













# Episode 33 Downloadable: USDOT DISCRETIONARY GRANT APPLICATIONS...THIS...NOT THAT

## Why Do We Need to Write a Strong Grant Application?

Competitive grants provide additional funding for unique and important projects and cover a wide range of infrastructure types. Funds for these grants are limited and jurisdictions across the country are applying for them. Preparing a competitive grant application will increase the chances of securing important funding to bring transportation projects to fruition.

## 10 STRATEGIES FOR A SUCCESSFUL GRANT APPLICATION

✔ DO	✘ DON'T
 <b>Apply to fund projects identified in plans</b>	Don't apply for brand new projects with little documentation
 <b>Apply for grants that your project is strategically suited for</b>	Don't apply for just any funding program
 <b>Read the NOFO, then read it again</b>	Don't assume that you know what to write about
 <b>Respond to all criteria</b>	Don't leave anything unaddressed
 <b>Quantify information</b>	Don't make vague claims about project impacts
 <b>Use graphics and figures where possible</b>	Don't rely only on text
 <b>Use recommended and verified data sources</b>	Don't use random or speculative websites
 <b>Cite all information</b>	Don't assume that USDOT knows where your statistics or data originated
 <b>Be clear about funding sources</b>	Don't leave out details about where project funds are coming from
 <b>Unsuccessful? Seek a debrief and apply again</b>	Don't give up!

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