Amendment to Rules Committee Print 116–54

Offered by Mr. Keating of Massachusetts

Page 1220, after line 11, insert the following:

Title VI—Other Matters

Sec. 26001. Evacuation Route Program.

(a) Definitions.—In this section:

(1) Evacuation route.—

(A) In general.—The term “evacuation

route” means a route that—

(i) is owned, operated, or maintained

by a Federal, State, or local government or

a private entity;

(ii) is used—

(I) to transport the public away

from emergency events (as defined in

section 667.3 of title 23, Code of Fed-

eral Regulations (or successor regula-

tions)); or

(II) to transport emergency re-

sponders and recovery resources; and
(iii) is designated by the State in which the route is located for the purposes described in clause (ii).

(B) **Inclusion.**—The term “evacuation route” includes an eligible project under subsection (d).

(2) **Program.**—The term “program” means the competitive grant program established under subsection (b)(1).

(3) **Resilience project.**—The term “resilience project” means a project—

(A) with the ability to anticipate, prepare for, and adapt to changing conditions and withstand, respond to, and recover rapidly from disruptions; and

(B) designed and built to address current and future vulnerabilities to an evacuation route due to—

(i) future occurrence or recurrence of emergency events (as defined in section 667.3 of title 23, Code of Federal Regulations (or successor regulations)) that are likely to occur in the geographic area in which the evacuation route is located; or
(ii) projected changes in development patterns, demographics, or extreme weather events based on the best available evidence and analysis.

(4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Transportation.

(b) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary (in consultation with the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency for the purposes described in paragraph (3)) shall establish a competitive grant program to provide grants for resilience projects that strengthen and protect evacuation routes that are essential for providing and supporting mass evacuations caused by emergency events (as defined in section 667.3 of title 23, Code of Federal Regulations (or successor regulations)).

(2) REQUIREMENTS.—A grant awarded under the program shall address—

(A) current and future vulnerabilities to an evacuation route due to future occurrence or recurrence of emergency events (as defined in section 667.3 of title 23, Code of Federal Regulations (or successor regulations)) that are likely
to occur in the geographic area in which the evacuation route is located; and

(B) projected changes in development patterns, demographics, or climate change and extreme weather events based on the best available evidence and analysis.

(3) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out the program, the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall consult with the Secretary to provide technical assistance to the Secretary and to applicants.

(c) ELIGIBLE RESILIENCE PROJECTS.—The Secretary shall provide grants under this section to resilience projects—

(1) that are eligible projects under subsection (d); and

(2) that—

(A) ensure the ability of the evacuation route to provide safe passage during a mass evacuation and reduce the risk of damage to evacuation routes as a result of future emergency events (as defined in section 667.3 of title 23, Code of Federal Regulations (or successor regulations)), including—
(i) restoring or replacing existing mass evacuation routes that are structurally deficient or functionally obsolete;

(ii) protecting, elevating, or relocating assets that are located in a base floodplain;

(iii) protecting assets vulnerable to high winds;

(iv) installing mitigation measures that prevent the intrusion of floodwaters into transportation systems;

(v) strengthening systems that remove rainwater from transportation facilities or services; or

(vi) other resilience projects that address identified vulnerabilities;

(B) if the Secretary determines that existing evacuation routes are not sufficient to adequately facilitate mass evacuations, expand the capacity of evacuation routes to swiftly and safely accommodate mass evacuations, including installation of—

(i) communications and intelligent transportation system equipment and infrastructure;

(ii) counterflow measures; or
(iii) shoulders;

(C) are for the construction of—

(i) new or redundant evacuation routes, if the Secretary determines that existing evacuation routes are not sufficient to adequately facilitate mass evacuations; or

(ii) sheltering facilities; or

(D) involve planning and acquisition, including—

(i) mass evacuation planning and preparation, such as—

(I) coordination with agencies and departments within the State, first responders, and other States;

(II) identification of evacuation routes;

(III) evacuation route education and awareness campaigns;

(IV) traffic analysis and monitoring; or

(V) data sharing;

(ii) acquisition of evacuation route and traffic incident management equipment and vehicles;
(iii) evacuation route risk assessment;

(iv) development of enhanced mass evacuation response capabilities;

(v) evacuation route signage; or

(vi) equipment for pedestrian movement.

(d) ELIGIBLE PROJECTS.—The Secretary may make a grant under this section only for a project that is—

(1) a project eligible for assistance under title 23, United States Code;

(2) a public transportation facility or service eligible for assistance under chapter 53 of title 49, United States Code;

(3) a facility or service for intercity rail passenger transportation (as defined in section 24102 of title 49, United States Code);

(4) a port facility, including a facility that—

(A) connects a port to other modes of transportation;

(B) improves the efficiency of mass evacuations and disaster relief; or

(C) aids transportation;

(5) a public-use airport (as defined in section 47102 of title 49, United States Code) that is included in the national plan of integrated airport sys-
tems developed by the Federal Aviation Administra-
tion under section 47103 of title 49, United States
Code; or

(6) a route owned, operated, or maintained by
the Corps of Engineers.

(e) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—The Secretary may award
a grant under this section to any of the following:

(1) A State.

(2) A metropolitan planning organization that
serves an urbanized area (as defined by the Bureau
of the Census) with a population of more than
200,000 individuals.

(3) A unit of local government.

(4) A political subdivision of a State or local
government.

(5) A special purpose district or public author-
ity with a transportation function, including a port
authority.

(6) A Federal land management agency that
applies jointly with a State or group of States.

(7) A Tribal government or a consortium of
Tribal governments.

(8) A multistate or multijurisdictional group of
entities described in paragraphs (1) through (7).
(f) APPLICATIONS.—To be eligible to receive a grant under this section, an eligible entity shall submit to the Secretary an application in such form, at such time, and containing such information as the Secretary determines to be necessary.

(g) CRITERIA.—In selecting resilience projects to receive grants under the program, the Secretary shall consider—

(1) the cost of the project compared to the risk of recurring damage and the cost of future repairs, taking into account current and future emergency events (as defined in section 667.3 of title 23, Code of Federal Regulations (or successor regulations)) and extreme weather events, to the maximum extent practicable;

(2) the extent to which the project reduces the financial risk to the Federal Government; and

(3) such other criteria as the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

(h) ADMINISTRATION OF PROJECTS.—Responsibility for oversight and administration of a project that receives a grant under this section—

(1) may be transferred within the Department of Transportation; and

(2) shall be administered in accordance with—
(A) title 23 and title 49, United States Code, as applicable;

(B) title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d et seq.);

(C) the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.); and

(D) the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. 4601 et seq.).

(i) FEDERAL COST SHARE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Federal share of the cost of a project carried out under the program shall not exceed 80 percent of the total project cost.

(2) NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—The eligible entity may use funds provided from other Federal sources to meet the non-Federal cost share requirement for a project under the program.

(j) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section for each fiscal year $1,000,000,000, to remain available until expended.