

Local and Regional Project Assistance Program (BUILD)

The FY2026 BUILD program provides competitive funding for planning and capital projects that deliver significant local or regional improvements to surface transportation infrastructure. Eligible project types include highway or bridge projects eligible under Title 23; public transportation projects eligible under 49 U.S.C. Chapter 53; passenger and freight rail projects; port infrastructure investments (including inland ports and land ports of entry); and the surface transportation components of eligible airport projects. Additional eligible activities include projects located on Tribal land where title or maintenance responsibility rests with the Federal government; intermodal projects with at least one eligible component; and culvert replacement or stormwater improvements designed to enhance aquatic habitat. The Secretary may also consider other surface transportation infrastructure projects that advance the program's goals.

Eligible planning activities include planning, preparation, or design work associated with any eligible capital project.

Capital grant requests must be at least \$1 million in rural areas and \$5 million in urban areas, while planning grants have no minimum award size. The standard Federal cost share may cover up to 80 percent of total project costs. Projects located in Rural areas, Areas of Persistent poverty, or Historically Disadvantaged Communities are eligible for up to 100 percent Federal funding, as permitted under the program.



RAISE
BALTIMORE
TRANSIT PRIORITY PROJECT>>

mdot.maryland.gov/GrantsRoadshow

There is a \$25 million maximum award.
There is a 50/50 urban-rural award split.

There is approximately \$1.5 billion available in annual guaranteed funding through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA).

Eligible applicants include states, the District of Columbia, U.S. territories and possessions, and units of local government, public agencies or publicly chartered authorities established by one or more states and special purpose districts or public authorities with a transportation function, such as port authorities. Federally recognized Tribal governments and consortia of Tribes, along with transit agencies and multistate or multijurisdictional groups composed of eligible entities, may also apply. Ineligible applicants include federal agencies, nonprofits, private entities, and individuals

**FY 2026 NOFO released on November 26, 2025.
Applications due February 24, 2026.**

Sean Winkler, Senior Policy Advisor, SWinkler1@mdot.maryland.gov
and Christy Bernal, Discretionary Grant Manager – Rotation,
Cbernal@mdot.maryland.gov.



**GET
IN TOUCH**