



CATEGORY A – Economic Development Road Projects PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Goal

To promote increased economic potential and improve the quality of life through the support of job creation and retention in Michigan.

Purpose

To provide funding for transportation projects to:

- Improve the network of highway services essential to economic competitiveness;
- Improve accessibility to target industries as a catalyst for economic growth;
- Support private initiatives that create or retain jobs; and
- Encourage economic development and redevelopment efforts that improve the health, safety, and welfare of Michigan citizens.

Eligible Recipients

Eligible recipients include the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), all county road commissions, and all city and village street agencies.

Eligible Projects

Eligible projects are those that address a transportation need (condition, safety, or accessibility) that is critical to an economic development project that:

- Relates to one or more of the following target industries:
 - Agriculture or food processing
 - Tourism
 - Forestry
 - High technology research
 - Manufacturing
 - Mining
 - Office centers of 50,000 square feet or more in size
 - Medical research or medical tourism facilities of not less than 50,000 square feet
- Will create or retain permanent jobs
- Is immediate and non-speculative
- Increases the tax base of the local area if the project applicant is a local unit of government,

and immediately and positively impacts local employment and the economy

Eligible Project Costs

Construction costs related to the transportation project are eligible for funding.

Required Match

Minimum of 20 percent match. Evaluation credit will be given to projects whose match exceeds the minimum required. Project planning, design, and right-of-way acquisition costs are eligible for use as match.

Application Process

Eligible recipients must submit a Letter of Interest to the Office of Economic Development. Eligible recipients whose project meets the minimum requirements will be encouraged to submit full applications for consideration. Letters of interest and applications for Category A grants are accepted and processed year-round.

Project Selection

Up to five times a year, the Office of Economic Development reviews and recommends an investment strategy for projects in need of immediate funding to the director of the MDOT and the president and CEO of the Michigan Economic Development Corp. for grant approval.