

HB 1407

2014

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to municipal road projects; providing
3 a short title; creating the Disadvantaged Cities Road
4 Assistance Program within the Department of
5 Transportation to provide funding for certain road
6 projects; defining the term "disadvantaged city";
7 providing criteria for selection of municipalities to
8 receive funding; authorizing the department to
9 administer contracts on behalf of a municipality;
10 requiring funded projects to be included in the
11 department's work program; providing an effective
12 date.

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14 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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16 Section 1. Disadvantaged cities road improvement.—

17 (1) This section may be cited as the "Disadvantaged Cities
18 Road Improvement Act."

19 (2) The Legislature recognizes that it is in the public
20 interest to provide a source of funding for disadvantaged cities
21 to resurface or reconstruct municipal roads. The Legislature
22 find that investment in disadvantaged cities that meet the
23 criteria in this section has a high probability of creating
24 jobs, increasing economic activity, improving safety, and
25 increasing property values to assist disadvantaged cities to
26 achieve and maintain economic sustainability.

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CODING: Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.

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27 (3) There is created the Disadvantaged Cities Road
 28 Assistance Program within the Department of Transportation. The
 29 purpose of the program is to assist disadvantaged municipal
 30 governments in resurfacing or reconstructing municipal roads.

31 (4) As used in this section, the term "disadvantaged city"
 32 means a municipality:

33 (a) That has a population of 40,000 or less according to
 34 the most recent federal census;

35 (b) With at least 25 percent of its population below the
 36 poverty level; and

37 (c) That has a combined millage rate exceeding 8.5 mills
 38 in its most recent fiscal year.

39 (5) Beginning with fiscal year 2014-2015, up to \$25
 40 million annually from the State Transportation Trust Fund may be
 41 used for the purposes of funding the Disadvantaged Cities Road
 42 Assistance Program.

43 (6) Disadvantaged cities may compete for funds that have
 44 been designated for the program for resurfacing or
 45 reconstruction projects on roads that were part of the municipal
 46 road system on January 1, 2010. Capacity improvements on
 47 municipal roads are not eligible for funding under the program.

48 (a) In determining a municipality's eligibility for funds
 49 under the program, the Department of Transportation may consider
 50 whether the municipality has attempted to keep its roads in
 51 satisfactory condition. The Department of Transportation may
 52 also consider the extent to which the municipality has offered

53 to provide a match of local funds for the state funds provided
54 under the program. To receive funds under the program, a
55 municipality must provide at least 25 percent of the total
56 project cost.

57 (b) The following criteria must be used to prioritize road
58 projects for funding:

59 1. The primary criteria are:

60 a. The physical condition of the road as measured by the
61 department.

62 b. Whether the road is to be resurfaced or reconstructed
63 as part of a municipality's comprehensive resurfacing or
64 reconstruction of the road, including whether the municipality
65 will contemporaneously install or repair utilities related to
66 the road, including water, sewer, drainage, or sidewalks.

67 2. The secondary criteria are:

68 a. Whether the road is used as an evacuation route or
69 leads to an evacuation route.

70 b. Whether the a road is within a 1-mile radius of a
71 school.

72 (7) The Department of Transportation may administer
73 contracts on behalf of a municipality selected to receive
74 funding for a project under this section. All projects funded
75 under this section shall be included in the Department of
76 Transportation's work program.

77 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.