

## **ITEM 9 – Action**

April 18, 2018

### Approval of Projects Recommended for Funding Under the FY 2019-2020 Transportation Alternatives Set Aside Program For Northern Virginia TPB Jurisdictions

#### **Staff**

**Recommendation:** Adopt Resolution R20-2018 to approve projects for funding under the Federal Transportation Alternatives Set Aside Program for Northern Virginia for FY 2018.

**Issues:** None

**Background:** A portion of the federal Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program (TAP) is sub-allocated to the TPB for project selection in Northern Virginia. The board will be briefed on the projects that a TPB technical review panel has recommended for funding in FY 2019 and FY 2020, and will be asked to approve the recommended projects.



**NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD  
777 North Capitol Street, N.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20002**

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE PROJECTS FOR TRANSPORTATION  
ALTERNATIVES SET ASIDE PROGRAM FUNDING UNDER THE SURFACE  
TRANSPORTATION BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM FOR FY 2019-2020 IN  
NORTHERN VIRGINIA**

**WHEREAS**, the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB), the metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for the Washington Region, has the responsibility under the provisions of the Fixing American's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act) for developing and carrying out a continuing, cooperative and comprehensive transportation planning process for the Metropolitan Area; and

**WHEREAS**, the FAST Act's Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TA Set Aside) Program, which is part of the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), provides a portion of funding based on the relative share of the total State population sub-allocated to large urbanized areas, and the MPO is required "to develop a competitive process to allow eligible entities to submit projects for funding ... in consultation with the relevant State"; and

**WHEREAS**, the TA Set Aside Program provides funding for transportation programs and projects defined as eligible per Section 1109 of the FAST Act; and

**WHEREAS**, the TA Set Aside Program provides an opportunity to fund projects that implement regional policies reflected in the Regional Transportation Priorities Plan and in the seven initiatives endorsed by the TPB in December 2017 and January 2018, which include promoting Regional Activity Centers, improving pedestrian and bicycle access to transit, and completing the National Capital Trail; and

**WHEREAS**, the TA Set Aside is a complementary component of the TPB's Transportation/Land-Use Connections (TLC) Program, which supports planning-related projects and events of TPB member jurisdictions; and

**WHEREAS**, a solicitation for TA Set Aside projects was conducted by the Virginia Department of Transportation from August 1 through November 15, 2017; and

**WHEREAS**, the TPB's TA Set Aside Selection Panel met on April 3, 2018 and recommended fully or partially funding 11 of the applications received based on project readiness and eligibility and each project's ability to meet the regional selection criteria; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 6, 2018, the TPB Technical Committee was briefed on the recommended projects;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD approves the projects for funding under the Transportation Alternatives Set Aside Program for FY 2019-2020 in Northern Virginia as described in the attached materials.



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Transportation Planning Board  
**FROM:** John Swanson, Transportation Planner  
Nicole McCall, Regional Planner  
**SUBJECT:** Projects recommended for funding in FY 2019-2020 in Virginia under the Transportation Alternatives Set Aside Program  
**DATE:** April 12, 2018

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## SUMMARY

Under the federal Transportation Alternatives Set Aside (TA Set Aside) Program, the TPB is responsible for selecting projects using sub-allocated funding for the District of Columbia, Suburban Maryland, and Northern Virginia. The TA Set Aside, which is part of the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program, was previously known as the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

For FY 2019-2020, the TPB is responsible for project selection for \$5,440,710 in Virginia. A selection panel has recommended that the following projects be approved by the TPB at its meeting on April 18, 2018.

Project	Jurisdiction/Agency	Recommendation
PY-Four Mile Run Trail Connection	Arlington County	\$241,000
Rosslyn-Ballston ADA Improvements	Arlington County	\$392,000
Judicial Trail Connection	City of Fairfax	\$174,800
Vienna Metro Bike Connection Improvement	Fairfax County	\$800,000
W&OD Trail - Mode Separation	City of Falls Church (Northern Virginia Regional Parks Authority)	\$274,250
Fair Lakes Boulevard Walkway	Fairfax County	\$480,000
Sudley Road Sidewalk	Prince William County	\$148,000
Mill Street Crosswalks	Prince William County	\$147,280
Gemini Way Pedestrian Improvements	Prince William County	\$880,000
Colchester Road Sidewalk	Prince William County	\$1,527,484
Gaver Mill Trail—Shared-Use Path Project	Town of Hillsboro	\$375,896
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$5,440,710</b>

