

# 2021 Transportation Alternatives Program

Virtual Workshop - October 29, 2021



# Workshop Agenda

- Overview of Transportation Alternatives Program
- Eligibility
- Available Funding
- Funding Requirements
- Evaluation Criteria
- Project Selection Process
- Schedule
- Resources and Guidance



# Overview of Program

- Program for community-based projects to enhance the transportation system
- Eligible activities – three categories

## Bicycle and Pedestrian

- Facilities for pedestrians, bicyclists and other nonmotorized forms of transportation
- Infrastructure-related projects providing safe routes for non-drivers
- Conversion and use of abandoned railway corridors for trails
- Safety and educational activities for pedestrians and bicyclists, only under the Safe Routes to Schools program for Kindergarten through 8th grade
- Planning, designing, or constructing boulevards and other roadways largely in the right-of-way of former Interstate System routes or other divided highways

## Historic Resources

- Historic preservation and rehabilitation of historic transportation facilities
- Archaeological activities relating to impacts from implementation of a transportation project (mitigation)

## Environmental

- Turnouts, overlooks and viewing areas
- Inventory, control or removal of outdoor advertising
- Vegetation management practices in transportation right of way
- Mitigation to address storm water management, control and water pollution prevention related to highway construction or highway runoff
- Reduce vehicle-caused wildlife mortality or restore and maintain connectivity among terrestrial or aquatic habitats



# Eligibility Requirements

## Ineligible Activities

- Transit, roadway capacity projects
  - Routine maintenance, operations
  - Recreational facilities
- 

## Eligible sponsors

- Local governments, tribes, transit agencies

## Ineligible sponsors

- DOTs, MPOs, most non-profit organizations



# Eligibility Requirements, cont'd

## Consistency with the RTP

- Projects seeking PSRC funding must be in, or consistent with, the region's long-range Regional Transportation Plan.

## PSRC Plan Certification

- Project must be in, or consistent with, the appropriate city or county comprehensive plan certified by PSRC



# Available Funding

**Funding Amounts** - Distributing 2022 – 2024 funds = \$13.5 million

**Funding Years** – sponsor to select 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> preference

- \$4.5 million available in 2022 (*earliest obligation date available*)
- \$4.5 million available in 2023
- \$4.5 million available in 2024

**Funding Limits**

- Funding requests limited to three applications per agency
- \$2.5 million request limit per project
- Awards limited to a single phase or PE/Design + 1 phase



# Funding Requirements

## Basic Federal Requirements

- 13.5% match requirement
- Full funding of project phases
  - Funds should be secured or reasonably expected

## PSRC Project Tracking

- Obligate funds by June 1<sup>st</sup> of program year awarded



# Evaluation Criteria

## PART 1

- Criteria for All Projects – 40 points
  - Support for Centers
  - Project Readiness

## PART 2

- Category-Specific Criteria – 60 points
  - Bicycle and Pedestrian Projects
  - Historic Resources Projects
  - Environmental Projects
- Other Considerations – 0 points





# Evaluation Criteria – All

## PART 1 – CRITERIA FOR ALL PROJECTS (40 points)

### Support for Centers (30 points)

- Project's relationship to regional, countywide or local center
- How the project supports existing and/or planned population/employment activity in the center
- How the project helps the center develop in a manner consistent with the adopted policies and plans for the center

### Project Readiness/Financial Plan (10 points)

- Status of milestones, prerequisites to obligation
- Availability of secured, reasonably available funds



# Evaluation Criteria – Category-Specific

## PART 2 – CATEGORY-SPECIFIC CRITERIA (60 points)

### Bicycle and Pedestrian Projects

- How the project extends, completes, or adds facilities to an existing bicycle and pedestrian system or network
- How the project addresses a need and reduces barriers
- How the project addresses safety and security
- How the project provides multimodal connections
- The project's level of public access
- The project's benefits to a variety of user groups and equity populations
- Whether there would be a loss of opportunity if not funded



