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

## RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM THE FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES SET ASIDE PROGRAM BETWEEN PROJECTS IN 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 District of Columbia Department of Transportation (DDOT), the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT), and the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) are responsible for determining the total federal funding amount allocated to the TPB, determining project eligibility, project implementation, and project oversight; 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 surplus of \$1,483,878 exists in the account of funds sub-allocated to the TPB for Virginia because some projects previously funded by the TPB have been cancelled and in other cases, approved funding levels were not fully required in order to complete projects; and

WHEREAS, VDOT has been advised that its unobligated federal funds are subject to rescission on September 30, 2019, including unobligated TA Set Aside funding; and

WHEREAS, through TPB Resolutions R17-2014, R20-2015, and R20-2018, the TPB approved TA Set-Aside funding for the Rosslyn-Ballston Corridor Accessibility Improvements (Arlington County), the Potomac Yard-Four-Mile Run Trail Connection (Arlington County), the Old Courthouse Road SRTS Sidewalk project (Fairfax County); and the Opitz Boulevard Sidewalk project (Prince William County); and

**WHEREAS**, VDOT has determined that these projects are in need of additional federal funding and VDOT has also determined that the sponsors of these projects would be able to obligate such funding prior to September 30, 2019, and

**WHEREAS**, VDOT has requested that funding be transferred from the TPB's TA Set-Aside surplus to these projects; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 12, 2019, the TPB approved Resolution SR1-2020 which established a policy for off-cycle fund transfers of TA Set-Aside funding between previously approved TPB projects, and the transfers requested by VDOT is consistent with that policy.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Steering Committee of the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board approves the following transfers of federal TA Set Aside funds as described in the attached material and as listed below:

- \$435,809 Rosslyn-Ballston Corridor Accessibility Improvements (Arlington County)
- \$375,883 Potomac Yard-Four-Mile Run Trail Connection (Arlington County)
- \$251,000 Old Courthouse Road SRTS Sidewalk project (Fairfax County)
- \$421,186 Opitz Boulevard Sidewalk project (Prince William County)



## **DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

Stephen C. Brich, P.E. COMMISSIONER

4975 Alliance Drive Fairfax, VA 22030

August 27, 2019

The Honorable Martin Nohe, Chair National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments 777 North Capital Street, N.E., Suite 300 Washington, DC 20002-4201

RE: Request to transfer Transportation Alternatives (TA) funding between approved projects

## Dear Chairman Nohe:

Due to possible FHWA Rescission of TA funding in accordance with FAST Act legislation, the Department is taking action to accelerate project delivery where feasible in order to obligate as much TA set aside funding as possible by the September 10, 2019 deadline. Attached is a letter sent to localities regarding the rescission for your review.

There is \$1,483,878 of federal TA set aside funding available from previously cancelled NOVA projects in the NOVA Balance Entry Account (T4974).

As a strategy to obligate or program the available balance entry funds by the September deadline, we request Transportation Planning Board concurrence for the following "Out of Cycle" transfers:

- UPC 105295 Rosslyn-Ballston Corridor Accessibility Improvements PH 1 (Arlington County) TA Set Aside project with original MPO allocation of \$580,000. Request to transfer from T4974 (Nova TA Balance Entry) \$435,809 of TA Set Aside funds to the Rosslyn-Ballston Corridor Accessibility Improvements PH 1 UPC 105295 to cover an increase in cost for award. This project is being awarded and starting Construction in September 2019.
- UPC 105990 Old Courthouse Road SRTS Sidewalk (Fairfax County) TA Set Aside project with original MPO allocation of \$480,000. Request to transfer from T4974 (Nova TA Balance Entry) \$375,883 of TA Set Aside funds to the Old Courthouse Road SRTS Sidewalk UPC 105990 to cover an increase in cost for upcoming advertisement.

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- UPC 103595 Potomac Yard Four Mile Run Trail Connection (Arlington County) TA
   Set Aside project with original MPO allocation of \$631,000. Request to transfer from
   T4974 (Nova TA Balance Entry) \$251,000 of TA Set Aside funds to the Potomac Yard –
   Four Mile Run Trail Connection PH 1 UPC 103595 to fully fund with TA Set Aside
   Funding.
- UPC 109603 Opitz Boulevard Sidewalk (Prince William) TA Set Aside project with original MPO allocation of \$500,000. Request to transfer from T4974 (Nova TA Balance Entry) \$421,186 of TA Set Aside funds to the Opitz Boulevard Sidewalk UPC 109603 to fund with TA Set Aside Funding.

All funding transfer requests above have been coordinated with the Local Assistance TA Program Coordinator. Once transfers are completed there will be a zero balance of TA Set Aside funding in the NOVA Balance Entry account (T4974). The last two projects above will have surplus CTB TA funding \$672,186 that will be reallocated to project(s) as selected by NOVA CTB member, that are able to meet obligation by September 10, 2019.

VDOT requests approval of this TIP Amendment by the Transportation Planning Board's Steering Committee at its meeting on September 6. VDOT's representative will attend the meeting and be available to answer any questions about the amendments.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Helen Cuervo, P.E.

District Administrator, Northern Virginia District, VDOT

Cc: Ms. Maria Sinner, P.E. VDOT NoVA

Ms. Jan Vaughn, VDOT NoVA

Ms. Carol Bondurant, VDOT NoVA