

2017 Transportation Alternatives Program



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 “nontraditional” 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

- Eligible sponsors

- Local governments, tribes, transit agencies

[FAQs on Bicycle and Pedestrian Category](#)

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

[FAQs on Environmental Category](#)



Eligibility Requirements (cont.)

Ineligible sponsors

- DOTs, MPOs, non-profit organizations ineligible

[FAQs on Eligible Sponsors](#)

Ineligible activities

- Transit, roadway capacity projects
- Routine maintenance, operations
- Recreational facilities
- Some previously eligible projects under the Transportation Enhancements program
 - e.g., museums, archaeological planning, scenic programs, etc.

[FAQs on Ineligible Activities](#)



Available Funding

Funding Amounts - Distributing 2017 – 2020 funds = ~ \$16 million

Funding Years – sponsor to select 1st and 2nd preference

- \$7.4 million available 2018 (*earliest obligation date available*)
- \$4.5 million available in 2019
- \$4.5 million available in 2020

Funding Limits

- Funding requests limited to three applications per agency
- \$2.5 million request limit per project



Funding Requirements

Basic Federal Requirements

- 13.5% match requirement
- Full funding of project phases

PSRC Plan Certification

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

PSRC Project Tracking

- Awards limited a single phase or PE/Design + 1 phase
- June 1st obligation deadline

[FAQs on Funding Requirements](#)

[FAQs on Funding Phases](#)



Evaluation Criteria

PART 1

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

PART 2

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



Evaluation Criteria (cont.)

PART 1 CRITERIA FOR ALL PROJECTS (40 points)

Support for centers (30 points)

- Projects relationship to regional, countywide or local center
- How it supports existing and/or planned population/employment activity in the center
- How it 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

[FAQs on Project Readiness and Financial Constraint](#)



Evaluation Criteria (cont.)

PART 2 – CATEGORY SPECIFIC CRITERIA (60 points)

Bicycle/Pedestrian – system expansion, addresses a need and reduces barriers, multimodal connections, public access, user groups served, loss of opportunity

Historic Resources – historic significance, planned use, historic preservation plan, long-term maintenance plan, public access, loss of opportunity

Environmental – relationship to the transportation system, need, above requirements, long-term maintenance plan, public access, loss of opportunity



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

[FAQs on Federal Requirements](#)

[FAQs on Project Selection Process](#)



Schedule

- September 20 - Project applications due to PSRC
- October 9 - Scoring complete by PSRC
- October 16 - 20 – Project Selection Committee recommendation meetings
- November 9 – Transportation Policy Board releases projects for public comment
- January 11 – Transportation Policy Board project funding recommendation
- January 25 – Executive Board approves projects for funding
- February 2018 – Approval into State TIP, funds available to projects



Resources and Guidance

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

- [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](#)





Questions?