

**Rural and Tribal Assistance Pilot Program  
Fiscal Years 2024-2025 Notice of Funding Opportunity - Instructions for Online  
Application Form**

<https://www.transportation.gov/buildamerica/RuralandTribalGrants>

**1. Name and contact information of person for matters involving this application:**

First and last name\*: Trent Prall

Title\*: Engineering and Transportation Director

Phone\*: 970-256-4047

Email\*: trentonp@gjcity.org

**2. Entity name, address, and website:**

Organization/Entity Name\*: City of Grand Junction

Address (#, street - no P.O. box numbers)\*: 250 N 5<sup>th</sup> Street

City\*: Grand Junction

State\*: CO

Zip Code\*: 81501

Website address, if applicable: www.gjcity.org

Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN)\*: **846000592**

**3. Organization/entity Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) assigned by SAM.gov\*:**

**F3BKDFJJJ336**

**5. Enter the congressional district(s) the entity/organization headquarters is in:**

**Colorado 3<sup>rd</sup> Congressional District**

Enter the congressional district(s) the project is in\*: **Colorado 3<sup>rd</sup> Congressional District**

6. Below is a list of eligible entities for this program. Please select the one option that describes your eligibility\*: (For local governments, political subdivisions, or states: Refer to NOFO Section II. A: Eligible Applicants and Section II. E Definition of Rural Areas for qualification.)

**A unit of local government or political subdivision seeking to advance a project that is located outside of an urbanized area that has a population of more than 150,000 residents**

**7. Project title\*:** (Descriptive title of project for which you seek funding)

29 Road Interchange at I-70, Grand Junction, Colorado

**8. Project location\*:** Must be listed as either street address, including city and state, or as latitude/longitude. (Note: For Indian Tribes, the project location does not have to meet the non-urban area requirement.)

~~Address (#, street- no P.O. box numbers):~~

~~City:~~

~~State:~~

~~Zip Code:~~

OR

(Decimal Degrees) (this format was included in the instructions)

Latitude: **39.107699°**

Longitude: **-108.514169°**

**9. Briefly describe the overall project (no more than 500 words)\*: Include project type (i.e., bridge, roadway, transit service), features to be constructed, project schedule, and estimated total project cost.**

**The 29 Road Interchange at I-70 project proposes a new interchange on the Interstate Highway System. The project also includes providing nearly 1-mile of substantial roadway improvements between the interchange and Patterson Road that not only can accommodate the added vehicular traffic but also bicycle and pedestrian travelers. The project allows for enhanced access to the future Matchett Regional Park (the largest park in the nearby region). The project will also provide connectivity between the new interchange and the Grand Junction Airport's future roadway connection that could provide additional freight service to the airport.**

**This project is the final step in a decades long vision to provide the Grand Valley with a modern and safe roadway that connects I-70 in the north and extends south over major railway tracks and the Colorado River. Thanks to the vision of then Representative Lauren Bobert, the project has secured Congressional Designated**

Funds to advance the project. These funds along the preliminary engineering and environmental funding request in this NOFO, the project will be able to complete all design and bring this project to citizens of Grand Junction.

Major benefits of the interchange project include:

#### Enhanced Access

- Connects to Matchett Park and Recreation Center currently under construction
- Accommodates future population growth and tourism
- Provides additional opportunities for Grand Junction Regional Airport growth and access

#### Traffic Operations

- By building the interchange 1,200 fewer hours will be spent in congestion throughout the Grand Valley (6% decrease)

#### Improved Safety

- Decreases the number and severity of crashes on the I-70 mainline and local arterial roads in the project area (along Patterson Road, Horizon Drive, I-70B, and 29 Road)

#### Multi-modal Improvements

- Provides safe and accessible multi-modal components in the project area
  - Dedicated Bike Lanes
  - Detached Sidewalks
  - Safe Connections to future Matchett Park
- Support the creation of a county-wide Transportation Management Authority or Organization (TMA/TMO)

#### Fiscal Responsibility

- Extends the life of existing local and state infrastructure
- Takes advantage of today's costs as prices are ever increasing
- Uses the Congressionally Directed Spending funding already earmarked

The total project costs are estimated to be \$80 million.

