STATE AND LOCAL IMPLEMENTATION GRANT PROGRAM

February 2013

EXHIBIT 4
DATE 02/19/13
HB 2

STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

- Authorized as part of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 (Pub. L. No. 112-96) (Act)
- The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) will establish the State and Local Implementation Grant Program (SLIGP)
- Up to $135 million is available to establish a grant program
- SLIGP will assist regional, State, tribal, and local governments:
  - To identify, plan, and implement the most efficient and effective way to utilize and integrate the infrastructure, equipment, and other architecture associated with the nationwide public safety broadband network to satisfy the wireless communications and data service needs of that jurisdiction, including coverage, siting, and other needs

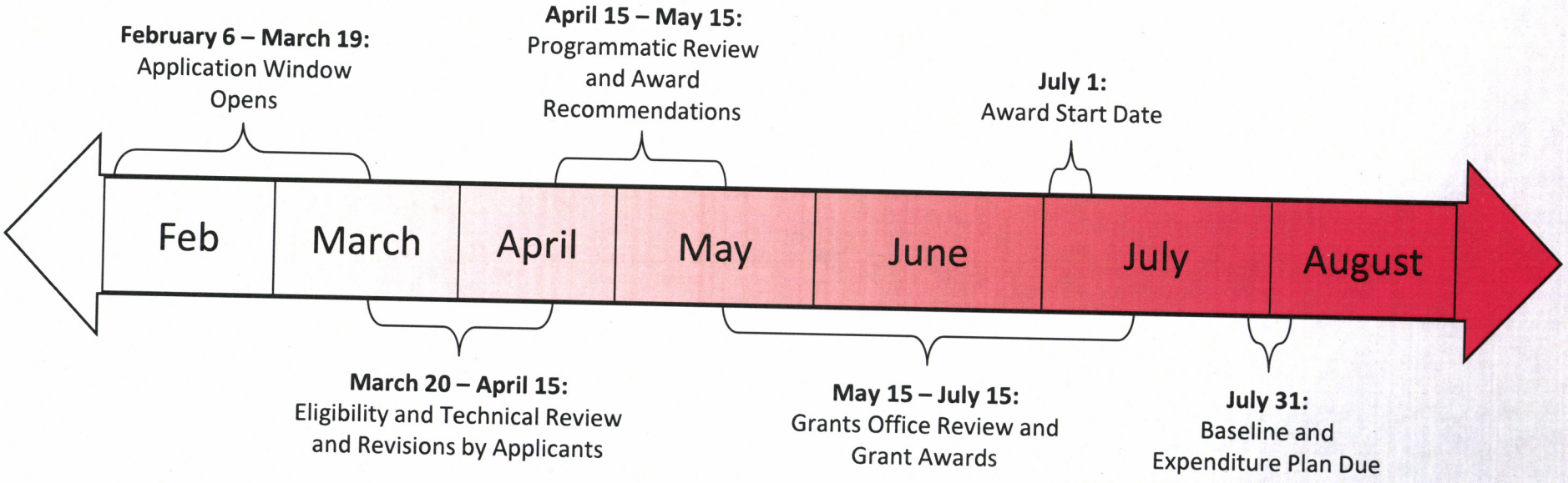
GRANT REQUIREMENTS

- NTIA released the Federal Funding Opportunity (FFO) on February 6, 2013
- The FFO opens the grant application window and describes the program requirements
- It is available on the NTIA website:

  http://www.ntia.doc.gov/category/public-safety
- Application window closes on March 19, 2013
- The grant period of performance is three (3) years

TIMELINE

- NTIA anticipates awarding all SLIGP funds no later than July 15, 2013
- The award start date for all awards is planned for July 1, 2013
- Proposed SLIGP Timeline for February – August 2013:



ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

- The States and territories are eligible for grants
- Each State and territory must submit an individual application
- States and territories may collaborate or coordinate with other states and regions in preparing applications

POINT OF CONTACT

- The Act mandates that each Governor designate a single officer or governmental body to serve as the coordinator of implementation of the SLIGP grant funds
  - The State must provide information about the state government agency where the officer is employed
  - The designated person must be a current government employee, not a contractor or consultant
  - If the State designates a governmental body, the entity must have legal authority to receive and expend funds on behalf of the State
    - The statement must provide NTIA the name of a single point of contact who is a government employee, such as the chair of the body or an administrator

FUNDING DISTRIBUTION

- SLIGP is a formula-based, matching grant program
- Each State and territory will initially receive $500,000 to begin performing planning activities
- NTIA will distribute the remaining funds based on the following weighted factors:
  - 75 percent of the formula is based on State or territory population
  - 25 percent of the formula is based on the land mass of the State or territory
- The maximum award amount is $6 million
- NTIA will reserve 50 percent of the funds through a Special Award Condition for use after certain first phase activities are completed

MATCHING REQUIREMENT

- Matching requirement:
  - The federal share may not exceed 80 percent of the eligible grant costs
  - Non-federal share must be at least 20 percent of the total eligible grant costs
  - Match may include cash, allowable in-kind contributions, or indirect costs
- The Assistant Secretary may waive, in whole or in part, the matching requirement for good cause shown and if the waiver is determined to be in the public interest
- Waivers will be considered only in extraordinary circumstances

