

ITEM 9 – Action
December 15, 2021

Regional Roadway Safety Program Project Approvals

Action: Approve Regional Roadway Safety Program technical assistance recipients.

Background: Staff solicited applications for the second round of Regional Roadway Safety Program technical assistance between August 16 and October 12, 2021. The board will be briefed and asked to approve the applications that are being recommended for funding in FY 2022.



MEMORANDUM

TO: Transportation Planning Board
FROM: Jon Schermann, Transportation Planner
SUBJECT: FY 2022 Regional Roadway Safety Program Technical Assistance Funding Recommendations
DATE: December 9, 2021

This memo provides information on the recommendations of the Selection Panel for the second round of technical assistance under the Regional Roadway Safety Program (RRSP). The panel met in November and recommended five projects for funding. The TPB is scheduled to vote on the panel's recommendations on December 15.

FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FY 2022

A total of \$250,000 in FY 2022 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) funding was authorized for the Regional Roadway Safety Program. The RRSP Selection Panel recommends five projects for funding.

The recommended slate of projects supports the key TPB safety priorities:

- All projects address one or more of the funding priorities outlined in TPB Resolution R3-2021.
- All projects either directly or indirectly encourage improved road user behavior.
- Three of the five projects work to identify and/or design safety countermeasures.
- All projects are intended to equitably improve safety outcomes for all roadway users.

Projects recommended for funding:

Planting Seeds for Regional Roadway Safety, One Traffic Garden at a Time

Arlington and Prince George's Counties, \$35,000

Project seeks consultant services to create traffic garden layout and tool kits that provide templates for implementation of school-based traffic gardens. Traffic gardens are small-scale street networks that provide a safe space for children to practice active transportation.

Improving the Capabilities and Availability of a "Pedestrian and Cyclist Safety Analytics Application"

City of Alexandria, \$45,000

Project, which is a partnership between the City of Alexandria and NOVA Families for Safe Streets, seeks to improve an existing near miss reporting tool by incorporating analytics that provide correlation between Virginia TREDIS crash data and near miss data. The project also seeks to develop a smartphone app for the tool.

S. Washington Street Planning Opportunity Area Pedestrian Network

City of Falls Church, \$50,000

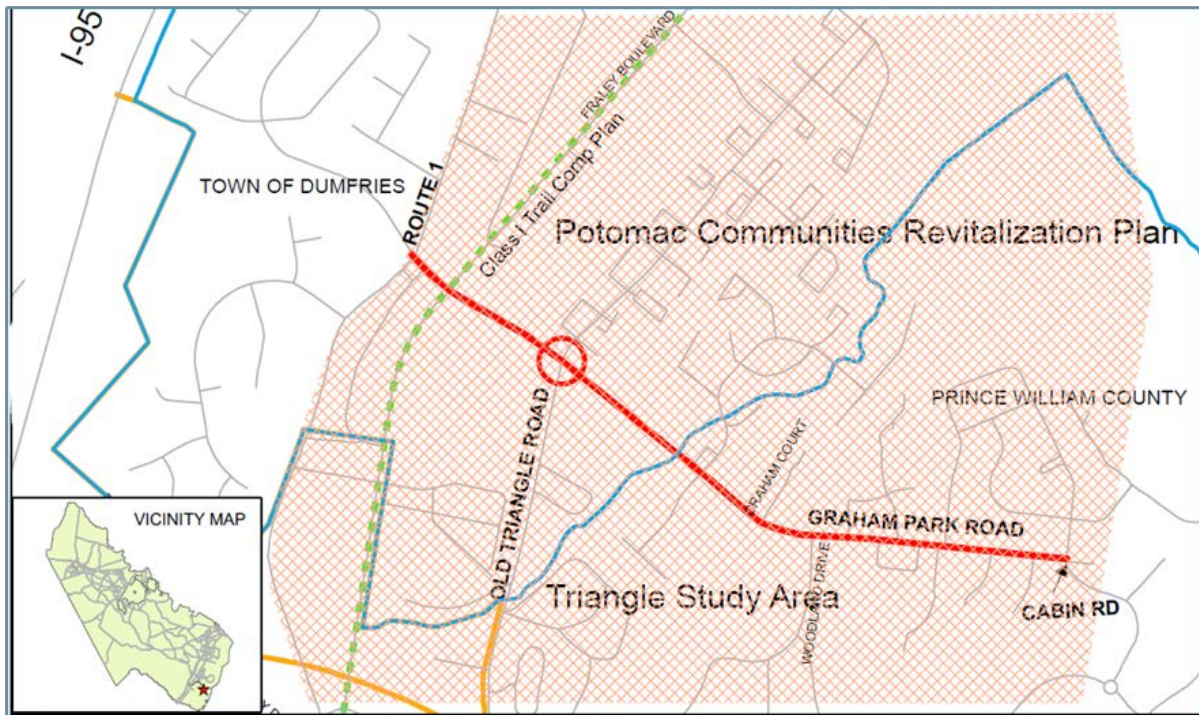
This project will conduct a study of the existing pedestrian network for the City's South Washington Street Corridor Planning Opportunity Area (43.3 acres) to identify; missing pieces of the pedestrian network, intersection geometric improvements, areas for improved lighting and pedestrian countdown signals, and areas that could benefit from traffic calming measures. The study area is shown in the map below.



