



July 23, 2019

To All Interested Parties:

Ron DeSantis
Governor

Marion Hart, Jr.
Chairperson

Dr. Phillip Stevens
Vice Chairperson

David Darm
Executive Director

As all of you know, the Legislature passed and Governor DeSantis approved CS/SB 7068 (Chapter 2019-43, Laws of Florida) that created the Multi-Use Corridors of Regional Economic Significance Program (M-Cores Program). Several programs were identified to receive funding through this bill. Part of the legislation specified \$10 million be allocated to the Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund to conduct a competitive grant program for CTCs and TNCs, known as the "Innovation and Service Development Grant Program."

The Commission issued the first round of requests for applications in May 2019. At its June 3, 2019, business meeting, the Commission approved seven projects for approximately \$1 million.

The Commission issued a second round of request for applications at the beginning of June with a deadline of June 28, 2019. This group of project applications is still pending.

CURRENT SITUATION

Within the last week, the Commission was advised that although the legislation passed and was signed by the Governor, an oversight occurred and written authority was not granted to the agency nor the Commission to expend funds. It is our understanding that a Legislative Budget Committee will meet by September 15th and will address this issue. It is anticipated that October is the earliest grants could be effective.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN TO YOU?

The due date for project applications has been extended until close of business August 14, 2019, for both new and revised applications.

This provides additional time for new applications to be submitted. This also provides an opportunity for those applicants that submitted applications during the second round to refine their project scopes and budgets. The grant manual and application instructions are attached for new applicants. Commission staff will be available to provide limited technical assistance.

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Due to this deadline extension, the July 31, 2019, Commission Business Meeting is cancelled. The Review Subcommittee will be meeting in August and recommendations will be presented for Commission action at its September 16, 2019 Business Meeting.

Grant agreements are currently being developed for agencies that submitted first round project applications that were approved by the Commission in June. These grants will be provided in the near future. As you know, the grant effective date cannot be retroactive to July 1, 2019. A fully executed grant must be in place before trips are eligible for invoicing.

Please share this grant opportunity with those who may be interested.

Contact Commission staff if you have any questions or need additional information.

Thank you -