



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Highway
Administration**

Central Federal Lands Highway Division

July 22, 2015

12300 West Dakota Avenue
Suite 380B
Lakewood, CO 80228

Federal Land Managers
Nebraska Department of Transportation
Regional, County and Local Governments
Tribal Governments

Request for Project Applications Nebraska Federal Lands Access Program

The Federal Lands Access Program (Access Program) presents an exciting opportunity for state, county, and local entities to obtain funding for a variety of transportation projects accessing Federal Lands in the state of Nebraska. Project applications are now being accepted to develop a 5 year program of transportation projects (estimated program availability of \$900,000 dollars). Preliminary engineering, construction, and construction engineering funding will become available after the program selection process has been completed.

What is the deadline for submittals?

The PDC of Nebraska requires all applications to be submitted by **October 9, 2015**.

What is the purpose of the program?

The goal of the Access Program is to improve transportation facilities that provide access to, are adjacent to, or are located within Federal lands.

Who is eligible to apply?

Eligible applicants include State, county, tribal, or city government agencies that **own or maintain** the transportation facility.

What types of projects will be considered?

The Access Program supplements State and local resources for public roads, transit systems, and other transportation facilities, with an emphasis on Federal high-use recreation sites and Federal economic generators. The Access Program funds are intended for design, construction, or reconstruction and **are not** intended for maintenance projects (e.g., crack sealing, chip seal, potholes, or drainage repair).

How do I submit a project application?

1. Complete the Nebraska Federal Lands Access Program Application found at <http://www.cflhd.gov/programs/flap/ne/>
2. Obtain endorsement from the appropriate Federal Land Management Agency (FLMA)
3. Send your completed project application via E-Mail to cfl.planning@dot.gov

How will projects be evaluated?

For Nebraska, the Access Program is administered by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) through the Central Federal Lands Highway Division (CFLHD). MAP-21 mandates that decisions be made through Nebraska's Programming Decisions Committee (PDC) in cooperation with the respective Federal Land Management Agencies. The PDC consists of three representatives: (a) FHWA; (b) the State DOT; and (c) a "representative of any appropriate political subdivision of the state." The PDC will review project applications and rank them based on weighted selection criteria developed by the PDC. The selection criteria are reflective of needs in the state of Nebraska and Federal regulations and guidelines.

Members of the Nebraska PDC include:

- Mr. Ryan Tyler, Planning and Programs Branch Manager, FHWA - CFLHD (or designated representative);
- Mr. Larry Legg, Secondary Roads Engineer, Nebraska Department of Roads (NDOR) (or designated representative); and
- Mr. Larry Dix, Executive Director, Nebraska Association of County Officials (or designated representative)

The Nebraska PDC will solicit project applications with the intent of developing a 5 year program.

Applications will be due by October 9, 2015. Applicants must be prepared to address the match requirements (20%) and have the support of the pertinent Federal Land Management Agencies.

Preference will be given to those projects which provide access to **Federal high-use recreational sites** or **Federal economic generators**. Projects will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- Access, mobility and connectivity;
- Economic development;
- Facility condition;
- Safety;
- Funding, coordination and cost; and
- Resource protection.

Project selection resides with the PDC. The PDC will select a balanced program made up of a range of projects with a mix of larger and smaller construction values to balance the applicant's needs with the available funding. The PDC will make its final decision based on the project proposals ability to meet the aforementioned criteria as well as project support, project readiness, agency priorities, applicant's share of project costs, availability of funds, project development delivery schedules, previous Federal investment and environmental and right-of-way time constraints.

2015 Tentative Project Selection Schedule:

MONTH	July	August	September	November	December	January	February	March
PROGRAM DECISION COMMITTEE	Call for Project Applications			PDC scores and ranks applications	Program short-list of applicants has project agreement, scoping, project delivery plan, and project construction costs developed		PDC final project selection meeting	Funded program announced
APPLICANT	Applications prepared and submitted				Short list of applications engaged in scoping			

Note: Schedule subject to change

Who should I contact if I have questions?

Questions about the application process or the Federal Lands Access Program can be directed to: Mr. Christopher Longley, CFLHD's Federal Lands Access Program Coordinator at (720) 963-3733 or Christopher.Longley@dot.gov or Ms. Morgan Malley, CFLHD Transportation Planner at (720) 963-3605 or Morgan.Malley@dot.gov

For agency-specific contacts in Nebraska, see below.

Agency	Name	Email
Nebraska Department of Roads	Larry Legg	larry.legg@nebraska.gov
National Park Service	Robert Campbell	Bob_Campbell@nps.gov
Bureau of Land Management	Elaine Lopez	elopez@blm.gov
U.S. Forest Service	Richard Graves	rgraves@fs.fed.us
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	James Graves	james_graves@fws.org
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Scott Rice	Scott.Rice@usace.army.mil
Military Surface Deployment Command	Jason Cowin	Jason.Cowin@us.army.mil

Sincerely yours,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

Christopher Longley, PE
Federal Lands Access Program Coordinator

Attachment (Project Application)