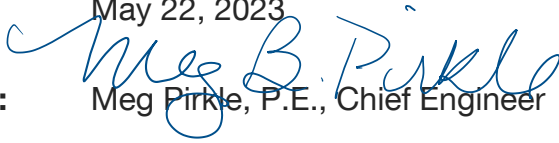




## Interoffice Memo

**DATE:** May 22, 2023  
**FROM:**   
Meg Pirkle, P.E., Chief Engineer  
**TO:** GDOT Divisions/Offices/Districts  
**SUBJECT:** REVISED Federal Discretionary Grant Assistance Requests from Local Governments

With the implementation of the new federal **Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)**, local governments can apply for and directly receive federal discretionary grant awards from a federal transportation agency. Because this is unfamiliar territory, local municipalities are seeking support/assistance from the Department to navigate various aspects of the grant process. Therefore, the Department is implementing a process to assess if and to what extent assistance will be provided to federal discretionary grant award recipients.

In most cases, local governments seeking assistance will receive support from the Department in the form of project oversight. Therefore, local governments should be prepared to coordinate with federal agency grant sponsors to execute grant agreements, submit payment reimbursements and adhere to reporting requirements for the federal grant awards they receive. These responsibilities will not be performed by the Department when serving in an oversight capacity.

On rare occasion, the Department may deem it beneficial for the project and all parties involved to administer the local government's discretionary grant award. If this decision is made, the process will proceed as a normal federal-aid project and follow the Plan Development Process located [here](#).

If a local government is interested submitting a request for the Department's assistance with a discretionary grant award, the request should be sent to the Commissioner of the Georgia Department of Transportation outlining why assistance is needed and the specific role or tasks they are seeking GDOT to perform. Additionally, the Request for GDOT's assistance with a Local Federal Discretionary Grant Award Checklist (attached and will be added to R.O.A.D.S) should be filled out and submitted with the request to provide the Department with additional information to consider in making final decisions on requests.

Please note that oversight funding will be necessary for the Department to perform an oversight role even if the Department declines to administer the grant award.

Additionally, Locally Administered Projects (LAP) certification is strongly encouraged (<https://www.dot.ga.gov/GDOT/Pages/LAP.aspx>).

For questions sent by the local governments about the process, please have them contact Malik Al-Kush, Local Administered Projects Coordinator, in the Office of Program Control at [malkush@dot.ga.gov](mailto:malkush@dot.ga.gov) or 404-631-1830.

Attachment:

Request to Administer a Local Federal Discretionary Grant Checklist