



Build Kansas Fund | Fiscal Year 2024 Application Package | Memo

To: Senator Ty Masterson, Chair, Build Kansas Advisory Committee
Murl Riedel, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Shauna Wake, Office of the Kansas State Treasurer

From: Vanessa Lamoreaux, Kansas Department of Transportation

RE: Build Kansas Fund Application # 2024-013-NCRPC

Date: February 19, 2024

Attached, please find an application made to the Build Kansas Fund by Dickinson County.

The application packet includes the following items:

- Coversheet – provides a high-level overview of the application including a unique identification number, page 1 of 10 of the Build Kansas Fund Application Package.
- Build Kansas Fund Application – includes information submitted with the Build Kansas Fund Application, pages 2-8. Page 8 provides the table of funding sources.
- Attachments –An Executive Summary, pages 9-10.

Project Overview

Dickinson County seeks funding from the US Department of Transportation for funding available through the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) program. The County has investigated several other funding strategies for their Public Safety Communications Project. The proposed project will tie Dickinson County into the Kansas Statewide Interoperable Communications System (KSICS) of 800 MHz tower sites owned by the Kansas Department of Transportation.

This opportunity is a discretionary BIL program that has a local match requirement of 10%. The County is requesting \$300,000 from the Build Kansas Fund. This request has the potential to unlock \$3,000,000 in federal funds.

The deadline for RAISE applications is February 28, 2024. The Build Kansas Fund application was received on February 9, 2024.

Build Kansas Fund Steering Committee Recommendation

The Build Kansas Fund Steering Committee reviewed this application on February 15, 2024, following a successful completeness check. The Steering Committee **RECOMMENDS APPROVAL** of Build Kansas Funding to the Build Kansas Advisory Committee for final advice.

Build Kansas Fund | Fiscal Year 2024 Application Package | Coversheet



Build Kansas Fund Application Number	2024-013-NCRPC
Project Name	Public Safety Communications Project
Entity Type	Local Government
Economic Development District (EDD) Planning Commission	North Central Regional Planning Commission
Infrastructure Sector(s)	Resilience / Transportation
BIL Program	Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)
BIL Program Type	Discretionary
BIL Application Deadline	2/28/2024
Build Kansas Fund Request	\$300,000
Technical Assistance Received	General No
	BIL Application No
	Build Kansas Fund Application Yes
	Other (Brief Description): Provided application and zip code table information support
Application Notes	Build Kansas Fund contribution of \$300,000 will unlock \$3,000,000 in federal BIL funding.



Steering Committee Funding Recommendation	February 15, 2024 Recommend
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Advisory Committee Target Review	DATE
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Advisory Committee Funding Recommendation	DATE Approve or Deny
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Completeness Review Data

Date Build Kansas Application Received:	2/9/2024
Date Of Completeness Check:	2/9/2024; 2/12/2024
Date Forwarded to Steering Committee:	2/12/2024

Title **Dickinson County** 02/02/2024
by **Janelle Dockendorf** in **Build Kansas Fund** id. 45422299
Fiscal Year 2024 Application
jdockendorf@dkcoks.gov

Original Submission 02/09/2024

Score n/a

Part 1: Applicant Information

The name of the entity applying for the Build Kansas Fund: Dickinson County

Project Name: Public Safety Communications Project

Entity type: County Government

Applicant Contact Name: Janelle Dockendorf

Applicant Contact Position/Title: County Adminsitrator

Applicant Contact Telephone Number: +17852633120

Applicant Contact Email Address: jdockendorf@dkcoks.gov

Applicant Contact Address: 109 E First

Applicant Contact Address Line 2 (optional): Suite 208

Applicant Contact City: Abilene

Applicant Contact State: Kansas

Applicant Contact Zip Code: 67410

Is the Project Contact the same as the Applicant Contact? Yes

Part 2: Build Kansas Fund - Eligibility Criteria

Certify that you are pursuing a viable Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) funding opportunity for which your entity is eligible: Yes

Certify that the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) funding opportunity you are pursuing has a required non-federal match component: Yes

What is the primary county that the project will occur in? Dickinson County

The Build Kansas Fund is intended to support Kansas-based infrastructure projects. Please provide a list of all the zip codes this project will be located in, along with an estimated percent [%] of the project located in that zip code. For example, if seeking funding for road infrastructure, provide a rough percent of the roads expected in each zip code:

[Zip Code Percentage.xlsx](#)

Part 3: Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) - Grant Application Information
Please Note: This information is related to the federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) funding opportunity to which you will apply. This is NOT information for the Build Kansas Match Fund.

