



## TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE AGENDA

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| <b>Date:</b>       | March 4, 2024   |
| <b>Time:</b>       | 10 a.m.   |
| <b>Location:</b>   | Zoom  |
| <b>Call-in No.</b> | <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81198477616?pwd=VzFLdzdhY09icG4ybnFsRHZqSGxNdz09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81198477616?pwd=VzFLdzdhY09icG4ybnFsRHZqSGxNdz09</a> |

Individuals wishing to participate in the meeting telephonically may do so by contacting Randy Heiss at (520) 432-5301 Extension 202. Contact must be made at least 48 hours before the meeting in order to obtain the call-in information. Please note that the option to participate telephonically may not be available unless requested as instructed above.

Si necesita acomodaciones especiales o un intérprete para esta conferencia, deben ponerse en contacto con Randy Heiss al número (520) 432-5301, Extensión 202, por lo menos setenta y dos (72) horas antes de la conferencia.

|  |                                      |  |                                    |
|--|--------------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| <b>Voting TAC Members</b>                          | Michael Bryce– Graham County (Chair) | Elise Moore– Douglas                           | Tom Palmer - Thatcher (Vice Chair) |
|  | Lance Henrie – Safford               | Terry Hinton – Duncan                          | William Teeters – Willcox          |
| <b>Guests, Staff, and Other Expected Attendees</b> | Mark Hoffman – ADOT MPD              | Reed Larson - Greenlee County                  | Regina Duran - Tombstone           |
|  | Abbie King– Benson                   | Juan Guerra – Nogales                          | Ronald Robinson –Patagonia         |
|  | Matthew Gurney – Bisbee              | Vernon Batty – Pima                            |                                    |
|  | Rudy Perez – Clifton                 | Barney Bigman – San Carlos Apache Tribe (SCAT) |                                    |
|  | Jackie Watkins – Cochise County      | Leonard Fontes – Santa Cruz County             |                                    |
|  | Chris Vertrees, SEAGO                |  |                                    |
| John Merideth, SEAGO                               |                                      |  |                                    |

**Shaded areas indicate items for possible action.**

| ITEM | SUBJECT  | PRESENTER | PAGE |
|------|--|-----------|------|
| 1.   | Call to Order and Introductions                                | Tom       | N/A  |
| 2.   | Call to the Public   | Tom       | N/A  |
| 3.   | Discussion and Approval of Cochise County AZ SMART Application | Tom       |      |
| 16.  | Next Meeting Date: March 21, 2024                              | Tom       | N/A  |
| 17.  | <b>Adjourn</b>   | Tom       | N/A  |

**Direction may be given to SEAGO staff on any item on the agenda**



# TAC PACKET

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**TO:** SEAGO TAC  
**FROM:** CHRIS VERTREES, TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR  
**DATE:** FEBRUARY 28, 2024  
**RE:** AZ SMART FUND APPLICATION (Cochise County)

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Applicants may request AZ SMART Funds for the following activities:

- Reimburse up to 50% of grant development and submission costs of a federal grant application;
- Match for a federal grant;
- Reimbursement for design and other engineering services that meet federal standards for projects eligible for a federal grant.

SEAGO has received an AZ SMART Fund application from Cochise County.

**Project Name:** Cochise County and City of Douglas International Port of Entry Connector Road

**Federal Discretionary Grant:** Cochise County and City of Douglas intend partner and apply for the Local and Regional Project Assistance (RAISE) during the FY25 grant cycle.

**Project Limits:** The project area is approximately 5 miles west of the City of Douglas in Cochise County, Arizona. It is linked to the planned new commercial-only International Port of Entry (IPOE) to/from Mexico. The project area is bounded by State Route (SR) 80 to the north, Brooks Road to the west, James Ranch Road to the east, and the U.S./Mexico border to the south.