## BACKGROUND

The Transportation Alternatives Set Aside (TA Set Aside) Program was established by federal law to fund a variety of smaller-scale transportation projects such as pedestrian and bicycle facilities, trails, safe routes to school (SRTS) projects, community improvements, and environmental mitigation. MAP 21, the surface transportation legislation enacted in 2012, established the program as the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP). The FAST Act of 2015 renamed the program as the Transportation Alternatives Set Aside (TA Set Aside) Program, and the key features of the program largely remain the same. Information on the TA Set Aside is available from FHWA at: [https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/transportation\\_alternatives/](https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/transportation_alternatives/).

The program provides sub-allocated funding for large metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) like the TPB (classified as “Transportation Management Areas”) to fund local projects. In addition to these sub-allocated funds, a portion of the TA Set Aside funding is reserved for statewide project selection, which is conducted by the state departments of transportation.

For the National Capital Region, the program offers an opportunity to support and enhance regional planning activities. At the direction of the TPB, our region’s TA Set Aside is framed as a complementary component of the TPB’s Transportation/Land-Use Connections (TLC) Program, which provides technical assistance for small planning studies to TPB member jurisdictions.

The TA Set Aside offers the region the ability to fund projects that support regional priorities and goals based on the *Regional Transportation Priorities Plan* and *Region Forward*, as well as the recently endorsed TPB initiatives. Applicants from the National Capital Region are asked to show how their projects will serve these priorities when they seek TA Set Aside funds. The priorities also provide the basis for the selection criteria that the TPB’s selection panel uses when it reviews and recommends projects for funding.

## FY 2019-2020 SOLICITATION FOR VIRGINIA

Since the establishment of TAP in 2012, and the TA Set Aside in 2015, the TPB continues to combine its solicitations with the state departments of transportation in the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia. As part of this annual process, TPB staff works with the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) to administer the TA Set Aside for Northern Virginia.

Last year VDOT conducted a two-year solicitation, covering FY 2019 and FY 2020. Applications were due electronically to the VDOT Local Assistance Division on November 15, 2017. For applicants from Northern Virginia, the VDOT application included a supplementary form requesting information about how projects responded to the TPB’s regional priorities related to Activity Centers, transit station access, and multimodal transportation options.

In Northern Virginia, VDOT received 22 applications representing a total of \$16,425,802 in requested funding. These applications are eligible for statewide TA Set Aside funding as well as the TPB’s sub-allocated funds. The TPB was sub-allocated \$5,440,710 in available funding.

As in the past, Virginia conducted a three-part process for project selection:

1. The district members of Virginia's Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) each were allocated \$2 million for project selection from the statewide pot of funding;
2. Large MPOs select projects for sub-allocated funds;
3. The at-large members of the CTB select projects for the remainder of the statewide money.

The CTB District Member for Northern Virginia, Mary Hynes, made her project selections in early March for the \$2 million allocated in her district. Her funding recommendations can be found attached to this memorandum. In addition, Alison DeTuncq, the CTB district member for the Culpeper District, chose to allocate full funding to a project in Warrenton, which is included in the TPB's planning area.

## PROJECT SELECTION

The TPB is responsible for completing the second step in the selection process presented above. To develop draft recommendations, TPB staff invited representatives from the District of Columbia and Maryland to participate on the TPB's technical review panel. The panel met on March 20. Panel participants included:

- Christy Bernal, Maryland State Highway Administration
- Lamont Cobb, D.C. Office of Planning
- Michael Farrell, COG/TPB Staff
- Karyn McAlister, Prince George's Department of Public Works and Transportation
- Nicole McCall, COG Staff
- John Swanson, COG/TPB Staff

Panel members individually reviewed and scored applications for a maximum of 100 points. The total score is a composite based on each reviewer's professional assessment (50 points) and regional selection criteria (50 points). The professional assessment is based on each panel member's transportation planning expertise, knowledge of transportation planning in the region, evaluation of the project budget, and project management experience. The regional criteria are rooted in TPB policies and programs, with the understanding that some projects would not meet all criteria. Regional selection criteria included the following:

- **Focus on expanding transportation options:** Will the project significantly increase transportation options for pedestrians, bicyclists and other non-drivers? Will the transportation benefits of the project be more than just recreational?
- **Support for Regional Activity Centers:** Does the project enhance walkability and accessibility within or between Regional Activity Centers? (Information on which projects involve Regional Activity Centers is provided to the selection panel.)
- **Access to high-capacity transit:** Will the project improve ped/bike access to major transit facilities, such as Metrorail, VRE, or bus rapid transit?
- **Access in Equity Emphasis Areas:** Does the project promote accessibility for communities in Equity Emphasis Areas (EEAs)? EEAs are locations that the TPB has identified as having high concentrations of low-income and/or minority populations.

