

FY 2007-2008 Defense Infrastructure Grant Awards Selection Process

The process through which Enterprise Florida developed the list of projects recommended to the Governor's Office for funding under the 2007-2008 Defense Infrastructure Grant program is as follows:

Distribution of RFP

The Request for Proposal (RFP) was distributed statewide on June 4, 2007. The circulation was done via email to the entire FDA membership list and posted online at www.floridadefense.org.

The deadline for submitting completed RFP's to Enterprise Florida was July 20, 2007, 5:00PM EDT. Thirty three Defense Infrastructure grant applications, totaling \$33, 770, 725. 00 were received on or before the application deadline.

Evaluation of RFP's

Evaluations for the Defense Infrastructure Grant (DIG) applications were completed by a 7-member panel of Judges consisting of five members from the Tab Allen Group, out of Tallahassee, Dr. Brice Harris of the Office of Tourism, Trade & Economic Development. Each judge completed a conflict-of-interest form, indicating that they had no bias or partiality for any application, and could be totally objective in their assessment of each one.

On July 27, 2007 a packet of information containing the following items were mailed to the Judges: a copy of each application; a copy of the RFP; a DIG previous performance report from 1999 to 2006; conflict of interest form; and an official scoring sheet.

The scoring sheets and conflict-of-interest forms were returned to Enterprise Florida on August 3, 2007. The scores were compiled, sorted, and ranked by raw scores, by region. A Judges conference call was held on August 21, 2007 to discuss each project and agree on a rank ordered list. The Panel of Judges employed the following methodology in determining which projects would be among those submitted to the Governor's Office for a grant award.

- The Judges evaluated each of the 33 applications individually, scored them on their official score sheet and mailed the results to EFI. In addition to this the judges ranked the applications based on their total score from the highest to the lowest, from 1 to 33. Subsequently the judges proceeded to rank the projects within a region from the highest score to the lowest score.
- Along with the criteria outlined in the RFP, the Judges teleconference included a discussion of the following information: a review of each project's eligibility; close scrutiny of each project's budget to ensure that proposed expenditures were allowable under the grant program, and were an appropriate use of state funds; the relative strength of each applicant's proposed program of work; the level of funding required to complete candidate projects; the amount of funding available in the 2007/2008 Defense

Infrastructure Grant program; geographic location of proposed projects; and leveraged funds available to complete the proposed project.

Adjustments and Considerations

- Once the projects were ranked, the Judges decided to award the first highest ranked project within a region. This resulted in the selection of nine (9) applications.
- Although the 2007-2008 Defense Infrastructure Grant Budget was \$1.5 million dollars, the Judges decided to send to the Governor a list that included 3 additional projects that were deemed meritorious of an award. This was done to demonstrate what additional projects could be completed if surplus funds could be found.
- The 6 awards put forth for recommendation by the eight-member Judges Panel is \$1,477,000.00.
- The 3 additional awards recommendations by the eight-member Judges Panel is \$1,130,000.00

Recommendations

Once the final ranked ordered list for the Defense Infrastructure Grant program was approved by all parties involved, Enterprise Florida sent a letter to the Executive Office of the Governor listing the projects and award amounts being recommended for final approval. According to the RFP timetable the grant awards will be announce on August 30, 2007.

Those applications received for consideration of the 2007/2008 Defense Infrastructure Grant program, are contained in EFI's defense grant files. Also contained in this file are the conflict-of-interest forms signed by each judge. All scoring sheets completed by the judges, the list of prioritized infrastructure projects submitted by the military installations and the communities, as well as additional documentation of the 2007/2008 selection process.