to protect health and improve the economy, air quality, equity, and quality of life as we come out of the Stay at Home and Safer at Home Orders and seek to prevent recurrences for the next year or more while vaccines or other solutions are being developed. This program builds on other state efforts to help communities provide safe spaces for all to walk, bike and dine.

- Protect public health by encouraging social distancing and active transportation.
- Support economic development by allowing private enterprise to operate safely.
- Imagine innovative uses of public spaces to accommodate our new reality.
- Support community access to the right of way that safely accommodates all modes of travel.
- Provide safe access to opportunity and mobility for residents of all ages, incomes and abilities, including vulnerable users.

Funding Background

These projects will be funded from the state portion of the S.B. 1 Multimodal Options Fund and S.B. 110 Build Back Better stimulus funding.

Applicant Eligibility Requirements

Eligible applicants include local governments and other transit or governmental entities. Private, for-profit companies (e.g. contractors, suppliers, consultants, or other businesses), nonprofits and transportation management associations/organizations (TMA/Os) are not eligible applicants for projects but may partner or be a sub-recipient of a governmental agency.

Project Eligibility Requirements

Eligible Project Locations

All projects within the State of Colorado will be considered, with approval from local and State authorities.

Eligible Project Types

Applicants must consider the program goals and evaluation criteria in developing project concepts. This program is intentionally broad in scope to capture the innovative ideas to encourage healthy communities during and after the COVID-19 crisis. Funding can be used for capital, equipment and operating purposes. Studies are not eligible for this grant, but design expenses are eligible if construction can be completed within 8 months of receiving a fully-executed Purchase Order.

A non-exhaustive list of example project types is included below (see additional resources on page 4):

- Repurpose select streets or parts of streets for biking or walking;
- Expand sidewalks to allow for activities such as dining or walking;
- Converting streets to one-way to create space for community use;
- Weekend-only use of streets for bike/ped only access;
- Reduced speed limits to allow for safer walking and biking; and
- Limited public art features where such features are not the primary purpose of the application but included to enhance safety and encourage multimodal choices, not to exceed 5% of the grant request.

Funding Requirements

Project Timing:

Because of the urgent nature of the COVID response, applications will be accepted and reviewed on a rolling basis, and **all eligible and funded projects must be able to fully implement the project within 8 months of receiving a fully-executed Purchase Order.** Applicants must provide a Project Schedule with estimated project milestones.

Maximum Project Request:

There is no minimum project amount, and individual applications shall not request more than \$150,000 per project, excluding match. Applicants should itemize budgets related to the amount that they are requesting, including identifying how they would utilize partial awards to execute some or all of the proposed project.

Maximum Vendor Request:

An entity may submit multiple applications, but the total total funding awarded to a single applicant cannot exceed \$250,000.

Match Requirement:

A 10% match of the grant funds, cash or in-kind, will be required. Additional matched or leveraged commitments, whether cash or in-kind, are encouraged and given additional consideration within the scoring criteria. The 10% match must be incurred after a contract is executed; documentation of matching expenses will be required with invoicing.

Application Process

Applications should be submitted along with letters of support from impacted or participating entities. Projects requiring CDOT concurrence (projects on a state highway or within the state rights-of-way) must also apply for a Special Use Permit (more details on page 3), simultaneous with the application submittal. Projects requiring local agency concurrence (projects involving transit service, facilities, maintenance, within rights-of-way, or otherwise in need of involvement) must provide an official agency response with the application submittal.

Project Funding Evaluation and Selection Process

CDOT will review applications on a rolling basis in order to move quickly on contracting and implementation.

CDOT will establish an internal scoring and selection panel to assist with scoring and evaluating projects. Participants may include staff from various CDOT and state agency divisions:

- CDOT Division of Transportation Development
- CDOT Region representatives (Traffic and Engineering)
- CDPHE Representative
- CEO Representative
- DOLA Representative

Each member of the panel will review the applications and assign points to the criteria based on information contained in the project application forms. Projects meeting the minimum criteria score, procurement requirements, and engineering approvals will be approved for funding.

Evaluation criteria (detailed breakdown below):

- Public Health
- Active Transportation Safety
- Readiness of Implementation
- Equity and access for low-income and disadvantaged users
- Public Support
- Local Match
- Other Considerations: Innovation, Scalability, Cost-Benefit, Regional Equity

When reviewing these evaluation criteria, please email CDOTRevitalizingMainStreets@state.co.us with technical questions.



