



**Transportation Alternatives Program
Applicant Workshop**

August 2013

Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)

2013 Applicant Workshop Overview

- **TAP Basics**
- **Program Eligibility**
- **Application and Scoring**
- **Project Selection and Timetable**

Transportation Alternatives Program

Created in MAP-21 Transportation Bill passed July 2012. The new program includes:

- **Most of the eligible activities from the Transportation Enhancement (TE) Program**
- **Safe Routes to School Program activities**
- **Recreational Trails Program activities**

and a new one:

- **Planning, designing, or constructing boulevards and other roadways largely in the right-of-way of former Interstate System routes or other divided highways**

Transportation Alternatives Program

TAP legislation:

- Retains 80% federal / 20% local match funding arrangement
- Establishes mandatory funding distribution based on population areas
- Requires that project selections be made by MPOs for urban population areas
- Outlines eligible sponsors
- Eliminates the “Common Rule”
- Redefines eligible activities

Population Areas

Four Transportation Management Areas (TMAs)

- Northern Virginia
- Richmond
- Hampton Roads
- Roanoke

The four TMAs include six Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs)

- Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG)
- Fredericksburg (North Stafford County)
- Richmond
- Tri-Cities
- Hampton Roads
- Roanoke

Population areas 5000 – 200,000

Population areas 0 – 5000

TAP Sub-allocation of Funds

Example

FY14 – approx. \$21.5M

Rec Trails – approx \$1.5M – **off the top to DCR**

50/50 distribution – approx \$20.0M

\$10M

\$10M

- Allocated based on population
- \$6.3M to 4 Transportation Management Areas (TMAs)
- \$3.7M – to other areas of the state based on population
- Allocated to any area of the state
- These are funds CTB Policy will govern distribution of
- State DOT can transfer these funds to other Highway Programs

TAP Eligible Sponsors

- Local governments
- Regional transportation authorities
- Transit agencies
- Natural resource or public land agencies
- School districts, local education agencies, or schools
- Tribal governments
- Other local or regional governmental entity with responsibility for oversight of transportation or recreational trails

NO LONGER ELIGIBLE – State DOTs, MPOs or Non-Profits

Treatment of Projects

MAP-21 states that projects funded with TAP funds will be treated as projects on a Federal-aid highway under Title 23 CFR.

This means they must comply with applicable provisions of Title 23 regardless of whether the projects are located within the right of way of a Federal-aid highway. These provisions include:

- **Project agreements**
- **Authorization prior to proceeding to incur costs**
- **Davis-Bacon wage rates**
- **Buy America (steel)**
- **Competitive bidding and other procurement requirements**

Transportation Alternatives activities:

#1 Construction, planning, and design of on-road and off-road trail facilities for pedestrians, bicyclists, and other non-motorized forms of transportation.

Eligible Projects include:

- New or reconstructed sidewalks and curb ramps
- Bicycle infrastructure including bike lanes, bike racks and shelters
- Off Road trails
- Pedestrian and bicycle bridges and underpasses



Eligible TAP Activities

Transportation Alternatives activities

#2 Construction, planning, and design of infrastructure-related projects and systems that will provide safe routes for non-drivers to access daily needs.

Eligible Projects include:

- Crosswalks and pedestrian refuge areas
- Pedestrian and bicycle signals
- Pedestrian lighting
- Safe connections to public transportation



Eligible TAP Activities

Transportation Alternatives activities

#3 Conversion and use of abandoned railroad corridors for trails

Eligible Projects include:

- High Bridge Trail
- Virginia Blue Ridge Railway Trail
- Sections of the Tobacco Heritage Trail
- Huckleberry Trail
- Hanging Rock Trail



Eligible TAP Activities

Transportation Alternatives activities:

- #4 Construction of turn-outs, overlooks, and viewing areas to promote the scenic and historic character of local roads.**

- #5 Inventory, control, or removal of outdoor advertising.**

- #6 Historic preservation and rehabilitation of historic transportation facilities.**



Eligible TAP Activities

Transportation Alternatives activities:

#7 Vegetation management practices in transportation rights-of-way to improve roadway safety, prevent against invasive species, and provide erosion control

#8 Archaeological activities relating to impacts from implementation of a transportation project eligible under this title.



Eligible TAP Activities

Transportation Alternatives activities:

#9 Environmental mitigation activity, including prevention and abatement activities to address storm water mgmt., control, and water pollution related to highway runoff.



