

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Local Transportation Bureau

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Kay Ivey Governor John R. Cooper Transportation Director

April 25, 2023

LOCAL TRANSPORTATION BUREAU MEMORANDUM 2023-04

TO:

Alabama Mayors

Alabama County Engineers

Metropolitan Planning Organizations Regional Planning Organizations

COPY:

Mr. Edward N. Austin, P.E., Chief Engineer

Mr. Clay McBrien, P.E., Assistant Chief Engineer, Policy & Planning Mr. John-Michael Walker, P.E., Traffic & Safety Operations Engineer

ALDOT Region Engineers

ALDOT Area Local Transportation Engineers

FROM:

Bradley B. Lindsey, P.E., Local Transportation Bureau Chief

RE: FY 2024 Local Roads Safety Initiative Call for Applications

The purpose of the memorandum is to announce that the High Risk Rural Roads (HRRR) Special Rule has not been triggered for FY 2024. Despite this rule not being placed in effect for the State of Alabama for FY 2024, ALDOT will allocate federal funds (\$5 million) towards safety improvement projects for local agencies through the Local Roads Safety Initiative (LRSI).

A determination has been made that for FY 2024 the LRSI will be open to cities and counties for both rural and urban non-State maintained roadways with significant safety risks. Applications submitted through this initiative must be in accordance with the most recent Alabama Strategic Highway Safety Plan and applicable Local Road Safety Plan if one has been developed by the county that the location falls within.

The FY 2024 LRSI will be focused on the reduction of Fatal and Serious Injury Lane Departure and Run-Off-Road crashes by helping drivers stay in their lane, reducing the potential of crashes if drivers leave their lane, or minimizing the severity in the event that a crash does occur. The FY 2024 program will be adopting a systemic risk-based approach to project selection as opposed to a crash hotspot-based approach. However, while crash history is not required to be submitted with the application, it may be included to show that a particular location, in addition to exhibiting numerous

roadway risk factors, is also over-represented in crashes. Special consideration will be given for those applications utilizing countermeasures designed to reduce roadway departure crashes, as listed in the FY 2024 LRSI Guidelines.

A 10% non-federal funding match from the sponsoring agency will be required for any application submitted under this program. Applications eligible under the LRSI will be limited to funding of construction only. Additionally, applicants should give consideration during project selection that plan submittals must be finalized and receive FHWA funding authorization prior to **May 1, 2024**.

Applicants are recommended to review the FHWA Office of Safety Proven Safety Countermeasures which are applicable to rural roadways. More information can be found on the Proven Safety Countermeasures at the following link:

https://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/provencountermeasures/

Applicants are also encouraged to research "Every Day Counts- 5 Initiative: Focus on Reducing Rural Roadway Departures (FoRRRwD)". More information can be found on this program at the following link:

https://highways.dot.gov/safety/rwd/forrrwd

All applications must be submitted electronically no later than 5:00 pm on <u>June 23</u>, <u>2023</u>. Applications should be sent to <u>LRSlapp@dot.state.al.us</u> as a .pdf file (25 mb max) with "FY 2024 LRSI Application – *Sponsor Name*" in the subject line.

The office of Local Transportation Bureau (LTB) will send a confirmation email once an application is received. <u>If you do not receive a confirmation</u>, please contact LeeAnn Williams 334-242-6020, williamsle@dot.state.al.us, to ensure receipt of the application.

Program Guidance, Frequently Asked Questions, and the FY 2024 LRSI Application may be found on the ALDOT website, on the Highway Safety Improvement Program page under the Local Road Safety Initiative (LRSI) tab (link below).

https://www.dot.state.al.us/programs/HSIP.html