**Project Description:** The County of Cochise and City of Douglas International Port of Entry (IPOE) Connector Road Project will be designed to connect commercial traffic from the new international port of entry (IPOE) to State Route (SR) 80. The entry (IPOE) will be constructed by the U. S. General Services Administration (GSA) in Douglas, Arizona, by early 2028 on an 80.49-acre parcel donated to the GSA by the City of Douglas. The proposed new IPOE will be located approximately 4.5 miles west of the existing Raul Hector Castro IPOE in Douglas and approximately 1.5 miles south of SR 80. The existing IPOE serves 31,000 commercial vehicles a year but cannot efficiently process commercial and non-commercial traffic. The construction of the new IPOE will reduce commercial traffic traveling through downtown Douglas, reduce border queue wait times, improve safety, and allow for the Raul Hector Castro IPOE to serve non-commercial, pedestrian, and personally-owned vehicles only. Although the new IPOE is in early development, no existing all-weather roadway connects SR 80 to the site of the proposed IPOE. Therefore, the proposed Connector Road

will provide a vital connection and improve efficiency for international trade between the United States and Mexico via the Arizona State Highway network.

**Local Financial Commitment:** Local financial commitment is significant. The City of Douglas has committed \$500,000 for design and engineering services. Cochise County has committed \$100,000 for design and engineering services.

**AZ SMART Fund Request:** Cochise County is requesting \$4,400,000 in funding for design and engineering services

*I have attached Cochise County's AZ SMART fund application for your review.*

# Arizona State Match Advantage for Rural Transportation (AZ SMART) Fund Application

Each application may address only one Project and one Federal Grant. Additional Projects and/or Federal Grants require a separate application. See the Application Guidelines for important information and detailed instructions for completing this Application. To ensure the Application is Administratively Complete and will be presented to the State Transportation Board, please respond to all questions and submit all requested documents.

**Document Checklist:** the following documents required to be uploaded to complete this application (PDFs required for all uploaded documents):

1. Documentation evidencing the COG/MPO approval to apply to the AZ SMART Fund
2. Map showing Project location (for infrastructure projects and studies).
3. Documentation showing the Project cost estimates (scoping document, cost estimation form, etc.).

**NOTE:** Careful attention should be given to developing the cost estimate as the Applicant is responsible for all costs exceeding the amount awarded from the AZ SMART Fund and/or a Federal Grant.

Email \*

[JWatkins@cochise.az.gov](mailto:JWatkins@cochise.az.gov)

## Applicant Information

Please answer all the questions below.

1. Name of Applicant City, Town or County \*

Cochise County

2. Name of Contact Person for Applicant \*

Jackie Watkins

3. By checking the box below, the Contact Person for the Applicant certifies they have read and agree to the **Program Guidelines and Application Instructions** for the AZ SMART Fund Program. \*

I have read and agree to the Program Guidelines and Application Instructions for the AZ SMART Fund Program.

4. Contact's Title \*

Director, Engineering & Natural Resources

5. Contact's Full Mailing Address \*

1415 Melody Lane, Building F, Bisbee, AZ 85603

6. Contact's Office Phone # \*

520-432-9313

7. Contact's Business Cell Phone # (if applicable)

8. Contact's Business Email Address \*

[JWatkins@cochise.az.gov](mailto:JWatkins@cochise.az.gov)

9. Select the Applicant's COG/MPO. \*

Southeastern Arizona Governments Organization (SEAGO)

### Project Information

Please answer all the questions below.

**NOTE regarding ADOT project design administration (PDA) fees:** If requesting ADOT administration of the Project, ADOT PDA fees will apply. These fees are eligible for AZ SMART Funding only when included in an Application for Design and Other Engineering Services or for Match on a federal grant application which will include design. The PDA fees shown below are initial estimates only and may be more or less, depending on the Project. By submitting this application, the Applicant understands that ADOT may bill additional PDA fees and agrees to pay such fees. Any fees not required for the Project will be refunded to the Applicant upon approval of the Project final voucher.

- Certification Accepted (CA) agencies - \$10,000 initial fee
- Non-CA agencies - \$30,000 initial fee

10. Select the Project Type. \*

Road

Bridge

Transit

Rail

Other:

11. Project Name - enter a brief, intuitive name. \*

Cochise County and City of Douglas International Port of Entry Connector Road

12. Enter the Project limits as applicable. If an infrastructure Project is infrastructure, provide the name of the road and "From" and "To" Mileposts or Cross Streets. If a non-infrastructure project, enter the geographic area to which the plan or study will relate. \*

The project area is approximately 5 miles west of the City of Douglas in Cochise County, Arizona. It is linked to the planned new commercial-only International Port of Entry (IPOE) to/from Mexico. The project area is bounded by State Route (SR) 80 to the north, Brooks Road to the west, James Ranch Road to the east, and the U.S./Mexico border to the south.