#10 Wildlife mortality mitigation to reduce vehicle-caused wildlife mortality or to restore and maintain connectivity among terrestrial or aquatic habitats.



Eligible TAP Activities

Safe Routes to School activities:

- Infrastructure
- Non-infrastructure



Recreational Trails activities

(Administered by the VA Department of Conservation & Recreation)

Planning, design, or constructing boulevards and other roadways in the right of way of former Interstate System routes or divided highways

Eliminated Enhancement Program Activities

These activities are no longer eligible as a stand-alone project:

- Pedestrian and bicycle safety and education
- Acquisition of scenic or historic easements or sites
- Scenic or historic highway programs including Visitor, Tourist, and Welcome Centers
- Transportation museums
- Historic Preservation including Inns and Taverns

Safe Routes to Schools

Purpose:

- **SRTS was authorized under the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (2005).**
- **SRTS allocates funds to state DOTs for infrastructure and non-infrastructure (education) projects that enable and encourage children K-8 to safely walk and bicycle to school.**
- **Under MAP-21, SRTS is now an 80 / 20 federal program; it is no longer funded at 100% federal participation**
- **Agreements are for 36 months; and any cost over-runs are absorbed by the locality.**

Safe Routes to Schools

Application Attachment B:

- **Principal letter of support**
- **Title-I status**
- **Travel modes**
- **Travel distance**
- **Parent survey**
- **Barriers to walking**
- **Efforts to promote walking/biking to school**

Safe Routes to Schools

Other Resources:

- **Non-infrastructure grants**
- **Mini-grants**
- **Technical assistance**
- **Online resources**
- **Newsletter**

TAP and SRTS Application Process

Application Prerequisites:

- **Public Information Meeting**
- **Resolution from Sponsor**
- **MPO Endorsement (if applicable)**

Application



FY 2014 – 2015 PROJECT APPLICATION FORM

****APPLICATION DEADLINE NOVEMBER 1, 2013****

Use **TAB** KEY to reach each field

1. Project Sponsor	Name and Title:	<input type="text"/>
	Organization:	<input type="text"/>
	Address:	<input type="text"/>
	City, State, Zip+4:	<input type="text"/> , <input type="text"/> - <input type="text"/>
	Telephone/Fax:	(<input type="text"/>) <input type="text"/> - <input type="text"/> / (<input type="text"/>) <input type="text"/> - <input type="text"/>
	E-mail Address:	<input type="text"/>

2. Project Manager	Name and Title:	<input type="text"/>
	Organization:	<input type="text"/>
	Address:	<input type="text"/>
	City, State, Zip+4:	<input type="text"/> , <input type="text"/> - <input type="text"/>
	Telephone/Fax:	(<input type="text"/>) <input type="text"/> - <input type="text"/> / (<input type="text"/>) <input type="text"/> - <input type="text"/>
	E-mail Address:	<input type="text"/>

3. Sponsor DUNS Number	<input type="text"/>	4. Project UPC Number (Existing Projects Only)	<input type="text"/>
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5. Provide a description of the project and a clearly defined scope of the improvements to be made utilizing Transportation Alternatives funds.	
<input type="text"/>	
5a. Identify beginning and ending termini and provide a location map with the project area clearly marked.	
Start Location: <input type="text"/>	End Location: <input type="text"/>

6. Project Location
Is this project located within a Transportation Management Area (TMA)? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
If yes, please indicate which MPO area: <input type="checkbox"/> Northern Virginia <input type="checkbox"/> Richmond <input type="checkbox"/> Tri Cities <input type="checkbox"/> Roanoke <input type="checkbox"/> Hampton Roads <input type="checkbox"/> Fredericksburg (Portion of North Stafford in TMA)
If project is in a TMA, complete <i>Attachment A – Supplemental Information for Projects in TMAs</i>

Project Budget

Task by Project Development Phase	Project Costs
PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING PHASE	
Engineering/Design Fees	
Environmental Document	
Surveying	
Estimated VDOT review charges (we recommend budgeting for 3-5% of total project cost)	
Grant Administrative Costs	
<i>Add rows as needed</i>	
PE Phase TOTAL COSTS	
RIGHT OF WAY PHASE	
Right of Way Purchase	
Utility Relocation	
<i>Add rows as needed</i>	
RW Phase TOTAL COSTS	
CONSTRUCTION PHASE	
<i>*Include construction line items from engineer's estimate, add rows as needed</i>	
Construction Management	
Inspection Fees	
Materials Testing	
Contingency	
Construction VDOT oversight charges	
CN Phase TOTAL COSTS	
TOTAL COSTS (PE, RW & CN)	