- **Safe routes to schools:** Does the project enhance safe ped/bike access to schools?
- **Increased access for people with disabilities:** Does the project promote accessibility for people with disabilities?

The panel met via WebEx on April 3, 2018. To provide a basis for discussion, each member provided general rankings for each project application (high, medium, or low) based on the numerical score they gave each project. The group discussed projects according to the groups in which they were initially categorized, and jointly determined whether or not to fund them. The final recommendations are the result of consensus. The recommendations were jointly determined and do not simply reflect a quantitative sum of each panelist's individual scores.

At the end of the meeting on April 3, the review panel recommended 11 projects for funding, which are listed on the first page of this memorandum. A table listing all the submitted applications and funding recommendations is attached to this memorandum.

The recommended projects are supportive of TPB policies in a variety of ways. Seven projects are in regional Activity Centers, four are within  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile of transit, and four are in Equity Emphasis Areas. In addition, four projects follow up on previous studies conducted through the TLC Program.

## **NEXT STEPS**

Following the TPB's anticipated action on April 18, TPB staff will forward information regarding the approved projects to VDOT for inclusion in the Commonwealth's Six Year Improvement Program (SYIP) for Transportation. The CTB will also consider whether to award funding, using the statewide TA Set Aside funds, to the remaining Northern Virginia applications. Once all selections are finalized, VDOT staff will work with applicants to administer funding.



**FY 2019-2020 Transportation Alternatives Program  
Funding Recommendations for Northern Virginia**

**Total Funding Requested: \$16,425,802  
Suballocation to TPB: \$5,440,710**

<b>App No.</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Funding Request</b>	<b>CTB Member Funding</b>	<b>Panel Recommendation</b>
2412	W&OD Trail - Mode Separation	Falls Church - (Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority - NOVA Parks)	Project will replace .5 mile of 10 foot wide shared use trail with 11 foot wide bicycling trail and 8 foot wide pedestrian trail separated by a 2 foot wide median. Project improves failing levels of service, mitigating trail congestion.	\$548,250	\$274,000	\$274,250
2414	Colchester Road Sidewalk	Prince William County	Construct a 2,320-foot sidewalk connection on the west side of Colchester Road from Randall Drive to the intersection of Featherstone Road and Blackburn Road/Colchester Road.	\$2,240,000	\$0	\$1,527,484
2519	Vienna Metro Bike Connection Improvement	Fairfax County	Enhance bike access to the Vienna Metrorail and Metro West Town Center along Virginia Center Boulevard and Country Creek Road.	\$800,000	\$0	\$800,000
2522	Dumfries Road Sidewalk	Prince William County	Construct a 2,100 feet or 0.4 mile sidewalk on the east side of Dumfries Road between Meadowgate Drive and Tayloe Drive	\$1,536,000	\$0	\$0
2531	Fair Lakes Boulevard Walkway	Fairfax County	Construct walkway on south side of Fair Lakes Boulevard from Stringfellow Road to the	\$480,000		\$480,000
2556	PY-Four Mile Run Trail Connection	Arlington County Government	Construct a paved bicycle and pedestrian trail connection between Arlington County's Four Mile Run Trail at stream level and the street level network of Crystal City at Potomac Yards.	\$492,000	\$251,000	\$241,000