ALLOWABLE GRANT ACTIVITIES

- First Phase: Recipients must complete the following activities by the award end date:
  - Establish or enhance a governance structure to consult with FirstNet
  - Develop procedures to ensure local and tribal representation when the State is consulting with FirstNet
  - Conduct education and outreach for all relevant stakeholders
  - Identify potential public safety users for the public safety broadband network
  - Develop a standard Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) appropriate for your State to facilitate the possible sharing of infrastructure with FirstNet
  - Develop staffing plans to involve local and tribal stakeholders in a future data collection in consultation with FirstNet
  - Prepare a comprehensive plan as part of the Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan (SCIP), or a plan complementary and similar to the SCIP, describing the public safety needs that you expect FirstNet to address, plus relevant milestones

ALLOWABLE GRANT ACTIVITIES

- Second Phase: Used for additional consultation with FirstNet and planning to undertake data collection activities
- Second Phase will commence when:
  - NTIA requests a revised budget for second phase activities; or
  - FirstNet has consulted with the State-designated contact, and advises NTIA it is ready for data collection
- Once the Special Award Condition is satisfied, recipients can initiate data collection activities plus continue all of the approved first phase activities (e.g., planning, governance, outreach, education, and consultation)

ELIGIBLE COSTS

- Eligible costs include:
  - Personnel costs, including hiring staff and consultants
  - Costs for planning meetings
  - Travel costs
  - Costs for developing, modifying, or enhancing statewide plans and governance structures
  - Costs to conduct communications, education, and outreach activities
  - Costs to develop standardized Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) and other types of agreements to facilitate access to and use of existing infrastructure
  - Costs to identify potential public safety users for the PSBN
  - Administrative and legal services plus supplies necessary for the program
  - Training costs, and
  - Reasonable costs to prepare the application and pre-award expenses for States and territories to participate in FirstNet technical assistance workshops that may occur before the award start date

INELIGIBLE COSTS

- SLIGP grant funds may **not** be used for the following activities:
  - Site preparation
  - Broadband deployment
  - Broadband installation
  - Construction
  - Acquisition of equipment used to provide wireless broadband services

APPLICATION

- Complete applications for SLIGP must be submitted by March 15, 2013
- A complete application package must include:
  - The SF-424 family of application forms (424, 424A, 424B)
  - CD-511 Certification Regarding Lobbying
  - Standard Form LLL, Disclosure of Lobbying Activities
  - Project Feasibility, a brief narrative of the applicant's capacity, knowledge, experience, and staffing plan
  - Supplemental Application Narrative, which includes responses to questions posed in the Supplemental Application Questions
  - Detailed Budget Justification
  - Letter of State Designation, where each State designates a Single Officer or Governmental Body to serve as the coordinator of grant implementation and take responsibility for FirstNet consultation
- Applications may be easily submitted via Grants.gov

EVALUATION CRITERIA

- Project Feasibility (5 points)
- Supplemental Application Narrative (75 points total)
  - Existing Governance Body
  - SCIP
  - State-level Involvement
  - Coordination with Local Jurisdictions
  - Regional Coordination
  - Tribal Nations
  - Rural Coverage
  - Existing Infrastructure
  - Existing government-owned Networks
  - Network Users
  - Education and Outreach
  - Memoranda of Agreement
  - Tools
  - Second Phase Funding Activities
- Detailed Budget Justification (20 points)

❖ *Please note Question 14 of the application regarding Second Phase activities*

APPLICATION REVIEW

- Applications will be assessed by three peer reviewers using a points based system
- If there is a variance of more than 20 points between the reviewers' aggregate application scores:
  - NTIA will conduct a teleconference between the reviewers to discuss their individual scores
  - Reviewers can then decide if their individual assessments should be revised
- If an application does not have an average score of at least 70 points:
  - NTIA will request an application revision
  - Once NTIA receives a revised application, the same peer reviewers will individually re-assess the application
- NTIA Program staff will also review applications for conformity with program objectives

PEER REVIEW

- NTIA will use peer/expert reviewers to assess SLIGP applications
- The reviewers will be Federal, State, local, or tribal government employees who meet one or more of the following criteria:
  - Knowledgeable about public safety communications
  - Experience with public sector information technology
  - A first responder experienced in public safety communications
  - An elected or appointed official knowledgeable about public safety communications
  - Program managers experienced in public safety communications
- All reviewers must be knowledgeable about the PSBN and SLIGP
- The reviewers will waive any compensation, and must sign confidentiality and conflict of interest agreements
- NTIA is seeking qualified reviewers to help

REPORTS

- Within 30 calendar days of the award date, recipients must submit to NTIA the Baseline/Expenditure Plan for the entire performance period
- Following each calendar quarter (March 31, June 30, September 30, December 31):
  - Recipients must submit a performance progress report within 30 days of the quarter ending
  - Recipients must submit a Federal Financial Report (SF-425) within 30 days of the quarter ending
- Recipients must submit a closeout report within 90 days of the award end date

RESOURCES

- The Federal Funding Opportunity, Supplemental Application Narrative Questions, and Frequently Asked Questions are available at: http://www.ntia.doc.gov/category/public-safety
- Assistance for using Grants.gov is available at: http://www.grants.gov/applicants/app_help_reso.jsp
- SLIGP program staff may be contacted at sligp@ntia.doc.gov or by calling (202) 482-1181

National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)

U.S. Department of Commerce

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS