

26 that allow for external control of battery charging and
27 discharging.

28 (b) "Matching funds" includes in-kind services, goods,
29 equipment, or other noncash contributions calculated at fair
30 market value.

31 (2) CREATION; GOALS.—The Florida Smart City Challenge
32 Grant Program is created within the Department of
33 Transportation. The goals of the grant program include, but are
34 not limited to:

35 (a) Providing opportunities to municipalities and other
36 regions of the state to develop innovative smart mobility
37 solutions to local transportation challenges.

38 (b) Deploying smart city technology that has an immediate
39 impact on the safe and efficient movement of people and goods
40 within municipalities and other regions of the state.

41 (c) Advancing autonomous, connected, grid-integrated, and
42 electric vehicle readiness and deployment throughout the state.

43 (d) Providing enhanced education and workforce development
44 opportunities by deploying emerging technologies that support
45 the state's future workforce.

46 (e) Meeting the mobility needs of residents of this state,
47 particularly transportation disadvantaged persons as defined in
48 s. 427.011, by increasing access to and convenience of
49 transportation within municipalities and other regions of the
50 state.

51 (f) Facilitating the efficient movement of freight within
52 the state, especially in and around airports and seaports.

53 (g) Supporting the reduction of fossil fuel consumption by
54 relying on renewable energy sources and electric technologies.

55 (h) Creating a smart mobility demonstration community in
56 the state that serves as a model for municipalities and other
57 regions nationwide.

58 (3) ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.—

59 (a) The following entities may apply to the Department of
60 Transportation for a grant to fund projects under the Florida
61 Smart City Challenge Grant Program:

62 1. A state, county, municipal, regional, or other agency
63 that is responsible for the movement of persons, goods, or
64 services within a defined geographical region, including an
65 entity created pursuant to chapter 343, chapter 348, or chapter
66 349.

67 2. A metropolitan planning organization or transportation
68 planning organization. Each entity responsible for deploying or
69 operating the project on behalf of a metropolitan planning
70 organization or transportation planning organization must submit
71 a letter to the department detailing its commitment to the
72 implementation, operation, and maintenance of the project.

73 3. A state university.

74 (b) An applicant for a Florida Smart City Challenge Grant
75 must have in place a plan or framework for the implementation of

76 | the proposed project in at least one of the following
77 | categories:

78 | 1. Autonomous vehicle deployment or demonstration.

79 | 2. Connected vehicle technology deployment.

80 | 3. Shared mobility services innovation and deployment.

81 | 4. Acceleration of the use of plug-in electric vehicles
82 | and electric charging infrastructure, including deployment of
83 | grid-integrated vehicles.

84 | (4) PROPOSALS.—By September 1 of the fiscal year in which
85 | funds are appropriated for this program, the Department of
86 | Transportation shall issue a request for proposals for the award
87 | of a Florida Smart City Challenge Grant. Each proposal submitted
88 | to the department must include:

89 | (a) A statement by the applicant certifying that the
90 | project will be implemented and operational within 2 years after
91 | receipt of the grant.

92 | (b) A plan for fulfilling documentation requirements under
93 | the department's Statewide Systems Engineering Management Plan
94 | within such 2-year period.

95 | (c) A description of how operation and maintenance costs
96 | for the project will be funded in order to ensure that the
97 | department's investment in the project is sustained.

98 | (d) A plan for evaluation of the project and the methods
99 | by which such evaluation will be shared with residents of the
100 | area served by the project.

101 (e) The procedure for integrating the project's
102 transportation-related data into the department's Data
103 Integration and Video Aggregation System.

104 (5) AWARD OF GRANTS.—Contingent upon specific
105 appropriation by the Legislature, the Department of
106 Transportation shall award a Florida Smart City Challenge Grant
107 to at least three recipients. The department shall distribute
108 the award to each recipient by January 1 of the fiscal year in
109 which funds are appropriated.

110 (a) The grant may fund up to 50 percent of project costs.
111 The grant recipient must fund at least 10 percent of project
112 costs. Grant funds must be used exclusively for startup costs,
113 including, but not limited to, acquisition of hardware,
114 software, and assets associated with implementation of the
115 project, and may not be used for costs associated with operation
116 or maintenance of the project.

117 (b) In selecting grant recipients, the department shall
118 give priority to those proposals that demonstrate the
119 availability of matching funds from partner organizations to
120 fund project costs and that include a plan for documenting the
121 acquisition and expenditure of such matching funds.

122 1. The department shall give further priority to those
123 proposals that include matching funds from private-sector
124 partner organizations; however, local public funds may also be
125 used.

126 2. Matching funds may be used for costs associated with
127 operation, maintenance, and evaluation of the project.

128 3. A grant recipient that receives matching funds must
129 document the contribution of such funds in a quarterly report
130 that details the manner in which the value of such contribution
131 is calculated.

132 (6) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—

133 (a) Each recipient of a Florida Smart City Challenge Grant
134 must submit a quarterly report to the Department of
135 Transportation regarding the development, implementation, and
136 operation of the project. Such report must include information
137 documented pursuant to subparagraph (5) (b)3.

138 (b) The Department of Transportation must submit a
139 quarterly report to the President of the Senate and the Speaker
140 of the House of Representatives regarding the overall status of
141 the grant program.

142 (c) After implementation of the project is complete, each
143 recipient must submit an initial report to the Governor, the
144 President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of
145 Representatives which details the project's impact on the
146 transportation system within the area served by the project, the
147 extent to which the goals of the grant program have been met,
148 and recommendations for project revisions or improvements to
149 guide future deployment activities. A final report must be
150 submitted 2 years after submission of the initial report.

151 (7) ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT.—The Department of
152 Transportation shall provide administrative support to the
153 Florida Smart City Challenge Grant Program in order to
154 facilitate the deployment of smart city technology within the
155 state, including, but not limited to, expedited review of
156 proposals submitted under subsection (4). The department may
157 select an independent nongovernmental entity to assist in
158 project construction, management, and evaluation; to oversee the
159 implementation of the project; and to analyze and document
160 lessons learned during, and benefits derived from,
161 implementation of the project. The nongovernmental entity must
162 have experience with the national Smart Cities Initiative,
163 advanced transportation deployment experience in this state,
164 extensive engineering experience, or expertise in stakeholder
165 engagement of potential partners to create a demonstration
166 community as described in paragraph (2) (h).

167 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2018.