<b>App No.</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Funding Request</b>	<b>CTB Member Funding</b>	<b>Panel Recommendation</b>
2557	Rosslyn–Ballston ADA Improvements	Arlington County Government	Phase 2 of sidewalk & street improvements to eliminate obstructions restricting access by persons with disabilities.	\$784,000	\$392,000	\$392,000
2601	Old Bridge Road Sidewalk Improvements	Prince William County	This project will construct 2,820 feet or 0.53 miles of sidewalk along the north side of Old Bridge Road from Antietam Road to Forest Hill Road.	\$1,995,520	\$0	\$0
2602	Judicial Trail Connection	City of Fairfax	Construction of 500 linear feet of missing link of trail	\$348,800	\$174,000	\$174,800
2633	Old Carolina Road Sidewalk Improvements Project	Prince William County	Construct a 680-foot asphalt sidewalk on the east side of Old Carolina Road to connect to the existing asphalt trail (north of Somerset Crossing Drive) to the existing asphalt trail within the Somerset Crossing subdivision.	\$840,000	\$0	\$0
2641	Timber Fence Trail - Segment 1	Town of Warrenton	This request is for funding of Segment 1 of the Timber Fence Trail, a multi-use bicycle and pedestrian trail which provides a crucial link in an existing trail system.	\$361,127	\$361,127	\$0
2653	Sudley Road Sidewalk	Prince William County	Construct a 140-foot sidewalk connection on the west side of Sudley Road between Coverstone Drive and Rosemary Drive.	\$296,000	\$148,000	\$148,000
2658	Gemini Way Pedestrian Improvements	Prince William County	The proposed project involves modifying and installing one new pedestrian signal-controlled crossing, curb ramps, crosswalks, and approximately 635 feet of sidewalk with a retaining wall on Gemini Way between Dale Boulevard and Minnieville Road.	\$880,000	\$0	\$880,000

<b>App No.</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Funding Request</b>	<b>CTB Member Funding</b>	<b>Panel Recommendation</b>
2668	Mill Street Crosswalks	Prince William County	The proposed project involves providing nine Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant ramps and five painted crosswalks at the intersections of Mill Street at Washington Street and Mill Street at Ellicott Street.	\$333,280	\$186,000	\$147,280
2757	Wolftrap Elementary School SRTS	Fairfax County	Improve Wolf Trap Elementary School's main school crossing across Beulah Road (VA Route 675) at Talisman Drive(VA Route 3996). Project consists of an improved protected crosswalk and channelization/road diet treatments to the main roadway	\$200,000	200,000	\$0
2806	Church Street NE Sidewalk (300 block)	Town of Vienna	This project will construct approximately 300 linear feet of curb, gutter and sidewalk from where it currently exists beginning at 350 Church Street NE to the intersection of Glyndon Street NE.	\$528,800	\$0	\$0
2833	Gaver Mill Trail—Shared-Use Path Project	Town of Hillsboro	The Gaver Mill Trail will provide safe, multi-modal connectivity to and from Hillsboro's Gaver Mill/Asbury Church residential areas and key employment centers, civic institutions, and link to Hillsboro's Traffic-Calming and Pedestrian Safety project.	\$375,896	\$0	\$375,896

<b>App No.</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Funding Request</b>	<b>CTB Member Funding</b>	<b>Panel Recommendation</b>
2905	LCPS SRTS Infrastructure Improvements	Loudoun County	The Installation of a Pedestrian Bridge (overpass) over Belmont Ridge Road and the Construction of Sidewalks, Crosswalks, and Connecting Paved Trails along Tripleseven Rd proximate to Countryside Elementary.	\$873,497	375,000	\$0
3027	Haymarket Pedestrian Bike Stimulation	Town of Haymarket	Sidewalk, ramp, crosswalk and curb improvements.	\$27,792	\$0	\$0
3090	Stony Point-Highwater Trail Project	Town of Hillsboro	The Stony Point-Highwater Trail will provide safe, multi-modal connectivity to and from significant residential areas and an elementary school, employment centers, civic institutions, and links to Hillsboro's Main Street Traffic-	\$320,040	\$0	\$0
3115	Mason Neck Trail	Fairfax County	Project involves completing missing section(s) of Mason Neck Trail that extends from Richmond Highway (US Route 1) to the Mason Neck State Park and Natural Wildlife Refuge.	\$600,000	\$0	\$0
3140	Phase IIA East Broad Way	The Town of Lovettsville	Phase IIA of the East Broad Way , Town of Lovettsville streetscape improvements	\$1,564,800	\$0	\$0
<b>Total</b>				<b>\$16,425,802</b>	<b>\$2,361,127</b>	<b>\$5,440,710</b>

# TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES SET-ASIDE PROGRAM

## Virginia Project Recommendations for FY 2019-2020

John Swanson  
Transportation Planner

Transportation Planning Board  
April 18, 2018



National Capital Region  
Transportation Planning Board

Agenda Item #9

## Overview

- TA Set Aside
- TLC Program
- Virginia Selection Process
- TPB Selection Process
- FY 2019-2020 Project Recommendations
- Next Steps

*Staff recommends TPB approval of Resolution R20-2018 to approve projects for funding under the Surface Transportation Block Grant Set-Aside Program for FY 2019-2020 in Northern Virginia.*



National Capital Region  
Transportation Planning Board

Agenda Item #9: Virginia TA Set Aside  
April 18, 2018

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# TA Set Aside

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- *PURPOSE:* A federal formula program that provides funding to projects considered “alternatives” to traditional highway construction
- *FEDERAL AUTHORIZATION*
  - MAP-21 (2012) - Established as the “Transportation Alternatives Program”
  - FAST Act (2015) - Renamed “Transportation Alternatives Set Aside”
- *TPB ROLE:* Large MPOs are sub-allocated funds and given the responsibility for selecting projects for those funds.



# TLC Program

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- In our region, the TA Set Aside Program is a component of the TPB’s TLC Program
- The TLC Program also includes:
  - Technical assistance projects
  - TLC PeerX (Peer Exchange Network)
- These programs promote regional goals and priorities, including:
  - Multimodal transportation options (RTPP Goal 1)
  - Regional activity centers (RTPP Goal 2)

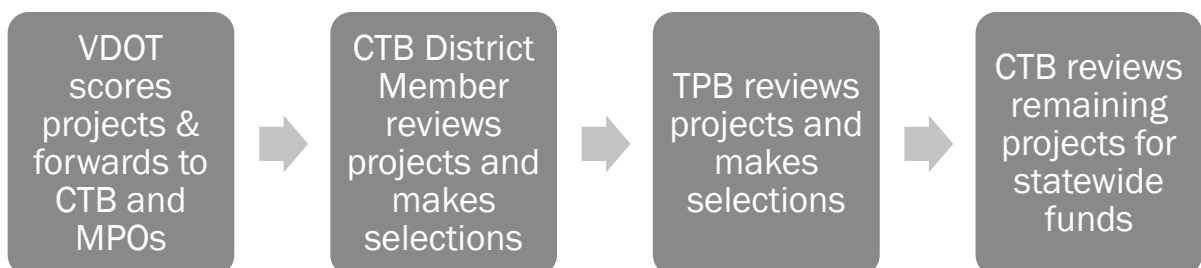


# Virginia: FY 2019-2020 Schedule

- Nov 15 Application deadline
- Nov-Jan VDOT scores applications and forwards them to CTB District Member and MPOs
- March 6 CTB District Member selected projects
- April 3 TPB Selection Panel selected projects
- April 18 TPB approval
- April 18 CTB final approval

# Virginia Project Selection

- VDOT's Local Assistance Division oversees project selection
- FY 2019-2020 project solicitation: November 2017-April 2018

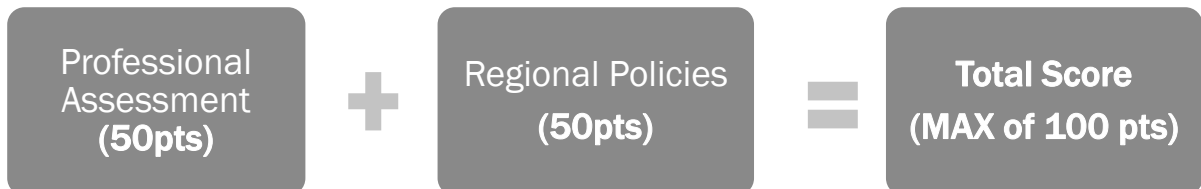


- Funds are split into three pots: CTB Districts, Large MPOs, and CTB statewide

# TPB Panel's Selection Process

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- Selection Panel included TPB staff, District Office of Planning, Prince George's County DPW&T, and Maryland State Highway Administration
- Panel members individually scored projects



- Based on scores, panel members rank projects "High/Medium/Low"
- At the selection panel meeting on April 3, panel used rankings to help evaluate and jointly prioritize projects for funding

# Regional Policies Criteria

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- Expanding Multimodal Transportation Options for Non-Drivers
- Supporting Regional Activity Centers
- Access to High-Capacity Transit
- Increased Access in Equity Emphasis Areas
- Safe Routes to School
- Increased Access for People with Disabilities

