

AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

PURPOSE

Administered by the Strategic Growth Council, and implemented by the Department of Housing and Community Development, the AHSC Program funds land-use, housing, transportation, and land preservation projects to support infill and compact development that reduce greenhouse gas ("GHG") emissions.

Funding for the AHSC Program is provided from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF), an account established to receive Cap-and-Trade auction proceeds.

ASSISTANCE TYPE

The AHSC Program will assist project areas by providing grants and/or loans, or any combination thereof, that will achieve GHG emissions reductions and benefit Disadvantaged Communities through increasing accessibility of affordable housing, employment centers and key destinations via low-carbon transportation resulting in fewer vehicle miles traveled (VMT) through shortened or reduced trip length or mode shift from Single Occupancy Vehicle (SOV) use to transit, bicycling or walking. Two Project Area types have been identified to implement this strategy:

- Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Project Areas,
- Integrated Connectivity Project (ICP) Project Areas or
- Rural Innovation Project Areas (RIPA)

STATUTORY FUNDING SET-ASIDES

50% of the available funds are set aside for Affordable Housing Developments, and 50% of the available funds are set aside for projects benefitting Disadvantaged Communities.

Note: a single project can address both set-asides above, and are not mutually exclusive.

ASSISTANCE TERMS

The assistance terms and limits include, but are not limited to, the following requirements:

1. The maximum AHSC Program loan or grant award, or combination thereof is \$20 million with a minimum award of at least \$1 million in TOD Project Areas and \$500,000 in ICP and RIPA Project Areas.
2. A single Developer may receive no more than \$40 million per NOFA funding cycle.*

*These limitations may be waived if necessary to meet statutorily required Affordable Housing and Disadvantaged Community set-asides.

ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

- Affordable Housing Developments*
- Housing-Related Infrastructure
- Sustainable Transportation Infrastructure
- Transportation-Related Amenities
- Program Costs (including active transportation, transit ridership or criteria air pollutant reduction programs)

*includes new construction, acquisition and substantial rehabilitation including preservation of affordable housing at-risk, or conversion of one or more nonresidential structures to residential dwelling units.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Eligible applicant entities shall include any of the following:

1. A Locality, public housing authority, redevelopment successor agency, transit agency or transit operator, Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA), local Transportation Commissions, Congestion Management Agencies, Joint Powers Authority (JPA), school district, facilities district, University or Community College District.
2. A Developer or Program Operator.

Where a Public Agency has a financial or real property interest in the proposed Project, the application will be required to either include the Public Agency as a co-applicant or otherwise include a commitment to enter into a contractual agreement to develop the Project, if it is awarded.

AHSC Program Schedule FY 2015-16

Release of FY 2015-16 NOFA	Friday, January 29, 2016
Release of FY 2015-16 Concept Proposal Application	Monday February 1, 2016
Concept Proposal Application Due Date <i>*Applications must be submitted via the FFAST system by no later than 5:00 p.m.</i>	Wednesday March 16, 2016
Notification of Invitations to Submit Full Application	Week of April 25, 2016
Full Application Due Date <i>*Applications must be submitted via the FFAST system by no later than 5:00 p.m.</i> <i>Additionally, one hard copy Excel workbook postmarked on June 20, 2016 must be submitted to the Department.</i>	Monday, June 20, 2016
Award Recommendations Announced	September 2016