Application – Scoring Criteria

ALL Projects will be evaluated on:

- Project Concept
- Funding / Resources
- Effect on the Transportation Network
- Sponsor's Experience Administering Federal-aid Projects
- Project's Readiness to Proceed

EXISTING projects will also be evaluated on:

- Status of Project Development

Application Attachments

- **Required Attachments:**
 - Budget including match and other funding information
 - Public Meeting advertisement
 - Project Sponsor resolution
 - Support documents including maps, pictures, etc.
- **Additional Attachments (if applicable):**
 - MPO endorsement / resolution
 - TMA supplemental
 - SRTS supplemental
 - Existing Project Status supplemental

Application No: _____ Project Title: _____

STEP 1: INITIAL SCREENING	
Application Requirements	Confirmed
Project is eligible for Transportation Alternatives funding	<input type="checkbox"/>
Project Sponsor is eligible to apply for Transportation Alternatives funding	<input type="checkbox"/>
Project has acceptable beginning and ending termini (has independent utility)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Acceptable project budget provided	<input type="checkbox"/>
Acceptable in-kind match documentation provided (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sponsor resolution provided including 20% match commitment	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public hearing /information meeting held or documentation provided	<input type="checkbox"/>
MPO resolution attached (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/>
STEP 2: PROJECT RATING	
Project Funding	Point allocation
Accurate / All-inclusive Budget	
Match commitment will be met in cash; no in-kind	
Evidence of cash available to move project forward	
Local participation will exceed 20% local requirement including other funding	
Request fully funds project or evidence provided indicating project can realistically be funded within 2 funding cycles	
Project Funding Score:	
Project Concept	Point allocation
Project scope well defined with termini clearly identified	
ADA compliance present in design / proposal	
Locality has performed on-site evaluation and identified any potential obstacles	

Project Selections

Statewide Funds (50%)

- Will be divided amongst District CTB members for project selections – maximum \$1M per member
- The Secretary of Transportation and the CTB At-Large members will select projects with any remaining statewide funds (any funds over \$9M)

Population Based Funds (50%)

- MPOs will make selections in the 4 TMAs
- CTB At-Large members will select projects in remaining population areas

CTB Selection Policy

Updated CTB policy resolution approved July 2013 including:

- Applications for new projects will be considered
- 4 years to have project under construction
- Must fund at least 50% of the federal amount requested
- If CTB member wants to select a project requesting \$200,000 or less, they must fund 100% of that amount if it will complete the project

Proposed FY15 Schedule

- **August 2013 - Applicant Workshops**
- **November 1, 2013 - Application Deadline**
- **February 2014 – Applications and scores presented to the TMAs and CTB**
- **April 2014 – Tentative Selections**
- **April / May 2014 – Department SYIP Public Hearings**
- **June 2014 – Final CTB approval**

MAP-21 legislation will need re-authorization in order to move forward with funding FY15 selections

Points to remember

- **This is a federally funded reimbursement program**
- **These are locally administered projects**
- **Non-profits can no longer sponsor or be direct recipients of funding**
- **In-kind match requirement changes**
- **Smaller project scope with ability to get to construction within 4 years**
- **No more carry-over or “banking” funds for future phases**
- **SRTS – now 80 / 20 reimbursement and no program funding set-aside**

TAP Resources

Local Assistance Division website:

<http://www.virginiadot.org/business/local-assistance.asp>

Virginia's Transportation Alternatives Program website:

<http://www.virginiadot.org/business/prehancegrants.asp>

Virginia's TAP contact address:

EnhancementProgram@VDOT.Virginia.gov

National Transportation Alternatives Program Clearinghouse website:

<http://www.ta-clearinghouse.info/index>

Safe Routes to Schools website:

<http://www.virginiadot.org/programs/td Rt2 school pro.asp>

Program Contacts

Transportation Alternatives:

**Pam Liston, Transportation Alternatives Program Manager at
Pamela.Liston@VDOT.Virginia.gov or (804) 786-2734**

**Winky Chenault, Federal Programs Manager at
H.Chenault@VDOT.Virginia.gov or (804) 786-2264**

Safe Routes to School:

**Rob Williams, Safe Routes to School Coordinator at
RobertJ.Williams@VDOT.Virginia.gov or (804) 371-4868**