Please enter the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) funding opportunity title that the entity is applying for: RAISE Program

What is the funding agency for this Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) funding opportunity? U.S. Department of Transportation

What is the Assistance Listing Number (ALN) for this Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) funding opportunity? 20.933

What is the application due date for this Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) funding opportunity? 2/28/2024

What is the federal fiscal year for this Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) funding opportunity? 2024

Enter the amount of funding being applied for, from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) funding opportunity: \$3,000,000.00

Enter the required non-federal match percentage: 10.0

Part 4: Build Kansas Fund - Match Application Information

Enter the non-federal match amount being requested from the Build Kansas Fund: \$300,000.00

Is the project able to move forward with a lesser match amount than requested? No

If you are awarded less match than the amount requested, at what amount would your project NOT be able to move forward? 0.0

Expected breakdown of funding sources to support the project: Enter the funding source and projected amount from each source to support this project:

[Kansas+DOT+table.xlsx](#)

Part 5: Build Kansas Fund - Means Test

Confirm that there are no available funding sources currently planned to go unused by your entity that could be leveraged for this project: Yes

Confirm there are no available American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) or Coronavirus State & Local Fiscal Recovery Fund monies that could be used for this match: Yes

Confirm that you have explored other readily available funding sources (federal or non-federal) to be used for this match: Yes

Briefly describe your efforts to find other available funding sources for this project: The funding grants available through AFG requires a 5% match and does not include infrastructure. Additionally we are limited to 1 million dollars. We considered a loan through USDA but interest rates are a deterrent. Additionally CDBG monies would be tied to LMI of which we do not qualify and again limited funds available that would cover the cost.

Part 6: Additional Information

Please upload a copy of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) program application associated with this request OR a 2-page executive summary providing an overview of the project:

[Dickinson_County_Public_Safety_Communications_Project.docx](#)

Provide any additional information about this project (optional): Please contact Senator JR Claeys at 785-296-7670 with questions.

Part 7: Terms and Conditions

Understanding of Fund Release Requirements: checked

Understanding of Use of Funds: checked

Understanding of Reporting Requirements: checked

Authority to Make Grant Application: checked

Persons and Titles: Janelle Dockendorf
The following persons are responsible for making this Build Kansas Fund application.

Position/Title: County Administrator

Additional: Marcus Rothchild

Position/Title: Assistant County Administrator/Finance Director

Additional:

Position/Title:

Additional:

Position/Title:

Internal Form

Score n/a

Pre-Award Information:

Eligible for Build Kansas Fund? YES

ED District: North Central

Project Primary Zip Code:

Sector: Transportation

Application ID: 2024-013-NCRPC

Application Overview
and
Recommendation:

Post-Award Information:

Awarded BIL Grant?

Total Awarded
Federal Funding:

Total Build Kansas
Match Fund Award:

Build Kansas Match
Fund Award
Deobligation:

Source	Amount	Zip Code	% of project in zip code
BIL Federal Funds (applied for)	\$ 3,000,000.00	67410	35%
Build Kansas Funds (non-federal match)	\$ 300,000.00	67448	5%
Additional Project Contribution (if applicable)		67431	15%
		67441	5%
		67449	15%
		67451	5%
		67480	15%
		67492	5%
TOTAL PROJECT COST	\$ 3,300,000.00		100% in KS

Dickinson County Public Safety Communications Project

Dickinson County serves 19,000 citizens within 854 square miles. We have 4 major highways intersecting our county including I-70, HWY 15, US 77 and HWY 4. With an excess of over 10,000 daily travelers across our county, the need for reliable communications is critical. A reliable communication system is also imperative for the safety of fire, law enforcement, and emergency medical services personnel as well as the citizens and visitors of Dickinson County. Reliable communications that provide the ability to communicate with other area and state agencies would create a safer, more efficient multi-agency response to incidents when the need arises.