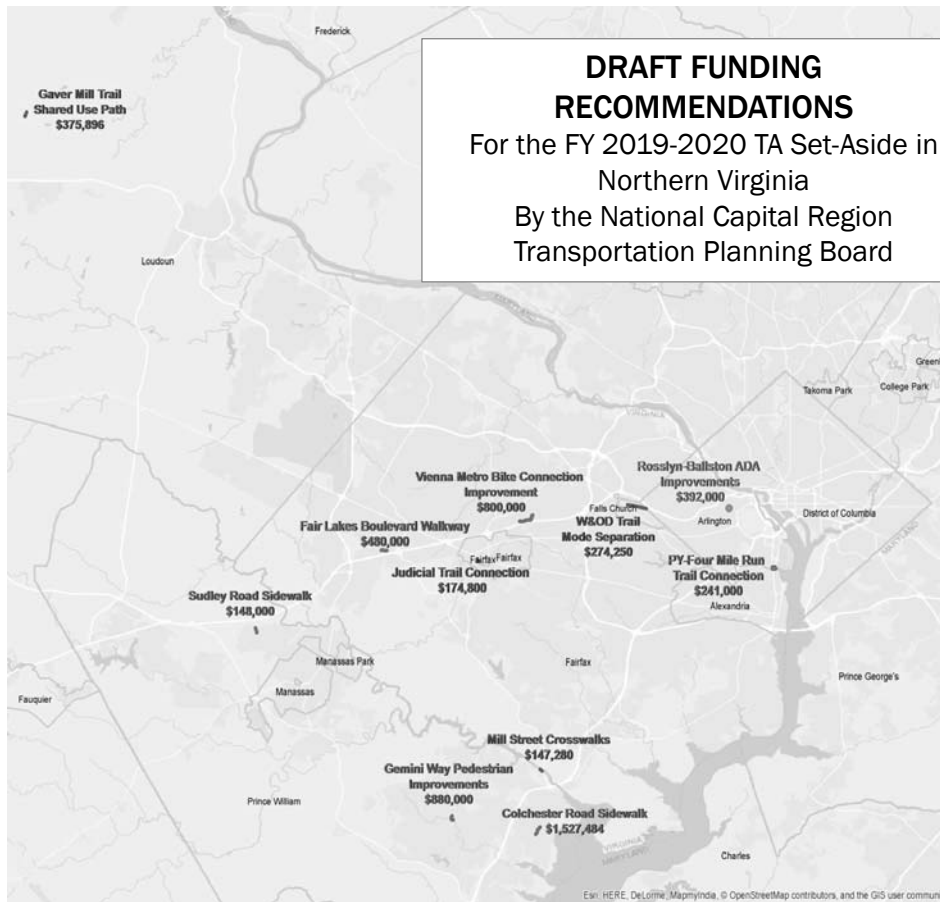


# FY 2019 Project Recommendations

- TPB received **\$16,425,802** in funding requests for 22 projects in Northern Virginia.
- TPB’s STP Set Aside sub-allocation is **\$5,440,710**
- **Eleven projects were** recommended for funding
  - Seven projects are in or close to regional Activity Centers
  - Four projects (or component) are within ¾ mile of transit
  - Four projects (or component) are in Equity Emphasis Areas
  - One project is for “Safe Routes to School”
  - Four projects followed up on previous TLC studies

# FY 2019 Project Recommendations

Project	Jurisdiction/Agency	Recommendation
PY-Four Mile Run Trail Connection	Arlington County	\$241,000
Rosslyn – Ballston ADA Improvements	Arlington County	\$392,000
Judicial Trail Connection	City of Fairfax	\$174,800
W&OD Trail - Mode Separation	City of Falls Church (Northern Virginia Regional Parks Authority)	\$274,250
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Colchester Road Sidewalk	Prince William County	\$1,527,484
Gaver Mill Trail—Shared-Use Path Project	Town of Hillsboro	\$375,896
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$5,440,710</b>



## Next Steps

- Staff recommends TPB approval of Resolution R20-2018 to approve projects for funding under the Surface Transportation Block Grant Set-Aside Program for FY 2019-2020 in Northern Virginia.
- Following TPB action, staff will forward information regarding the approved projects to VDOT for inclusion in the Commonwealth's Six Year Improvement Program for Transportation.
- The CTB will also consider whether to award funding, using the statewide TA Set Aside funds, to the remaining Northern Virginia applications.
- Once all selections are finalized, VDOT staff will work with applicants to administer funding.