13. Enter the Project's TIP number, if applicable. If the Project is not in the TIP, enter "NA". \*

DGS 24-01

14. Submit written documentation evidencing the COG/MPO approval to submit the Project to the AZ SMART Fund program (PDF format only). \*

15. Project Description - Provide a concise, specific description of the Project, including the type of work to be performed and benefits to be realized (25,000 character maximum, including spaces and punctuation). \*

The County of Cochise and City of Douglas International Port of Entry (IPOE) Connector Road Project will be designed to connect commercial traffic from the new international port of entry (IPOE) to State Route (SR) 80. The entry (IPOE) will be constructed by the U. S. General Services Administration (GSA) in Douglas, Arizona, by early 2028 on an 80.49-acre parcel donated to the GSA by the City of Douglas. The proposed new IPOE will be located approximately 4.5 miles west of the existing Raul Hector Castro IPOE in Douglas and approximately 1.5 miles south of SR 80. The existing IPOE serves 31,000 commercial vehicles a year but cannot efficiently process commercial and non-commercial traffic. The construction of the new IPOE will reduce commercial traffic traveling through downtown Douglas, reduce border queue wait times, improve safety, and allow for the Raul Hector Castro IPOE to serve non-commercial, pedestrian, and personally-owned vehicles only. Although the new IPOE is in early development, no existing all-weather roadway connects SR 80 to the site of the proposed IPOE. Therefore, the proposed Connector Road will provide a vital connection and improve efficiency for international trade between the United States and Mexico via the Arizona State Highway network.

The County of Cochise requests \$4,400,000 from the AZ SMART Fund for costs associated with procuring a single contractor and developing the final design. The final design will include construction phasing and traffic control plans for all work from SR 80 south to the IPOE, evaluation and conflict coordination of water, wastewater, and broadband utilities, and determining drainage easement and Temporary Construction Easement locations. To ensure the planning and design phase is sufficiently funded, Cochise County plans to contribute up to \$100,000, and The City of Douglas will contribute \$500,000.

The Arizona Department of Transportation Draft Design Concept has identified three alternative routes, within one mile of each other, to serve as the connector road, consisting of a new at-grade four-lane divided roadway providing a connection between the new IPOE and SR 80. A National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) study is currently in progress, and the results will be utilized

to determine the preferred route for construction and right-of-way needs. A fourth alternative may be considered if the NEPA study results prove the following routes are impractical.

Alternate 1: Straight connection from SR 80 and James Ranch Road to the northern boundary of the IPOE.

Alternate 2: Follows James Ranch Road for a half-mile, then west on the Puzzi Ranch Road for a quarter mile, then south for approximately three-quarters of a mile, turning east following the northern boundary of the proposed IPOE.

Alternate 3: Follows Brooks Road for one and a half miles, turning east along the northern edge of the new IPOE.

16. Please upload a map showing the Project location or study area (PDF format only).

See Cochise County AZ SMART Fund Project Map PDF.

17. Is the Project entirely in the Applicant's Right of Way? For non-infrastructure projects, check "Not applicable." \*

Yes

No

Not applicable

18. If Project involves ADOT Right of Way, has the Applicant discussed the Project and obtained the consent of the applicable ADOT District office to proceed with this grant application? If no ADOT Right of Way or a non-infrastructure project, check "Not applicable."

\*

Yes

No

Not Applicable

19. If Project involves privately-owned or another jurisdiction's Right of Way, has the Applicant discussed the Project with owner and obtained its consent to proceed with this grant application? If no other Right of Way or non-infrastructure project, check "Not applicable."\*

Yes

No

Not applicable

20. Project Schedule - check the boxes to show the State Fiscal Years in which each phase is scheduled to begin. Check only ONE box in each row. Non-infrastructure projects - check the boxes under Not Applicable for each row. **NOTE:** the State Fiscal Year runs from July 1 through June 30. \*

|   | 2023 | 2024                     | 2025                                | 2026                                | Not Applicable                      |
|---|------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Design                                  |      | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |                                     |                                     |
| Construction                            |      |                          |                                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |                                     |
| Other (for non-infrastructure projects) |      |                          |                                     |                                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

