

Safety Research and Demonstration (SRD) Program

Webinar

September 7, 2016



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration

Topics We Will Cover Today

- Safety Research and Demonstration(SRD) Program
- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)
- How to apply through grants.gov

What is the SRD Program?

The Safety Research and Demonstration (SRD) Program is a competitive demonstration program that provides technical and financial support for transit agencies to pursue innovative approaches to eliminate or mitigate known safety hazards in public transportation via demonstration of technologies, practices, and designs.

SRD Objectives

- Explore advanced technologies to prevent transit vehicle collisions.
- Enhance safety of transit services by incorporating safer design elements.
- Evaluate cost-effectiveness and practicality of potential solutions.

FY2016 Notice of Funding Opportunity

- **\$7 million** available
- NOFO to request proposals
 - Notice in Federal Register – August 15, 2016
 - Application deadline **October 14, 2016**
 - Announcement of Projects Selection – early 2017
- Plans for multiple awards

Thematic Areas for Funding

FY 2016 SRD program targets 2 specific topic areas:

(a) collision avoidance and mitigation

(b) transit worker safety protection

Key Requirements

- Minimum grant award is \$750,000
- Maximum grant award is \$2,000,000
- Projects require 20 percent cost match
- Require partnership with, at minimum, one transit agency (US based)

Eligible Applicants

- Eligible “lead applicants” must be an existing FTA grant recipient = organizations with FTA Recipient ID
- Only “lead applicants” can submit the applications via grants.gov.
- FTA may determine that any named team member in the proposal is a key party and make any award conditional upon the participation of that key party.

Eligible Partners

Eligible project partners and sub-recipients under this program may include, but are not limited to:

- Public transportation systems
- Private for-profit including technology system suppliers and bus manufacturers
- Operators of transportation, such as university transportation systems
- State or local government entities
- Other organizations such as consultants, research consortia or not-for-profit industry organizations, and institutions of higher education

Eligible Projects

- Proposers are allowed to submit multiple applications, but each application should contain only one proposal/project.
- Each proposal should focus on one topic area:
 - (a) collision avoidance and mitigation, or
 - (b) transit worker safety protection
- Project proposals must include a research/synthesis phase, a development phase, and a demonstration phase.

Eligible Projects

- Revenue-service, full-scale demonstrations are preferred where practicable.
- For the purpose of this solicitation, a “bus” is defined as a rubber-tired, low-floor transit passenger vehicle, 35 feet or longer in length, and self-powered.

Collision Avoidance and Mitigation

- “Technology approach” may include, but not be limited to, advanced braking system, blind spot warning, pedestrian collision warning, 360 surround view, driver alert warning, and lane departure warning.
- “Design approach” to mitigate transit bus operator blind spots through vehicle design changes, in order to improve operator visibility and potentially reduce collisions.

Transit Worker Safety Protection

- Proposals that identify, develop, and demonstrate an on-board vehicle protective system that prevents and mitigates the risk of transit bus operator assaults.
- Proposals that demonstrate a secondary safety system that will automatically alert wayside workers of approaching trains and automatically alert train operators when approaching areas with workers on or near the tracks.

Next Steps

For additional information, please visit:

<https://www.transit.dot.gov/research-innovation/safety-research-and-demonstration-program>

or

email to Royweishun.chen@dot.gov