Dickinson County utilizes a twenty-six (26) years of age VHF radio system to communicate with eighteen (18) staffed and volunteer services to include ten (10) 911 Dispatchers, one hundred fifty (150) Fire, fifty (50) Law Enforcement, thirty (30) Emergency Medical Services and one (1) Emergency Manager. Our current system, despite our best efforts, has reached the end of its useful life, parts are no longer available, coverage is spotty at best in many parts of the county. By that, law enforcement or fire departments may have to move a few steps to the north, south, east, west or relocate to the top of a hill to communicate with the 911 Center or with each other. This is a grave concern when responding in an emergency situation. In 2022 we responded to 4,865 fire calls, 18,440 law enforcement calls and 2,663 EMS calls. Mutual aid assistance was provided to 156 neighboring jurisdictions in 2022.

Several instances involving law enforcement unable to communicate with other officers or dispatch have been identified. This creates not only an officer safety issue for our law enforcement officers but for the citizens as well in the event law enforcement is unable to notify dispatch of the need for fire or emergency medical services response. Some of the rural areas of the county that currently have poor radio communication coverage also have poor cellular phone reception.

Additionally, we are unable to effectively communicate with neighboring jurisdictions, dead zones have increased in our county since narrow banding and technology has changed. Consider your cell phone – the first one was used in 1973, weighed 2.4 pounds, shaped like a brick and had a short antenna. Look at your cell phones today and how vastly different they are in size, shape and capabilities. Radio systems have changed significantly as well. With our neighboring counties moving to the State of Kansas 800 MHz, Dickinson County is in a donut hole. Recently we provided mutual aid assistance with 6 fire departments during a grass land fire in Geary County, just off of US 77 Highway, the Lyons Creek area. While fighting the fire, we had several fire fighters caught in a small canyon and were unable to warn them on their radios of the helicopter water drop from Kansas Forestry Service. Fortunately contact was made and they were able to move to safety. This is just one of many instances we have experienced.

Enhancing interoperability to provide reliable communications across our county and with other jurisdictions in the state is a challenge we have been working to address. During discussions

with our 911 Advisory board, which is comprised of representatives across our county, fire chiefs, police chiefs, EMS director, Sheriff, 911 director, emergency management and the county administrator we have identified the following needs:

- Network with surrounding jurisdictions and the state to provide interoperability and communications with those jurisdictions as well as increase the efficiency of communications
- Current technology to provide reliable communications across the entire county which will increase our ability to provide services
- Increase coverage area of not only Dickinson County but the State of Kansas thus ensuring the safety of our first responders and citizens
- Eliminate maintenance issues and increased costs with poor results with our current system
- Fixed maintenance costs that can be budgeted each year
- Ability to upgrade the new equipment as technology changes occur

To meet those needs we have determined moving to the Kansas Statewide Interoperable Communications System (KSICS) is the answer to many of those. The KSICS are the 800 MHz tower sites owned by the Kansas Department of Transportation and provide statewide roaming capabilities. The system will allow for seamless interoperable communications with our users, other counties and the state as well as reduced response time and improved coordination during large area emergencies. Adhering to the federal communication encryption standards is a requirement and moving to the KSICS system will allow Dickinson County to meet those standards.

The 800 MHz project is estimated to include two (2) Tower Sites Equipment at \$1,400,000 with \$900,000 to purchase 350 mobile and portable radios for our responders. A five year maintenance contract is estimated at \$700,000 for a total project of \$3,000,000.

The 2 (two) tower sites equipment includes the following equipment:

- ✓ ASTRO 25 FDMA Site License
- ✓ Five hundred (500) Radio User Licenses
- ✓ (2) Two UNC Additional Device Licenses (Each License monitors up to Qty 10 Devices)
- ✓ (6) Six Channel 800 MHz FDMA GTR 8000 Expandable Site Subsystem (ESS)
- ✓ (6) Six Channel 800 MHz Combiner, Multicoupler and Tower Top Amplifier (TTA) with Control Module
- ✓ (1) Network Manager SDM 3000 AUZ I/O
- ✓ Dual Site Gateways
- ✓ (1) Multi-Protocol Label Switching (MPLS) Router
- ✓ (2) Two Backup Power UPSs of 2.7K Watts each
- ✓ (1) One Transmit and (1) One Receive Antenna with associated transmission lines
- ✓ All equipment will be stored in (2) two seven and a half foot racks
- ✓ First year 24x7 maintenance support