Estimated total project cost\*: **\$80 million**

**10. Is the applicant delinquent on any federal debt?\***

Yes

**No**

~~If yes, explain:~~

**11. Appropriateness of services requested\*:** (See Section VI. B. Criterion #1 of the NOFO for your review and evaluation information.)

a. Please describe the activities/advisory services for which you are seeking program funds and how these activities will materially advance your overall project. (no more than 400 words)

**The City of Grand Junction, in conjunction with Mesa County, has worked to complete the planned arterial network in the Grand Valley for decades. The final component is a key access point to I-70 to provide efficient and safe access to major activity centers, such as Matchett Park & Recreation Center, future airport access, and connectivity for residents and visitors. This interchange also fits with the Airport's long range master plan by providing a second point of access to the airport and the services provided there. This new interchange at I-70 and 29 Road provides that access, as well as extending the life of the existing infrastructure at Horizon Drive and I-70B at Clifton to function in the future with minimal maintenance. Having the foresight to act now before traffic gets worse and when costs continue to increase, the 29 Road Interchange is the right project at the right time.**

**This grant will assist with the preliminary design, environmental clearances, Value Engineering, and benefit-cost-analysis for the interchange as well as the suite of improvements to 29 Road.**

**There is not enough funding available to sufficiently advance the project through the design and clearance process. With the requested funding, the City and County will be able to advance the project to a point where local voters will have the necessary information and costs to allow the entities to fund the local match for and better position the project to receive future funding.**

Requested funds from this program\*: **\$2.5 million**

c. Estimated cost of activities proposed\*: **\$2.5 million**

d. Describe what project-related development activities have been completed, if any. List N/A if none. Examples include: data or information that has been collected or activities conducted that are necessary to complete the activities funded through this Program. (no more than 250 words)\*

**Grand Junction and Mesa County collaboratively initiated this project in early 2022 to obtain new interchange approvals from the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). Over the past three years, the city and county have worked closely with CDOT and FHWA. They have analyzed multiple alternatives to identify the placement and type of interchange that balances traffic efficiency, traveler safety, and community and environmental impacts.**

**The project team has completed the Purpose and Need, Alternatives Development and Screening, selected a Preferred Alternative, documented existing conditions review for environmental resources, stakeholder and public outreach activities, and conceptual design of the interchange and improvements to 29 Road.**

**The project team has conducted substantial traffic and analyses and documented these efforts in a Draft System Level Study. The project is currently working to finalize the System Level Study and obtain needed approval of the State of Colorado Transportation Commission. The team is completing the documentation of preliminary environmental impacts review and mitigation.**

**12. Viability of grant services requested:** (See Section VI. B. Criterion #2 of the NOFO for review and evaluation information.)

**a. Please describe the following:**

b. 1) your organization's experience procuring advisory services **or**

c. 2) your organization's process for timely hiring of staff (i.e. defined job description, recruitment process).

**d. State if you have additional funds available to commit to this effort should grant funding provided prove insufficient to complete the proposed activities. If additional funds will be provided, include the amount and source of the local funding commitment. (no more than 400 words)\***

**The project has also received a Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) dollars to advance this project. The funds requested under this NOFO will be used to complete preliminary design, environmental documentation, Value Engineering, and benefit-cost-analysis. After the RTA funds are expended, the project will utilize the CDS funds for final design for interchange and**

**improvements to 29 Road including survey, utility review, permitting, public engagement, and interagency agreements.**

Applicants are encouraged to seek bids or quotes, or to estimate the amount of dedicated staff time for the services being requested to demonstrate the reasonableness of the requested funding in this application. Have you obtained a bid, quote, or estimate for the services requested in this application?\*

**Yes** (to be submitted later if awarded grant)

No (provide statement of how you determined estimated cost of proposed activities)