

ITEM 7 – Action
September 21, 2011

Approval of Recommended Local Projects and Pre-Application for
Funding Under the FY 2011 Transportation Investments
Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Competitive Grant
Program

Staff Recommendation:

- Receive briefing on the recommended local projects for the application to implement pedestrian and bicycle access improvements in rail station areas.
- Adopt Resolution R3-2012 to approve the recommended projects and pre-application for submission by October 3, as described in the attached materials.

Issues: None

Background: On August 12, USDOT released in the Federal Register the Final Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for \$527 million in discretionary surface transportation grant funding for the FY 2011 TIGER program, with pre-applications due on October 3 and final applications on October 31. The Board will be asked to approve the final application package at its October 19 meeting for submission by October 31.

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

**RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SUBMISSION OF A
PRE-APPLICATION TO IMPLEMENT PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE ACCESS
IMPROVMENTS IN RAIL STATION AREAS IN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION
FOR FUNDING UNDER THE US DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (USDOT)
FY 2011 TIGER COMPETITIVE GRANT PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB), which is the metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for the Washington Region, has the responsibility under the provisions of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act - A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) of 2005 for developing and carrying out a continuing, cooperative and comprehensive transportation planning process for the Washington Metropolitan Area; and

WHEREAS, On July 1, 2011, U.S. DOT released an interim notice of funding availability for the FY 2011 TIGER discretionary grant program, and a final notice of funding availability on August 12, 2011; and

WHEREAS, the FY 2011 TIGER program is a competitive discretionary grant program administered through the US DOT Office of the Secretary funded with \$527 million appropriated through the FY 2011 Appropriations Act, \$387 million of which is available for capital projects in urban areas; and

WHEREAS, the TIGER program focuses on five primary criteria: state of good repair, safety, sustainability, livability, and economic competitiveness; and two secondary criteria: innovation and partnership; and

WHEREAS, the TIGER program provides the TPB with a good opportunity to fund innovative and challenging transportation projects that would be multimodal, multijurisdictional, multi-partnered and difficult to implement under other "modal" funding sources, in the process of meeting USDOT's long-term goals and objectives, such as providing regional benefits and strengthening regional partnerships, promoting multimodal travel by increasing connectivity and feasibility of using transit throughout the region, and increasing affordable transportation options; and

WHEREAS, the FY 2011 TIGER application timeframe requires a pre-application to be submitted by October 3 with a final application due by October 31; and

WHEREAS, at the July 21 TPB meeting, the Board approved TPB staff working with regional staff to develop a regional application that would center on funding small-scale,

innovative transit access projects, including pedestrian, bicycle, streetscape or other circulation improvements to improve access to selected rail stations and encourage mixed-use development around the stations; and

WHEREAS, on July 29 an e-mail request was sent to TPB member jurisdictions requesting them to identify potential infrastructure projects for inclusion in the TPB application, and TPB staff and staff from member jurisdictions met on August 17 and 31 to review the proposed project details, costs and local funding match sources, required assurances, operating funding sources, and alternative financing opportunities, such as private contributions; and

WHEREAS, on September 9, the TPB Technical Committee was briefed on the recommended local projects for the application to implement pedestrian and bicycle access improvements in rail station areas and recommended that the projects be presented to the TPB for approval on September 21; and

WHEREAS, the recommended local projects for the application include:

- Fort Totten Access Improvements in the District of Columbia,
- Forest Glen Underpass in Montgomery County,
- Pedestrian Safety Measures for New Carrollton Metro Station in Prince George's County,
- West Hyattsville Metro Station / Ager Road Improvements in Prince George's County,
- Safer Walkways around the Twinbrook Metro Station in the City of Rockville,
- Army Navy Drive Multimodal Access Improvements in Arlington County, and
- Bicycle Lockers at VRE Stations, as described in the attached memorandum; and

WHEREAS, additional details on the local project designs, costs and funding commitments, and implementation schedules will be provided to TPB staff by September 30 in order to perform and document the required analysis of the expected benefits and costs, including a calculation of net benefits; and

WHEREAS, at its October 19 meeting the TPB will be asked to review and approve the final application for submission by October 31;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD approves the recommended local projects for submission of a pre-application for a regional application under the federal FY 2011 TIGER program by the due date of October 3, 2011 as described in the attached memorandum.

