



# Illinois Department of Transportation

2300 South Dirksen Parkway / Springfield, Illinois 62764

CIRCULAR LETTER 2020-04

STATEWIDE PLANNING AND RESEARCH FUNDS (SPR)

COUNTY ENGINEERS / SUPERINTENDENTS OF HIGHWAYS / MUNICIPAL ENGINEERS / DIRECTORS OF PUBLIC WORKS / MAYORS / METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATIONS – DIRECTORS / TOWNSHIP HIGHWAY COMMISSIONERS / CONSULTING ENGINEERS

The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) provided a Notice of Funding Opportunity ([NOFO](#)) on February 3, 2020. The Funding Opportunity Number is 1439-1327. This program is listed in the Catalog of State Financial Assistance ([CSFA](#)) as 494-00-1439.

Program guidance can be found here:

<http://idot.illinois.gov/transportation-system/transportation-management/planning/index>

Statewide Planning and Research Program (SPR) funds are federal funds for planning and research activities. The funds are used to establish a cooperative, continuous, and comprehensive framework for making transportation investment decisions and to carryout transportation research activities throughout the State. The funding available for this program in FY 2021 is approximately \$20 M. A 20 percent non-federal match is required for these federal funds except in certain circumstances including if the project benefits a disadvantaged/economically distressed community.

All proposed projects should be related to studying or implementing a goal, strategy or objective within the state's Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) or one of its associated plans, implementing performance based program development, implementing asset management or benefiting a disadvantaged/economically distressed community. IDOT will evaluate proposed projects based on those criteria.

The program schedule is currently:

- **February 3, 2020** - Call for Projects Opened
- **February 14, 2020** – Informational Webinar 10:00-12:00 p.m. ([Register here](#))
- **March 13, 2020** - Applications due 11:59:59 CDT
- **July 1, 2020** - Awards Announced

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Any updates or changes to the schedule will be officially announced through the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA) website via the NOFO. Further details on this program are available on the program's website.

Sincerely,



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Acting Engineer of Local Roads and Streets



Holly Bieneman  
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MV/hab/tp

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