

# Frequently Asked Questions

## Funding

- **Can a county give BRO funds or soft match credit to another county?**
  - BRO funds, which are part of the Off-System Bridge Replacement and Rehabilitation Program, and soft match credit may be given or traded between Missouri counties. The counties work together to determine an appropriate trading ratio and inform a MoDOT district contact to initiate the process. Each county's commissioners must sign an agreement to confirm the transfers.
- **Can incentive clauses be federally funded?**
  - Incentive clauses may be federally funded. MoDOT will work with the project sponsor to calculate the road-user costs for the project to determine a reasonable amount for the incentives.
- **Can I use the design costs I have already incurred toward my local match on the project?**
  - The Transportation Enhancement Program is the only program that allows prior project design costs to be part of the project sponsor's local match. None of the other programs allow previous costs to apply to the project match.

## Eligible Activities

- **Can I fund a trail around the park with enhancement funds?**
  - If the trail provides transportation from point A to point B and if people have a need to go from one location to another, it could be eligible for enhancement funds. It may not be funded if the trail forms a recreational loop.
- **Can I replace sidewalks in my community using enhancement funds?**
  - Sometimes. Routine or emergency sidewalk maintenance costs are not acceptable expenditures for enhancement funds. However, the project sponsor may receive enhancement funds to upgrade sidewalks to ADA standards.

## Environmental

- **When is NEPA (National Environmental Protection Act) required?**
  - The Federal Highway Administration requires that all federal-aid projects meet NEPA. Local projects will be reviewed for NEPA classification after submittal of the programming data form.

## Design

- **Now that my project is approved, can I start designing the project?**
  - No. Funding must be obligated prior to beginning work.
- **Can I do design/build on my local projects?**
  - Rarely. Part 636 of 23 Code of Federal Regulations lists the requirements for consideration for design/build. Both qualified and non-qualified projects may be eligible for this method. A qualified project has an estimated cost greater than

\$50 million. The FHWA Division Administrator must approve qualified projects. The administrator may also approve projects that meet Special Experimental Projects No. 14 (SEP-14), “Innovative Contracting Practices.” All other projects require conceptual approval by the FHWA headquarters.

## **Disadvantage Business Enterprise**

- **Who determines what is a good faith effort for DBE participation on the part of the agency?**
  - The MoDOT Independent Hearing Officer determines a good-faith effort.

## **Letting**

- **How do I get to the Prime Contractors List?**
  - Accessing this link will take you to the prime contractors list, [http://www.modot.mo.gov/eBidLettingPublicWeb/viewStream.do?documentType=general\\_info&key=6](http://www.modot.mo.gov/eBidLettingPublicWeb/viewStream.do?documentType=general_info&key=6) or by following these steps.
  - <http://www.modot.mo.gov>
    - Click on **Business** in the left-hand column
    - Under **Contractor Resources** choose **Bid Opening Info**
    - Click **General Information**
    - Choose **Prime Contractors**.
- **How do I get to the DBE Contractors List?**
  - Access the list by clicking on the link below [http://www.modot.mo.gov/business/contractor\\_resources/External\\_Civil\\_Rights/DBE\\_program.htm](http://www.modot.mo.gov/business/contractor_resources/External_Civil_Rights/DBE_program.htm) or by following these steps.
  - <http://www.modot.mo.gov>
    - Click on **Business** in the left-hand column
    - Under **Contractor Resources** choose **External Civil Rights/Disadvantaged Business Enterprise**
    - Scroll down the page, and choose the list.
- **How can I get to the MoDOT Pay Item and Item Number List?**
  - Access the items by clicking on the link below [http://www.modot.state.mo.us/business/contractor\\_resources/documents/biditems4-1-05B\\_001.pdf](http://www.modot.state.mo.us/business/contractor_resources/documents/biditems4-1-05B_001.pdf) or by following these steps.
  - <http://modot.mo.gov>
    - Click on **Business** in the left-hand column
    - Under **Contractor Resources** select **Bid Items Listing**
    - Scroll down the page, and click on the most current version of the listings.
- **Which wage rates are put in the bidding documents?**
  - In general, projects on local roads or rural minor collectors only require the state wage rates. Projects on federal-aid highways require federal Davis Bacon and state wage rates.
- **Is there a minimum quantity of bids that I must receive on a project before I must reject the bids and re-advertise?**
  - No. The decision to re-advertise is based on the project situation and the bid or bids received. The sponsor and MoDOT will determine if the project should be re-advertised.

## **Reimbursement**

- **How long does it take to get reimbursed?**
  - The Local Public Agency manual suggests a 20-business day reimbursement period, although in most cases it may only take 10.
- **What wage rate should I use to calculate donated labor?**
  - If the person performing the work is a professional in the type of work being performed, the state wage rate for the county should be used. If volunteer citizens are doing the work, the minimum wage rate may be used, or the project sponsor can submit data supporting a wage for that area for the type of work being performed.
- **Can Federal Aid Programs reimburse advertisement costs?**
  - The project sponsors may receive reimbursement for advertising costs if they submit supporting documentation.