National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Transportation Planning Board

FROM: Ronald F. Kirby
Director, Department of
Transportation Planning

SUBJECT: Recommended Local Projects for the TPB Application for Funding Under the FY 2011 Transportation Investments Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Competitive Grant Program

DATE: September 14, 2011

This memorandum provides a status report on the development of a TPB application for the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) FY 2011 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Grant Program. Recommended local projects for inclusion in the administrative TIGER Grant Program pre-application, due to USDOT on October 3, are listed.

TIGER Discretionary Grant

On July 1, U.S. DOT issued a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for the FY 2011 round of funding under the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Discretionary Grant Program. There is \$527 million available for funding capital projects, of which \$387 million is available for projects in urban areas. No funding is available “solely for planning, preparation, or design”. Applications will be competitively rated on the primary and secondary selection criteria. Primary Selection Criteria include long-term outcomes (state of good repair, economic competitiveness, livability, environmental sustainability, and safety), and job creation and near-term economic activity. Secondary selection criteria include demonstration of project innovation and partnership. Pre-applications are due October 3, and applications are due October 31.

Application Development

The TPB’s grant application concept centers on innovative rail station access projects, including pedestrian, bicycle, streetscape or other circulation improvements that would improve access to the region’s commuter and Metro rail stations. The application concept aims to support and promote mixed-use development near rail station areas to reduce distances between housing and employment, thereby reducing VMT and congestion. This concept was approved at the July 21 TPB meeting.

On July 29 an e-mail request was sent to TPB member jurisdictions requesting them to identify potential infrastructure projects for inclusion in the TPB application. Proposals were received by August 10, and TPB staff and staff from member jurisdictions met on August 17 and 31 to review

the proposed local project details, costs and local funding match sources, required assurances, operating funding sources, and financing opportunities. On September 9, the TPB Technical Committee reviewed the local projects for inclusion in the grant pre-application submission.

Recommended Local Projects for the Pre-Application (Due October 3)

The TIGER Grant Program Pre-Application requires submittal of basic administrative information, including applicant identification and eligibility and jurisdictions and congressional districts of the project location. Also required are the total project cost and the grant funds requested, along with a basic description of the overall project (no more than 50 words).

A total of seven local projects have been selected for inclusion in the TPB's TIGER grant application, with a total overall project cost of approximately \$38 million and a request for TIGER grant funds of \$29 million. Please see the attached summary sheet for greater detail.

District of Columbia

Fort Totten / 1st Place-Galloway Road Access Improvement Project

Cost: \$4.1 million

Capital Improvements: The project rebuilds the two streets serving the Fort Totten Metrorail Station: 1st Place (to Riggs Road) and Galloway Street (to South Dakota Ave). The project will improve accessibility and safety for pedestrians at this metro transfer station by rebuilding sidewalks and curbing, installing new lighting, and providing wayfinding signage.

Maryland

Montgomery County: Forest Glen Underpass

Cost: \$17.6 million

Capital Improvements: Construct a pedestrian/bicyclist underpass underneath Georgia Avenue (MD 97) linking Forest Glen Metrorail Station to the sidewalk serving Holy Cross Hospital; construct one elevator to connect the street level directly to the Forest Glen Metrorail Station mezzanine; and establish ten bikeshare stations in the local area.

Prince George's County: Pedestrian Safety Measures for the New Carrollton Metro Station

Cost: \$946,000

Capital Improvements: The project site is the County's number one priority Transit Oriented Development site. The project will construct sidewalks and trails to improve access to the station, and create a full service bicycle station at the rail station.

Prince George's County: West Hyattsville Metro Station / Ager Road Improvements

Cost: \$7.4 million

Capital Improvements: The project involves improvements to facilities with sidewalk gaps, a WMATA secure bike parking facility and other multimodal access improvements to the West Hyattsville Station. The Ager Road portion will reconstruct the road as a complete green street, with wider sidewalks, improved crossing and an environmentally-sensitive stormwater system.

City of Rockville: Safer Walkways to Transit: Twinbrook Metro Station

Cost: \$501,000

Capital Improvements: The project will implement recommendations from the 2011 TPB Transit Land Use Connections (TLC) study: Safer Walkways to Transit. The study recommended a variety of bicycle and pedestrian safety and access improvements to the Twinbrook Metro Station.

Virginia

Arlington County: Army Navy Drive Multimodal Access Improvement Project

Cost: \$6.8 million

Capital Improvements: The project re-conceives 3,300 feet of Army Navy Drive, providing a wider, safer sidewalk, a physically-separated two-way cycle track, and a safer street cross section that will support a future streetcar. The project will also add ten Capital Bikeshare stations along Columbia Pike.