21. Project Status - check the boxes to indicate the status of each phase. Check only ONE box in each row. Non-infrastructure projects - check the boxes under Not Applicable for each row. \*

|   | Not started                         | In progress                         | Completed | Not Applicable                      |
|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------------|
| Scoping/Pre-Design                      |                                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |           |                                     |
| Design                                  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |                                     |           |                                     |
| Right of Way Acquisition                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |                                     |           |                                     |
| Environmental                           | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |           |                                     |
| Utilities                               | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |           |                                     |
| Construction                            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |                                     |           |                                     |
| Other (for non-infrastructure projects) |                                     |                                     |           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

22. Design Status - for each Stage, check one box to indicate the Project's Design Status. Non-infrastructure projects - check the boxes under Not Applicable for each row.

|                     | Not started                         | In progress              | Completed                | Not Applicable           |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Stage 1, 15% design | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

|                     |                                     |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Stage 2, 30% design | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Stage 3, 60% design | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Stage 4, 95% design | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Stage 5, 100%       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

23. Cost Estimate for Scoping/Pre-design - enter in whole dollars (for example, 250,000). Enter "0" if not applicable. \*

0

24. Enter the date of the Scoping/Pre-design estimate. Enter "NA" if not applicable. \*

NA

25. Cost Estimate for Design - enter in whole dollars (for example, 250,000). Enter "0" if not applicable. \*

5,000,000

26. Enter the date of the Design estimate. Enter "NA" if not applicable.

\*

January 2024

27. Cost Estimate for Right of Way - enter in whole dollars (for example, 250,000). Enter "0" if not applicable. \*

Unknown at this time based on the alternative to be chosen.

28. Enter the date of the Right of Way estimate. Enter "NA" if not applicable.

\*

NA

29. Cost Estimate for Utilities - enter in whole dollars (for example, 250,000). Enter "0" if not applicable. \*

500,000

30. Enter the date of the Utilities estimate. Enter "NA" if not applicable.

\*

January 2024

31. Cost Estimate for Construction - enter in whole dollars (for example, 250,000). Enter "0" if not applicable. \*

Alternate 1 = \$53,800,000; Alternate 2 = \$59,400,000; and Alternate 3 = \$66,300,000

32. Enter the date of the Construction estimate. Enter "NA" if not applicable. \*

January 2024

33. Cost Estimate for Other - enter in whole dollars (for example, 250,000) . Enter "0" if not applicable. \*

100,000

34. Enter the date of the Other estimate. Enter "NA" if not applicable.

\*

February 2024

35. Do the estimates provided reflect costs on a Year of Expenditure basis? Note: Year of Expenditure basis means the costs have been inflated in later years. \*

Yes

No

36. Please indicate the source of the Project Cost Estimates entered above. \*

Developed by the Applicant

Developed by an engineering consultant

Other:

37. Please upload documentation (PDF format only) showing the Project cost estimates (scoping document, cost estimation form, etc.). \*

See Cochise County AZ SMART Fund Project Cost Estimates PDF.

Submitted files

**AZ SMART Fund Request**

Please answer all the questions below.

**NOTE: Careful attention should be paid to developing a thorough and complete cost estimate on a year of expenditure basis.** The Applicant will be responsible for all costs which exceed the amount of an AZ SMART Fund or federal grant award. ADOT has developed a Project Cost Estimating Tool which is available on the AZ SMART Fund webpage under Application Materials. This tool is provided as a courtesy only and does not purport to cover all possible costs or scenarios. Applicants are ultimately responsible for determining the Project cost estimate.

Unless the NOFO/NOFA includes the option to be a direct recipient, both CA and non-CA agencies should include initial project development fees for road/bridge/rail projects. For transit projects, an administration fee of 10% of the total project cost will apply.

38. County Applicants with population of 100,000 or less and municipalities with population of 10,000 or less ONLY: Enter the amount requested for Reimbursement of up to 50% of the costs associated with developing and submitting an application for the Federal Grant identified below.

**The amount entered below should be no more than 50% of the total estimated costs of developing and submitting the grant** - enter in whole dollars (for example, 250,000).

39. Enter the amount requested from the AZ SMART Fund for Match for the Federal Grant identified in this application - enter in whole dollars (for example, 250,000). If not requesting Match, skip this question.