# Evaluation Criteria – Category-Specific, cont'd

## PART 2 – CATEGORY-SPECIFIC CRITERIA (60 points)

### Historic Resources Projects

- The historic significance of project being preserved
- The project's relationship to the transportation system
- Whether the project is part of a historic preservation plan
- How the project provides public access, including to identified user groups
- The multimodal access to the project
- Whether there would be a loss of opportunity if not funded
- Whether the project has a long-term maintenance plan



# Evaluation Criteria – Category-Specific, cont'd

## PART 2 – CATEGORY-SPECIFIC CRITERIA (60 points)

### Environmental Projects

- The project's relationship to the transportation system
- How the project goes above and beyond requirements
- Whether the project has a long-term maintenance plan
- How the project provides public access included to identified user groups
- The multimodal access to the project
- Whether there would be a loss of opportunity if not funded



# Evaluation Criteria – Other Considerations

## PART 2 – OTHER CONSIDERATIONS (0 points)

- Any additional aspects of the project not requested in the evaluation criteria but that could be relevant
- The public review process for the project and actions to involve stakeholders
- Any relevant documents not previously uploaded



# Project Selection Process

- **PSRC** staff scores projects based on evaluation criteria
- **Committee (TAP)** reviews and recommends projects to receive funding, including a prioritized contingency list, to the Transportation Policy Board
- PSRC's **Executive Board** makes final funding decisions
- Awarded projects approved into Regional and State **Transportation Improvement Program**
- **Sponsors** obligate funds, follow federal requirements, implement projects



# Schedule

- December 3 - Project applications due to PSRC
- January 24 - 28 – Project Selection Committee recommendation meetings
- February 10 – Transportation Policy Board releases projects for public comment
- March 10 – Transportation Policy Board project funding recommendation
- March 24 – Executive Board approves projects for funding
- Mid-April – Approval into State TIP, funds available to projects



# Resources and Guidance

**Online Materials** (<https://www.psrc.org/our-work/funding/project-selection/transportation-alternatives-program>)

- [Detailed Eligibility Information](#)
- [Project Evaluation Criteria, including guidance](#)
- [Online Application](#)

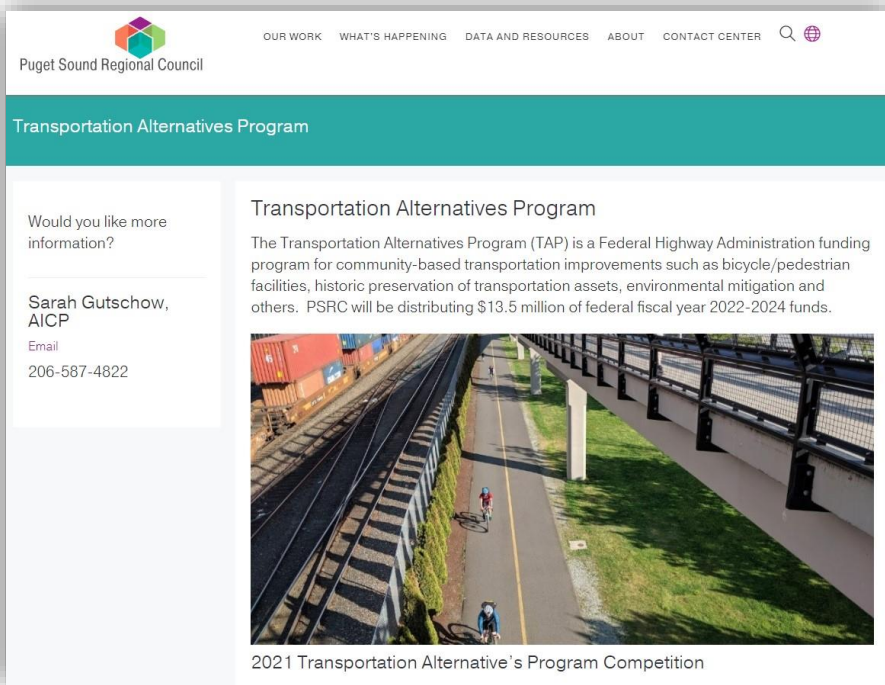
## Additional Resources

- [Project Checklist](#)
- [Equity and Populations Served Guidance](#)
- [Financial Constraint Guidance](#)
- [Project Selection Resource Web Map](#)