Virginia Railway Express (VRE): Bicycle Lockers at VRE Stations

Cost: \$294,000

Capital Improvements: The project will add bicycle lockers to VRE stations in Fairfax and Prince William Counties, and the Cities of Manassas and Manassas Park.

Development of Grant Application / Schedule

The Grant Application must be submitted to USDOT by October 31. The formal application requires a project narrative (no more than 25 pages) and several certifications and assurances (e.g., federal wage rate certification). A detailed benefit-cost analysis in support of the proposed project is also required, including user and non-user numbers, benefits, and impacts, and other social and economic factors such as safety and livability. Other additional information is also required, either included in the application or made available online, including project design documents, planning studies, letters of support, and NEPA documents.

TPB staff is working with local project sponsors to prepare to prepare a complete, compelling, and competitive grant application. The application preparation schedule is as follows:

October 3:	Pre-application submittal deadline to USDOT
October 19:	TPB approval of final application package
October 31:	Final application submittal deadline to USDOT.

FY 2011 TIGER Discretionary Grant Program
Transportation Planning Board Project List
September 14, 2011

Applicant Jurisdiction	Project Title	Project Description	Funding Request				Project Total
			Federal	Match	Local Match Percent	Source	
District of Columbia							
District of Columbia	Fort Totten / 1st Place-Galloway Road Access Improvement Project	The project rebuilds the two streets serving the Fort Totten Metrorail Station: 1st Place (to Riggs Road) and Galloway Street (to South Dakota Ave). The project will improve accessibility and safety for pedestrians at this metro transfer station by rebuilding sidewalks and curbing, installing new lighting, and providing wayfinding signage.	\$3,336,840	\$834,210	20%	Local match	\$4,171,050
Maryland							
Montgomery County	Forest Glen Underpass Project	Construct a pedestrian/bicyclist underpass underneath Georgia Avenue (MD 97) linking Forest Glen Metrorail Station to the sidewalk serving Holy Cross Hospital; construct one elevator to connect the street level directly to the Forest Glen Metrorail Station mezzanine; and establish bikeshare stations.	\$14,080,000	\$3,520,000	20%	Local match	\$17,600,000
Prince George's County	Pedestrian Safety Measures for the New Carrollton Metro Station	This project would include sidewalk and crossing improvements and signal timing changes identified in a 2010 TPB TLC study. These improvements will greatly enhance the pedestrian and bicycle access in and around the New Carrollton Metro Station and make it more suitable for transit oriented development.	\$676,476	\$269,119	28%	Local match for all improvements on County maintained structures in the grant	\$945,595
Prince George's County	West Hyattsville Metro Station/Ager Road Complete/Green Road Access Improvements	The project involves improvements to facilities with sidewalk gaps, a WMATA secure bike parking facility and related identified improvements that connect into the West Hyattsville Station. The Ager Road portion will provide a complete green street that will reconstruct the road itself.	\$5,552,750	\$1,867,500	25%	Local match for all improvements on County maintained structures in the grant	\$7,420,250
City of Rockville	Safer Walkways to Transit: Twinbrook Metro Station	The project will implement recommendations from the 2011 TPB TLC study: Safer Walkways to Transit. The study recommended a variety of bicycle and pedestrian safety and access improvements to the Twinbrook Metro Station.	\$401,272	\$100,318	20%	Rockville's TDM account	\$501,590
Maryland Total:			\$20,710,498	\$5,756,937	21.8%		\$26,467,435
Virginia							
Arlington County	Army Navy Drive Multimodal Access Improvement Project	The project re-conceives 3,300 feet of Army Navy Drive, providing a wider, safer sidewalk, a physically-separated two-way cycle track, and safer street cross section that will support a future streetcar. The project will also add ten Capital Bikeshare stations along Columbia Pike.	\$4,965,983	\$1,872,896	27%	Local bond funding and a congressional allocation of \$210,000	\$6,838,879
Virginia Railway Express (VRE)	Bicycle Lockers at VRE Stations	The project will add bicycle lockers to VRE stations in Fairfax and Prince William Counties, and the Cities of Manassas and Manassas Park.	\$234,821	\$58,705	20%	Funding commitment from each jurisdiction	\$293,526
Virginia Total:			\$5,200,804	\$1,931,601	27.1%		\$7,132,405
TIGER TOTAL:			\$29,248,142	\$8,522,748	22.6%		\$37,770,890