## John Swanson

Transportation Planner  
(202) 962-3295  
[jswanson@mwkog.org](mailto:jswanson@mwkog.org)

[mwkog.org/tlc](http://mwkog.org/tlc)

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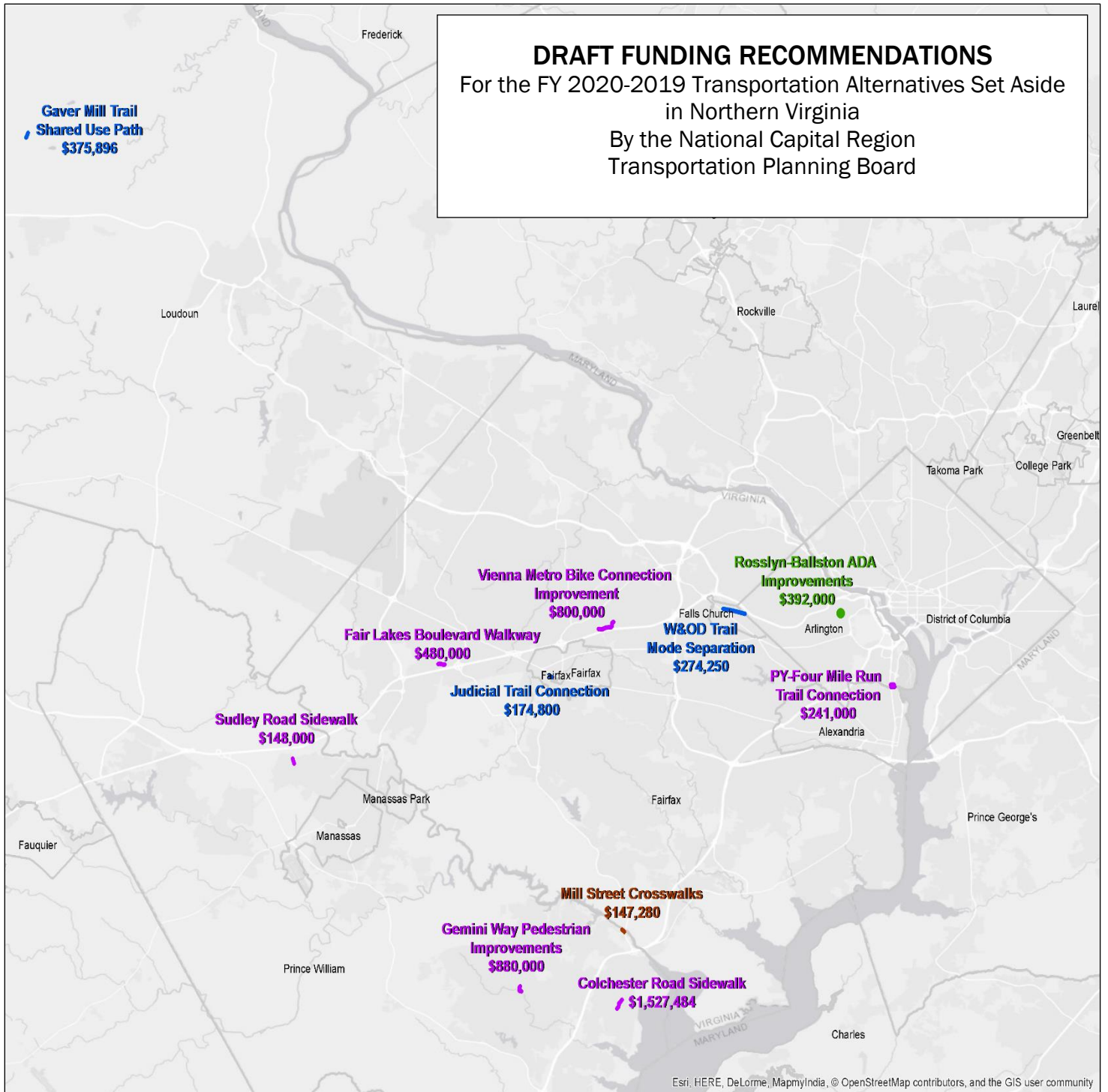
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777 North Capitol Street NE, Suite 300  
Washington, DC 20002



National Capital Region  
**Transportation Planning Board**

# DRAFT FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS

For the FY 2020-2019 Transportation Alternatives Set Aside  
in Northern Virginia  
By the National Capital Region  
Transportation Planning Board



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