Category	Summary	Point Criteria (0-5)	Weight (%)
Public Health	Describes how public health will be promoted with consideration of CDC, CDPHE, and local guidelines to address the COVID-19 pandemic and keep communities safe as we transition back to normalcy.	5: Public Health guidelines were referenced and the project has clearly outlined activities that will improve public health through social distancing, access to COVID-19 related PPE, encouraging outdoor activities etc. 4: Public Health guidelines were referenced, but the project leaves some gaps in how it will improve public health. 3: Public Health guidelines were referenced, but the project doesn't outline activities to improve public health. 2: Public Health guidelines were not referenced in the application COVID-19 guidance, but public health is addressed in other ways. 1: The project exhibits no positive benefit on public health. 0: The project will have negative impacts on public health as it relates to COVID-19.	30%
Active Transportation Safety	Supports community access to the right of way (ROW) that safely accommodates all modes of travel.	5: The project installs long-term multimodal infrastructure improvements, increasing access and safety for all modes of transportation. 4: The project installs temporary multimodal infrastructure improvements, increasing access and safety for multiple modes of transportation. 3: Improvement to one mode of multimodal transportation 2: Improvement to multimodal transportation is not specifically referenced or implied, but is addressed in other ways. 1: Improvement to multimodal transportation is unclear. 0: Project has no tangible components that will improve access to ROW for all modes of travel (i.e. Long-term studies) <u>or</u> the project hinders access to ROW for multimodal transportation.	30%
Readiness of Implementation	The degree to which a project is "shovel ready," offering quick, tangible benefits to communities. Include a Project Schedule with Milestone dates.	Based on the Project Schedule provided: 5: Project can be completed in less than 6 months after PO execution. 3: Project can be completed within 7-8 months after PO execution. 1: Project will take longer than 8 months after PO execution to be completed 0: The project is already implemented (ineligible).	20%
Equity and access for low-income and disadvantaged users	Describes how the project addresses safe access to opportunity and mobility for residents of all ages, races, languages, incomes and abilities, including vulnerable users.	5: Project identifies the communities that will be impacted and clearly outlines how it will address equity and accessibility. 3: Project presents reasonable strategies to address equity and accessibility. 1: Project does not address equity or accessibility 0: Project hinders equity and accessibility.	10%
Public Support	The extent to which the applicant demonstrates public support	Application includes letters of support. Points will vary depending on level of support and the studies conducted to garner public support.	5%
Local Match	A local match of 10% is required.	Eligible - Match details provided in application Ineligible - No Match details provided in application.	N/A
Other Considerations: Innovation, Scalability, Cost-Benefit, and Regional Equity			5%
Innovation	Imagines innovative uses of public spaces to accommodate our new reality.	Innovative ideas that do not adhere to traffic control requirements will not be approved for funding. Be sure to check safety and traffic codes before submitting applications.	
Scalability	Program activities are scalable and can begin quickly and easily.		

Cost-Benefit	Makes efficient use of funds and maximizes community benefit.		
Regional Equity	Regional Equity will be considered at a program	For equity purposes, no vendor will receive more than \$250k total funding from this Small Dollar Revitalizing Main Streets Grant Program.	

- All project scopes of work are subject to review and approval by CDOT. The submitted and approved project scope becomes the work that the applicant at a minimum must complete.
- Each applicant awarded funds will enter into an agreement with the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) to implement the project depending on the type, location and other characteristics of the project. CDOT is the ultimate steward of these state funds. Among other requirements in the agreement, CDOT will specify requirements for status reporting and reimbursement requests.
- Among other requirements in the agreement, approved applicants will be required to report data on utilization, safety, delivery and traffic implications of the awarded project.
- Select applicants may be required to attend a post-project debrief with CDOT and other state agency staff.
- This is a reimbursement program, meaning grantees must submit invoices to CDOT to then be reimbursed for project activity costs included in this application. **Expenses incurred before contract execution are not eligible for reimbursement.** However, ongoing, future expenses for project continuation are eligible for this program's funding.
- Projects must be able to complete construction and fully implement the project within 6 months of receiving a fully-executed Purchase Order.
- If the applicant intends to use State Right-Of-Way as part of their Revitalizing Main Streets application, a special use permit will be required. This special use permit may require you to submit the following if applicable: concept plan, anticipated traffic impacts, planned detour routes, positive protection for pedestrian, freight and ADA accommodations. The special use permit will also provide duration of permit and information for extension if requested by the applicant. The online permit can be found at the following link:
<https://www.codot.gov/business/permits/utilitiesspecialuse/online-permit-application>

Once the online permit is submitted please email your region contact below. Include the application reference number in the communication.

- R1- Kirk Allen (303) 757-9531
- R2- Valerie Sword (719) 546-5407
- R3- Joseph Carter (970) 683-6209
- R4- Tim Bilobran (970) 302-4022
- R5- Randee Reider at (970) 385-3630

- Applicants will work with CDOT, CDPHE and FHWA/FTA (as appropriate) to ensure that the project is being implemented in accordance with state and federal requirements (including state and local public health orders).

Additional Suggested Resources:

CDOT Permitting:

<https://www.codot.gov/business/permits/utilityspecialuse/online-permit-application>

Colorado Downtown Streets:

<https://cdola.colorado.gov/colorado-downtown-streets>

National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO) Streets for Pandemic Response and Recovery: <https://nacto.org/streets-for-pandemic-response-recovery/>