



Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant Program



Application deadline: 02/24/2026



Available funding: \$1.5B

Note: Current as of December 15th, 2025. Subject to change with future announcements (e.g., agency announcements, revised NOFOs).

Source: [2026 Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development \(BUILD\) Program Notice of Funding](#)

DOCUMENT INTENDED TO PROVIDE INSIGHT BASED ON CURRENTLY AVAILABLE INFORMATION FOR CONSIDERATION AND NOT SPECIFIC ADVICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN

BUILD supports investments in surface transportation infrastructure that will have a significant local or regional impact



Goals and merit criteria for BUILD grants:

Grants will be awarded for surface transportation infrastructure projects (roads, bridges, rail, ports, transit, etc.) that will improve:

- safety;
- quality of life;
- mobility and community connectivity;
- economic competitiveness and opportunity including tourism;
- environmental sustainability;
- state of good repair;
- partnership and collaboration; and
- innovation

Note that the former four have been denoted as ‘priority merit criteria’

BUILD Program Details

BUILD is a competitive grant program for infrastructure construction and planning projects, with the majority of funding going towards large capital projects

Match funding
requirement: 0-
20%¹

Direct Pay
applicability: Yes³

		Capital grants	Planning grants			
Description		Construction or physical modifications for infrastructure	Planning, preparation, or design of eligible pre-construction surface transportation projects			
Eligible grant uses		Highway, bridge, or other road projects	Environmental analysis			
		Public transportation projects	Planning for the development of a multimodal freight corridor			
		Passenger and freight rail transportation projects	Development of port and regional port planning			
		Intermodal projects	Risk assessments and vulnerability planning			
Award amounts		<i>Minimum award</i>	\$1M for rural, \$5M for urban areas ²	No minimum award		
		<i>Maximum award</i>	\$25M for both types			
Award set asides		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 50% of funding will be allocated to urban localities, 50% to rural localities• At least 1% (\$15M) to historically disadvantaged areas/persistent poverty areas• At least 5% (\$75M) to planning projects• No more than 15% (\$225M) of funding will go to any individual state				
Previous awards (national)		<i>2025 awards (815 applications)</i>			30 grant projects awarded (\$488M total)	
		<i>2023 awards (1100 applications)</i>		113 capital grants (\$2B total)	49 planning grants (\$198M total)	
Previous awards (MI)		<i>2025 awards</i>			2 capital grants (\$25M, \$4M)	None
		<i>2023 awards</i>			3 capital grants (\$6.7M, \$8.5M, \$16.3M)	None

1. Up to 100% federal funding for rural areas, historically disadvantaged communities (HDC), or areas of persistent poverty (APP) as defined by CEJST. Urban project locations may have a match requirement of 20%.

2. A project is designated as urban if it is located within (or on the boundary of) a Census-designated urban area that had a population greater than 200,000 in the 2020 Census. A project is designated as rural if it is located outside a Census-designated urban area that had a population greater than 200,000 in the 2020 Census.

3. A previous awardee in Michigan, Truck Stop of Future, intended to install solar canopies and serve as prototype for transition to electric vehicles.

High-level requirements to apply for a BUILD grant

BUILD applications are open to government entities and transit agencies, and require a thorough application package with additional components for capital grants



Eligible Entities

- States and the District of Columbia
- Any territory or possession of the United States
- Local governments
- Public agencies or publicly chartered authorities
- Special purpose districts or public authorities with a transportation function, including a port authority
- Federally recognized Indian Tribes or a consortium of such Indian Tribes
- Transit agencies
- Multi-State or multijurisdictional group of entities



Key Grant Application Components¹

30-page application limit²

- Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424)
- Project Information Form (Excel)
- Project description
- Project location file identifying impacted location (ShapeFile or KML/KMZ)
- Project budget
- Funding commitment documentation
- Narrative of merit goals and criteria met
- Project Readiness Review
 - Applicant Capacity Review
 - Financial Completeness Review

Additional requirements for capital grants

- Project Risk Review
- Benefit-Cost Analysis

1. Not the requirements to apply for TAC support. Not inclusive of all documents required to apply; please refer to NOFO for the full requirements and details.
2. Specifically, 5 pages for project description, 5 pages for project budget, 15 pages for merit criteria, and 5 pages for project readiness. Excluding other documents/forms.

Examples of past winners of BUILD (formerly known as RAISE) in Michigan



Pike Street Clinton River Trail Connector (2023)

Applicant: City of Pontiac

Impacted locality: City of Pontiac (urban)

Funding: \$16.3M (capital grant)

Project description: This project will make pedestrian improvements along approximately four miles of road in Pontiac and will install the North Spur Trail (NST).

RAISE goals and merit criteria addressed:

- Impacts underserved community
- Improves safety
- Reduces transportation-related air pollution
- Eliminates gaps in the existing bicycle and pedestrian network through ADA and universal design improvements
- Increases accessible transportation choices
- Improves connectivity to a variety of destinations including jobs, parks, and neighborhoods.



Truck Stop of the Future Initiative (2023)

Applicant: Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity

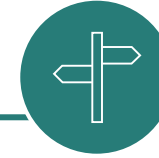
Impacted locality: Wayne County (urban)

Funding: \$8.5M (capital grant)

Project description: The project will construct electric vehicle charging infrastructure in Redford, Michigan. The project will include multiple Direct Current Fast Chargers (DCFCs), solar canopies, and battery energy storage systems.

RAISE goals and merit criteria addressed:

- Impacts underserved community
- Supports environmental sustainability efforts
- Reduces greenhouse gas emissions due to the clean energy investments
- Aligns with the state's decarbonization plan
- Incorporates innovative technologies such as a solar roof and waste reduction strategies
- Serves as a prototype for the region's transition to zero-emission electric vehicles



Downtown Kalamazoo Transportation Network (2022)

Applicant: City of Kalamazoo

Impacted locality: City of Kalamazoo (urban)

Funding: \$6M (planning grant)

Project description: This planning grant will redesign the Downtown Kalamazoo Transportation Network to be more walkable based upon a complete streets design, including converting Kalamazoo Avenue from a one-way street to a two-way street.

RAISE goals and merit criteria addressed:

- Impacts underserved community by addressing corridor of downtown that has separated neighborhoods and perpetuated old "redline district" boundaries
- Improves safety in corridor with speed-related crash rates historically higher per million vehicles than I-94
- Supports partnership and collaboration by utilizing the City's Public Participation Plan to implement a diverse community engagement process during design and construction