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First BUILD Grants Emphasize Rail & Rural Infrastructure Needs.

BUILD grants are for multi-modal, multi-jurisdictional surface transportation infrastructure projects and fund railway, roadway and transit improvements.

This year, the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) replaced the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery ([TIGER](#)) grants program with the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development BUILD program and is beginning to release a projected \$1.5 billion in discretionary grant funding.

BUILD requires that at least 30 percent of funds be awarded to projects located in rural areas and that funding to a single state through the program cannot exceed \$150 million, [according to Railway Track & Structures](#) (RT&S Magazine). Individual project awards also max out at \$25 million.

The publication called it a “good day for railroaders and contractors.” Bridges and rail infrastructure across five states were notified of funding — Oregon, Missouri, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Vermont while Indiana, Ohio and others announced roadway-related infrastructure funding:

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December 10, 2018

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