Federally Funded Project Authorization Fundamentals and the Fiscal Management Information System (FMIS)

Presenters:
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Financial Manager, FHWA Indiana Division

Karen Hicks
Project Finance Manager, INDOT
Agenda

- Overview of FMIS
  - What it is
  - How it works

- LPA Project Authorization Overview
  - Requirements
  - Definition of Project Phases
  - Authorization Process
  - Consequences of Not Following the Process
Federal-aid Highway Program

- Federal Gas Tax = $0.184/gal.
- Proceeds go to the Highway Trust Fund (HTF).
- HTF is apportioned to states each year based on formula.
- Apportionments consist of different funding programs.
- State requests to apply federal funds to projects based on type of funding.
- Requests are processed utilizing....
FMIS

- **Fiscal Management Information System**
- System FHWA utilizes to authorize the use of Federal-aid funds.

It’s where:

- All project information is located;
- Type of federal funds are identified;
- Funding split (Federal/State-Local funding ratio) is established;
- Phase of project is identified (PE, ROW, UT, CN).
FMIS

- Establishes the approval to move forward with project work.
- **ALL** federal funding authorizations **MUST** be processed through FMIS!
- Authorization **MUST** take place **BEFORE** any work begins to be eligible for federal reimbursement!
- **Bottom Line:** No FMIS authorization = No federal reimbursement.
### Project Header Information

- **Cost Center**: [Details]
- **Proj #:** 1173467
- **St Proj #:** 1173467
- **Version:** CURRENT

### Division Defined Fields

### Detail Summary

#### Group By
- **Program Code**
- **Demo**

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<th>Program Code</th>
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### State Remarks

This agreement is subject to the following award terms: [Link]

### Division Remarks

### Signatures

- **Project First Updated By**: BRADLEY T. ROOD, 01/12/2012
- **Modification #**: [Details]
- **State Signatures**
  - Available Funds Certified By: BRADLEY T. ROOD, 01/02/2012
  - Approval Recommended By: BRADLEY T. ROOD, 01/02/2012
  - Authorization / Modification Requested By: BRADLEY T. ROOD, 01/02/2012
- **Division Signatures**
  - Project Info Reviewed By: ANTHONY L. PEKINSON SR, 01/23/2012
  - Approval Recommended By: RICK O. DRUM, 01/24/2012
  - Approved and Authorized By: MICHELLE ALLEN, 01/20/2012
Driving Indiana’s Economic Growth
Karen Hicks

INDOT Project Finance Manager
Process for Utilizing Approved Federal Allocations from Project Calls (Obligating Funds)

What – An approved federal allocation and LPA contract with INDOT does not grant permission to begin securing cost. The federal allocation or a portion of the federal allocation must first be obligated in the Fiscal Management Information System (federal).

Why – Without this obligation any cost incurred will not be eligible for reimbursement.

When – Prior to beginning any activity that federal reimbursement would be requested for, contact the district office LPA coordinator.
How - The LPA coordinator will request through INDOT’s Central Office obligation authority. INDOT’s Central Office will enter the information provided from the District into FMIS. FHWA will review and if acceptable, will electronically sign the authorization. The signature date is the first date federally reimbursable cost can be incurred. INDOT’s Central Office will notify the District and the District will notify the Local.
Phase requirements

PE – Follow the LPA Guidance Document, federal funding requirements:

• Executed contract with Consultant

• LPA contract with INDOT; note this is the same contract if LPA is a Group 3 or Group 4 entity.

• Notice of Authorization from district indicating federal funds have been authorized in the federal system prior to performance of any reimbursable work.

• Purchase Order with INDOT for federal portion of cost
RW – Follow the LPA Guidance Document, federal funding requirements:

- LPA contract with INDOT; note this is the same contract if LPA is a Group 3 or Group 4 entity.
- Certified environmental document
- Notice of Authorization from district indicating federal funds have been authorized in the federal system prior to performance of any reimbursable work
- Purchase Order with INDOT for federal portion of cost
UT – Follow the LPA Guidance Document, federal funding requirements:

• Executed contract with Utility

• LPA contract with INDOT; note this is the same contract if LPA is a Group 3 or Group 4 entity.

• Matching funds submitted to INDOT, if applicable
  
  o A Local entity where the utility belongs to the Local does not have a match requirement. Submissions for reimbursements are for federal dollars only

  o If Utility is not owned by Local, matching funds must be submitted to INDOT.

• Notice of Authorization from district indicating federal funds have been authorized in the federal system prior to performance of any reimbursable work.

• Purchase Order with INDOT for federal portion of cost
RR – Follow the LPA Guidance Document, federal funding requirements:

• Executed contract with Railroad

• LPA contract with INDOT; note this is the same contract if LPA is a Group 3 or Group 4 entity.

• Matching funds submitted to INDOT, if applicable

• Notice of Authorization from district indicating federal funds have been authorized in the federal system prior to performance of any reimbursable work.

• Purchase Order with INDOT for federal portion of cost
CN – Follow the LPA Guidance Document, federal funding requirements:

• A contract will not go to letting if all of the documentation identified in the LPA Guidance Document is not submitted.

• Federal authorization is carried out by INDOT through the letting process

• INDOT contracts with the Contractor
CE – Follow the LPA Guidance Document, federal funding requirements:

- Executed contract with Consultant.

- LPA contract with INDOT; note this is the same contract if LPA is a Group 3 or Group 4 entity.

- Notice of Authorization from district indicated federal funds have been authorized in the federal system prior to performance of any reimbursable work

- Purchase Order with INDOT for federal portion of cost
Tracking tools

SPMS – INDOT tracks how a project is moving along through our Scheduling Production Management System. The system has multiple milestones moving a project from phase to phase with anticipated start dates for each phase. This system also shows when a project is expected to go to letting. All milestones leading up to the letting date are intended to help keep the project on target.

Please refer to the LPA Document Guidance Manual and work with the assigned District Project Manager to help utilize this tool and keep your project on target.
Excel – All Local federal funds authorized are tracked by Central Office in the Project Finance Section. This section has the responsibility of obligating federal funds as they are requested by the Districts for all projects. As funds are obligated and authorization is approved by FHWA, the Section enters into an excel spreadsheet amounts therefore maintaining the balance of federal funds within the larger picture. For instance Group 4 localities may have $26M available to them in a given year. As Group 4 projects are authorized in the federal system, an entry is made similar to a checkbook entry keeping the balance remaining and available.

This does not replace the tracking done by the Local Programs Management Division in Central Office. They are responsible for allocation of federal funds as approved by the initial project request for eligibility.
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