# Website and Application Demonstration



**Puget Sound Regional Council**

OUR WORK WHAT'S HAPPENING DATA AND RESOURCES ABOUT CONTACT CENTER


## Transportation Alternatives Program

Would you like more information?

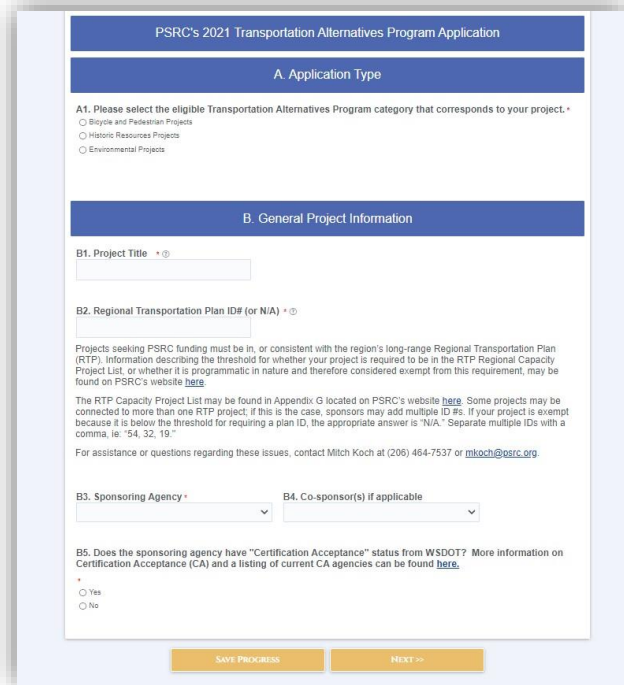
**Sarah Gutschow, AICP**  
Email  
206-587-4822

### Transportation Alternatives Program

The Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) is a Federal Highway Administration funding program for community-based transportation improvements such as bicycle/pedestrian facilities, historic preservation of transportation assets, environmental mitigation and others. PSRC will be distributing \$13.5 million of federal fiscal year 2022-2024 funds.



2021 Transportation Alternative's Program Competition



### PSRC's 2021 Transportation Alternatives Program Application

#### A. Application Type

A1. Please select the eligible Transportation Alternatives Program category that corresponds to your project.\*

- Bicycle and Pedestrian Projects
- Historic Resources Projects
- Environmental Projects

#### B. General Project Information

B1. Project Title \*

B2. Regional Transportation Plan ID# (or N/A) \*

Projects seeking PSRC funding must be in, or consistent with the region's long-range Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). Information describing the threshold for whether your project is required to be in the RTP Regional Capacity Project List, or whether it is programmatic in nature and therefore considered exempt from this requirement, may be found on PSRC's website [here](#).

The RTP Capacity Project List may be found in Appendix G located on PSRC's website [here](#). Some projects may be connected to more than one RTP project; if this is the case, sponsors may add multiple ID #'s. If your project is exempt because it is below the threshold for requiring a plan ID, the appropriate answer is 'N/A.' Separate multiple IDs with a comma, ie: "54, 32, 19."

For assistance or questions regarding these issues, contact Mitch Koch at (206) 464-7537 or [mkoch@psrc.org](mailto:mkoch@psrc.org).

B3. Sponsoring Agency \* B4. Co-sponsor(s) if applicable

B5. Does the sponsoring agency have "Certification Acceptance" status from WSDOT? More information on Certification Acceptance (CA) and a listing of current CA agencies can be found [here](#).

Yes  
 No

SAVE PROGRESS NEXT >>





**Questions?**