PB Washington Update – Interim Report – October 20, 2010 – TIGER II Grants

Information from PB Consult's Jeff Ensor about today's release of US DOT's TIGER II discretionary grants:

USDOT and HUD announced the recipients of TIGER II and various HUD grants. Below is a summary and here is USDOT's press release.

USDOT TIGER II Capital Grants: Out of nearly 1,000 applications (requesting >\$19B), USDOT announced today that it is awarding 41 grants (totaling \$537M) for TIGER II construction projects and one TIGER II TIFIA loan. A list of these recipients can be found here.

USDOT TIGER II Planning Grants: Also announced today (USDOT's list here). USDOT was authorized to award up to \$35M of the TIGER II funds for planning grants and \$28M is going to 33 planning studies. These funds are being awarded in conjunction with HUD's \$40M of Community Challenge Grants (HUD's press release and list of recipients is here).

PB helped many clients by serving as a strategic advisor, preparing applications, and performing economic benefit/cost analyses. We're happy to say that several applications with PB assistance were selected for TIGER II grants, including the second largest TIGER II Planning Grant, in programs with very competitive (less than 1 in 20) odds.

HUD Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grants: On October 14th, HUD announced that 45 applications will receive grants from this \$100M grant program, which focuses on multi-jurisdictional plans that integrate housing, land use, economic development, transportation, and infrastructure. Most grant recipients are regional planning agencies. More details can be found in HUD's <u>press release</u> and <u>list of grant awards</u>.

Will there be a third round of TIGER grants? Congress has the opportunity to provide funding for a third round in the FY2011 appropriations bill. If Congress passes a full-year Continuing Resolution (CR) then the third round would make another \$600M available. If Congress passes an omnibus appropriations bill then the amount might be different. The pending House version of the FY'11 funding bill includes \$400M for TIGER III and the Senate bill \$800M. The FY11 appropriations may be settled as early as the Lame Duck session or it might not be finished until the next Congress takes up the issue.