40. Beyond the amount requested from the AZ SMART Fund, enter the dollar amount of Matching cash funds to be committed by the Applicant for the Project in the Federal Grant identified in this application. If not requesting Match, skip this question.

41. Enter the percent to the second decimal place (for example, 15.05%) of Matching cash funds which will be provided by just the Applicant in the Federal Grant application - do not include the amount requested from the AZ SMART Fund. See Application Guidelines for directions to calculate the percentage. If not requesting Match, skip this question.

42. Enter the amount requested from the AZ SMART Fund for reimbursement of design and other engineering services expenditures that meet federal design standards for Projects eligible for the Federal Grant identified in this application. Enter in whole dollars (for example, 250,000). If not requesting design funds, skip this question.

4,400,000

43. Provide the names of any other entities the Applicant will partner with to deliver the Project. Identify and quantify the contribution of each partner(s) (dollar amount of cash match, type of in-kind services, etc.). If none, enter "NA."

Cochise County to provide \$100,000 towards the Design Phase of the project. The City of Douglas will also contribute \$500,000 towards the Design Phase. The Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) will provide project development administration.

### Federal Grant

Please answer all the questions below. NOTE: Federal grants eligible under the SMART Fund are federal discretionary grant programs administered by any federal agency for SURFACE TRANSPORTATION PURPOSES.

44. How does the Applicant intend to submit the federal grant application? **Note:** If requesting ADOT to submit, the following time frames apply:

A. At least thirty (30) day prior to the application deadline in the NOFO for the applicable federal discretionary grant, the Applicant is required to submit the ADOT Grant Coordination Support Request Form at <https://apps.azdot.gov/files/mvd/mvd-forms-lib/42-0103.pdf>.

B. At least seven (7) days before the NOFO/NOFA deadline, the completed application materials must be provided to the ADOT Grant office for submission. \*

Applicant or consultant will submit directly

Applicant requests ADOT to submit

Other:

45. How does the Applicant intend to administer the Project if awarded a federal grant? \*

Be a direct recipient if allowed in the NOFO

Request ADOT administration (Project development administration fees will apply)

Other:

46. Select the Federal Grant for which the Applicant intends to submit the Project - select one grant only. If the desired grant is not listed, select Other and provide the name of the grant and the applicable federal agency. **NOTE:** This list does not include all federal discretionary grants and may contain grants that are not currently available or funded. Applicants are responsible for conducting their own research to identify an appropriate federal grant for their Project. \*

Active Transportation Infrastructure Investment Program

Bridge Investment Program

Defense Community Infrastructure Pilot

Grants for Charging and Fueling Infrastructure

Local and Regional Project Assistance (RAISE)

Multi State Freight Corridor Planning

National Culvert Removal, Replacement and Restoration Grant Program

National Infrastructure Project Assistance (MEGA)

Nationally Significant Freight and Highway Projects (INFRA)

PROTECT Grant Program

Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program

Rural Surface Transportation Grant Program

Safe Streets and Roads for All Program (SS4A)

Strategic Innovation for Revenue Collection

Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation Grant Program

Wildlife Crossing Safety

Rail - Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements Grants

Rail - Fixed Guideway Capital Investment Grants

Rail - Restoration and Enhancement Grants

Rail - Railroad Crossing Elimination Program

Transit - All Stations Accessibility

Transit - Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Transportation Discretionary Grants Program

Transit - Buses and Bus Facilities Program

Transit - Develop Interoperable Standards for Bus Exportable Power Systems (BEPS)

Transit - Innovative Coordinated Access and Mobility (ICAM) Pilot Program

Transit - Low-No Emission Vehicle Program

Transit - Public Transportation Innovation Program

Transit - State of Good Repair Grants Program

Transit -

Technical

Assistance,

Standards

Development

, and

Workforce

Development

Programs

Other:

47. In what Federal Fiscal Year does the Applicant intend to submit an application for the Federal Grant? **NOTE:** the Federal Fiscal Year runs from October 1 through September 30. Applications must be submitted prior to the expiration of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, currently expiring on September 30, 2026. \*

Federal Fiscal Year 2025

48. Which phase of the Project will be submitted in the Federal Grant application? \*

Design

Right of Way Acquisition

Construction

n

Other: