

# **In Pursuit of Federal Funding: *Should I Stay or Should I Go?***

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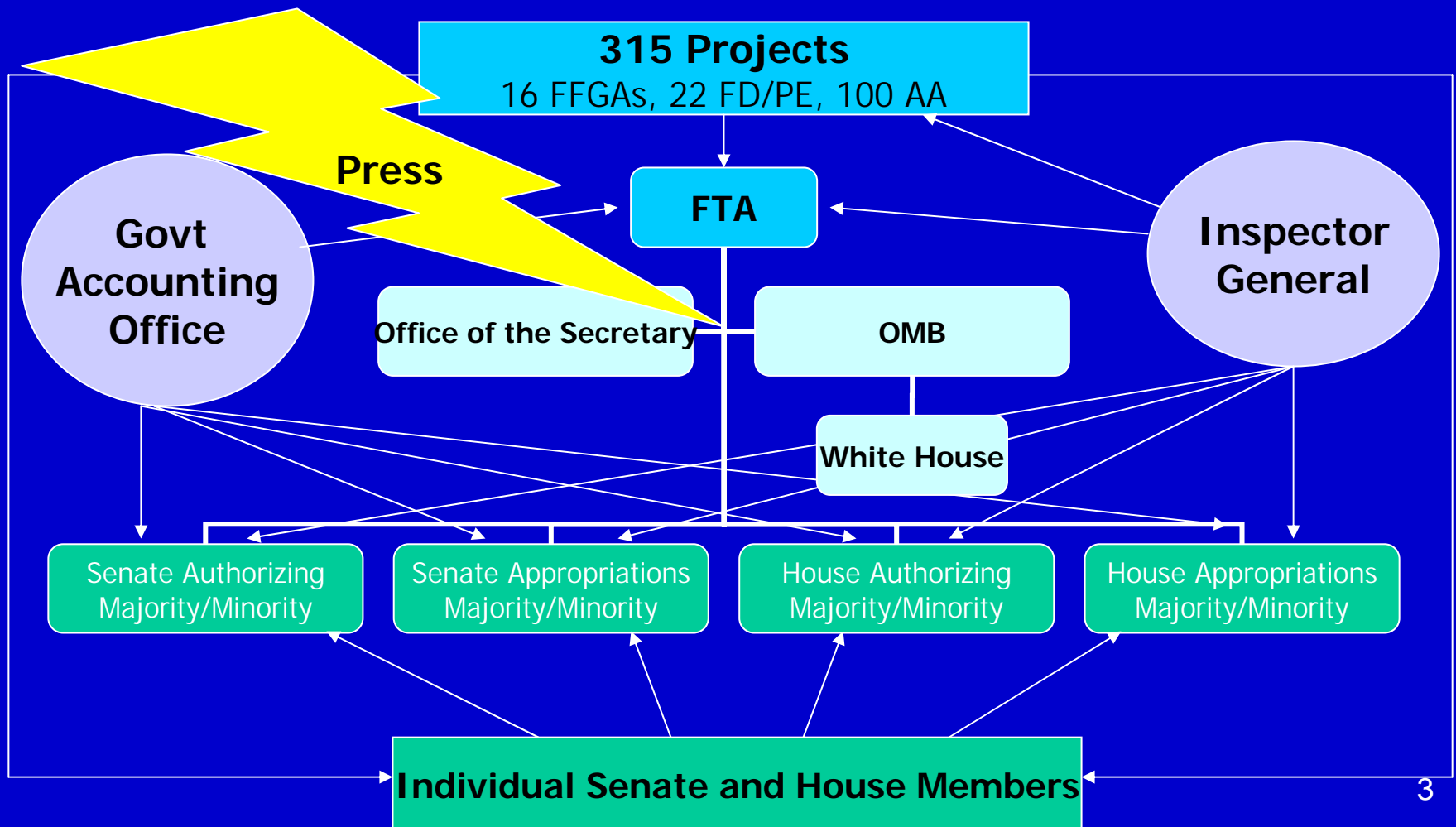
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# If I were you, I'd wonder.....

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- Who are these Fed's?  
*And why do they do what they do?*
- How do I decide if the money is worth it?  
*Do I really want to play with them?*
- Hasn't someone been thru this before?  
*Can anyone help me?*
- What's up with these rules I hear about?  
*Is there any hope?*

# The New Starts Environment



# Key Factors in Local Decision to Pursue Federal Funding

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- Impact on project schedule and cost
- Project “competitiveness” in New Starts rating
- Staging within regional program of projects
- Congressional support and commitment
- Local support and commitment

# Lessons Learned

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- Good projects emerge from good planning
- Don't rush into decisions
- Be realistic in costs, ridership, funding estimates
- Secure needed financing and governing commitments
- Maintain strong public and business support
- Tie up all the loose ends

# Key Schedule and Cost Risks

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- **Utility locations and conditions**
- **Real estate and right-of-way**
- **Third party agreements**
- Scope creep and design changes
- Government and regulatory approval schedule
- Vehicles and systems
- Market conditions

# Industry Comments to Proposed Rule

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- Simplify rating and project development process
- Increase emphasis on land use and economic development benefits
- Consider mix of quantitative and qualitative measures
- Reduce emphasis on current measure of cost effectiveness in ratings and funding decisions
- Save time and cost in project delivery