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CHAPTER 32: SMALL COUNTY OUTREACH PROGRAM

1. OVERVIEW

The purpose of this program is to assist small county governments in repairing or rehabilitating county bridges, paving unpaved roads, addressing road-related drainage improvements, resurfacing or reconstructing county roads, or constructing capacity or safety improvements to county roads.

Small counties shall be eligible to compete for funds that have been designated for the Small County Outreach Program (SCOP) for projects on county roads. Available funds are allocated to the districts based on the number of eligible counties (for example, if a district has 12 counties eligible for SCOP, and there is a total of 38 eligible counties statewide, then the district's allocation would be approximately 31.57% of the total available funding). The Department shall fund 75% of the cost of projects on county roads funded under the program. Any initial bid costs or project overruns after the letting that exceed the Department's participation as stated, will be at the county's expense. This will help ensure that the funds are utilized on as many projects as possible.

Subsequent to the Department's selection of a project for inclusion in Small County Outreach Program, a joint participation agreement (JPA) must be executed. Districts shall use the standard boilerplate JPA. Any changes to the financial provisions in this agreement must be approved by the Office of Comptroller.

For County Eligibility:

- Specifically for the Small County Outreach Program as set forth in Section 339.2818(2), Florida Statutes, the county must have a population of 150,000 or less as determined by the most recent official estimate (as defined in Section [186.901, Florida Statutes](#)).
- The county has attempted to keep county roads in satisfactory condition which may be evidenced through an established pavement management plan.
- The county must provide 25% of the project costs. The county's participation may be in the form of matching local funds (i.e., in-kind services). Such matching funds will be deducted from the project costs as part of the county's contribution. The Department will participate to the extent stated above. Cost overruns or scope changes after letting shall be covered by the counties.
 - Rural counties qualifying under the Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI) program may apply for a waiver of the required 25% local match, as set forth in Part III, Chapter 30 of the Work Program Instructions.

For Project Prioritization:

- The project must be on the county road system.
- The primary criterion is the physical condition of the road as measured by the Department.
- As secondary criteria, the Department may consider:
 - Whether a road is used as an evacuation route.
 - Whether a road has high levels of agricultural travel.
 - Whether a road is considered a major arterial route.
 - Whether a road is considered a feeder road.
 - Information as evidenced to the Department through an established pavement management plan.
 - Other criteria related to the impact of a project on the public road system or on the state or local economy as determined by the Department.

The Department is authorized to administer contracts on behalf of a county selected to receive funding for a project under this section. However, the Department would prefer the county to perform the design, letting and CEI work on the project via a JPA. This program is not a grant program, therefore, payments to the county will be made once invoices are received in the department. All projects funded under this program shall be included in the Department’s Work Program.

Project Scope:

Since the primary criterion for prioritization is pavement condition, these projects should primarily be for resurfacing. However, some allowance for repairing or rehabilitating bridges, paving unpaved roads, addressing road-related drainage improvements, capacity and safety improvements is provided by the statute. The District Design Engineer should review the project scope based on the above criteria and standards found in the Florida “Greenbook” (see reference for detail) to the extent practical and as related to the scope. (**Note:** If a project is primarily for preservation of the surface, projects do not have to meet the full standards in the “Greenbook” as applied in the policy of the Small County Road Assistance Program (SCRAP). If safety issues are one of the project elements, related standard improvements should be made to correct the safety issue.)

Eligible Counties

District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	District 5	District 6	District 7
Desoto	Baker	Calhoun	Indian River	Flagler	Monroe	Citrus
Glades	Bradford	Franklin	Martin	Sumter		
Hardee	Columbia	Gadsden				
Hendry	Dixie	Gulf				
Highlands	Gilchrist	Holmes				
Okeechobee	Hamilton	Jackson				
	Lafayette	Jefferson				
	Levy	Liberty				
	Madison	Santa Rosa				
	Nassau	Wakulla				
	Putnam	Walton				
	Suwannee	Washington				
	Taylor					
	Union					

Growth Management

The 2005 Legislature amended Section [201.15, F.S.](#) to provide additional funding for the Small County Outreach Program. Projects receiving Growth Management funds under the Small County Outreach Program must meet the same criteria established for the existing Small County Outreach Program.

2. PROGRAMMING GUIDELINES

In-house phases are not eligible for SCOP or GRSC funds.

When the project is managed by the county:

- Program for the Department's share of the project:

Transportation system: 06 (off state highway system/on federal system) or 16 (off state highway system/off federal system)

Fund codes: Use SCOP for the existing program

Use GRSC for Growth Management funded projects

Phase: 58 (all work is included in this phase)

Program number: 93

Contract class: 2

Allocation type: 1

Item group identifier: Use GMGR for Growth Management funded projects. If the project is REDI eligible and the local match will be reduced, use REDI; if the local match is waived, use WAIV, if reduced, use REDC.

- Program for the Local's share of the project:

Transportation system: 06 (off state highway system/on federal system) or 16 (off state highway system/off federal system)

Fund codes: Use LF funds

Phase: 58

Program number: 93

Contract class: 2

Allocation type: 4

Item group identifier: Use GMGR for Growth Management funded projects

Example: To program resurfacing on Citrus Way (CR 491), use transportation system 06 - non-intrastate off state highway, the fund code SCOP (allocation type 1), and the phase 58 with program # 93.

To program the local share of the project, use the fund code LF (allocation type 4).

<u>PHASE</u>	<u>SEQUENCE</u>	<u>PROGRAM NO.</u>	<u>FUND</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>ALLOC TYPE</u>	<u>FISCAL YEAR</u>
58	01	93	SCOP	\$948,750	1	20XX
58	01	93	LF	\$316,250	4	20XX

When the project is managed by the Department:

- Program for the Department's share of the project:

Transportation system: will be 06 (off state highway system/on federal system) or 16 (off state highway system/off federal system).

Fund codes: Use SCOP for the existing program

Use GRSC for Growth Management funded projects

Phase: 32, 52, or 62

Program number: 93

Contract class: 1, 7, or 9

Allocation type: 1

Item group identifier: Use GMGR for Growth Management funded projects. If the project is REDI eligible and the local match will be reduced, use RED1; if the local match is waived, use WAIV, if reduced, use REDC.

- Program for the local's share of the project:

Transportation system: will be 06 (off state highway system/on federal system) or 16 (off state highway system/off federal system).

Fund codes: Use LF funds

Phase: 32, 52, or 62

Program number: 93

Contract class: 1, 7, or 9

Allocation type: 1

Item group identifier: Use GMGR for Growth Management funded projects

Example: To program resurfacing on CR 12, use transportation system 06 - non-intrastate off state highway, the fund code GRSC (allocation type 1), and the phase 32, 52, or 62.

To program the local share of the project, use the fund code LF (allocation type 1)

<u>PHASE</u>	<u>SEQUENCE</u>	<u>PROGRAM NO.</u>	<u>FUND</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>ALLOC TYPE</u>	<u>FISCAL YEAR</u>
32/52/62	01	93	GRSC	\$874,552	1	20XX
32/52/62	01	93	LF	\$291,518	1	20XX

3. REFERENCES

Manual of Uniform Minimum Standards for Design, Construction and Maintenance for Streets and Highways (commonly known as the [Florida "Greenbook"](#))

Section [201.15](#), Florida Statutes

Section [339.2818](#), Florida Statutes