Graham Park Road Safety Improvements Road Diet and Roundabout

Prince William County, \$60,000

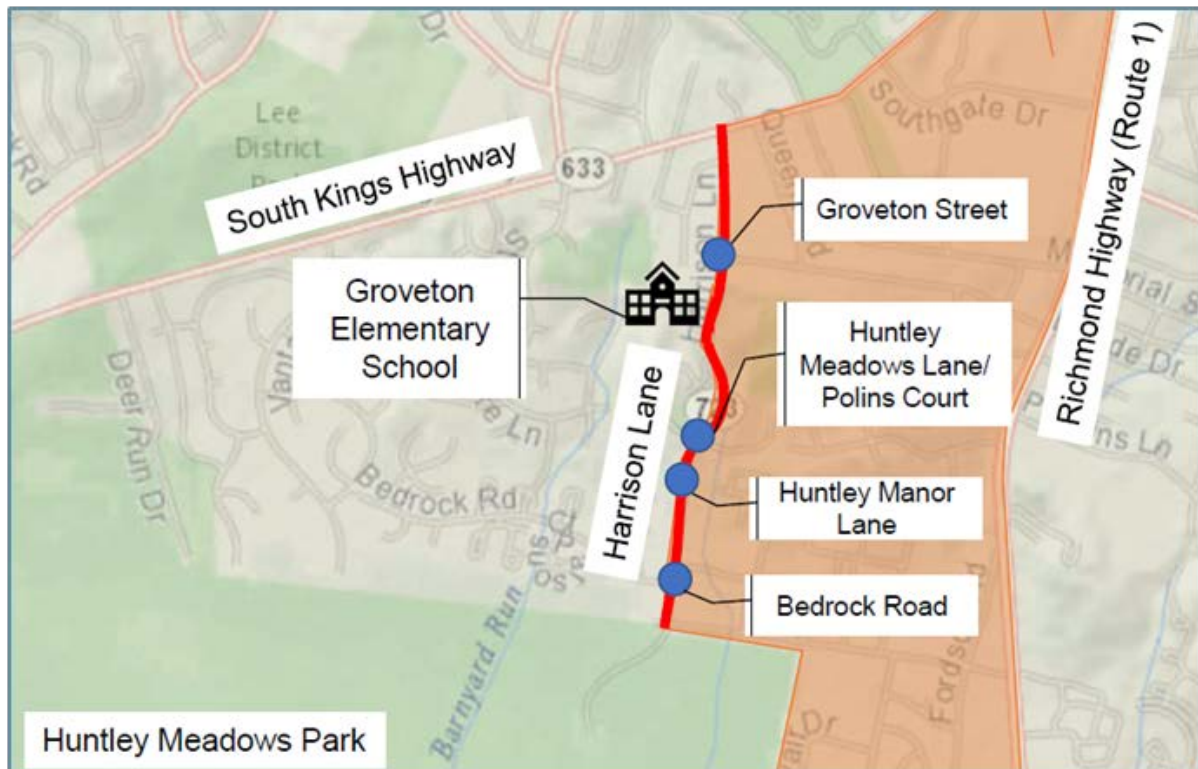
This project seeks to provide preliminary engineering for a four-to-two lane road diet along Graham Park Road and a roundabout at its intersection with Old Triangle Road. The project area is shown in the map below.



Harrison Lane Corridor Pedestrian Improvements

Fairfax County, \$60,000

This project seeks to identify and design pedestrian treatments at four intersections along the Harrison Lane Corridor to improve pedestrian safety and slow vehicle speeds. The project area is shown in the map below.



APPLICATION PROCESS

On August 16, 2021, the TPB issued a call for projects for the second round (FY 2022) of Regional Roadway Safety Program technical assistance. The deadline for application submissions was October 12, 2021. Applicants were invited to submit optional abstracts which provided them an opportunity for TPB staff to review project concepts and provide feedback on how to develop stronger applications.

Like the TLC program, technical assistance was offered in amounts between \$30,000 and \$60,000 for planning projects, and up to \$80,000 for 30% design projects. The Call for Projects and the application form itself placed a focus on TPB priorities, including those described in TPB Resolution R3-2021.

The TPB received six applications (one from a Maryland jurisdiction, four from Virginia jurisdictions, and one joint application from Arlington and Prince George's Counties) totaling \$395,000 in funding requests for this round. \$250,000 is authorized.

This includes three funding sources:

- \$150,000 from the TPB's FY 2022 UPWP core regional planning funds
- \$35,000 of Maryland UPWP Technical Assistance
- \$35,000 of Virginia UPWP Technical Assistance
- \$30,000 of District of Columbia UPWP Technical Assistance

SELECTION PROCESS

The selection panel included the following members:

- Tim Kerns, Maryland Highway Safety Office
- Azadeh Norouzi, District Department of Transportation
- Stephen Read, Virginia Department of Transportation
- Jon Schermann, COG/TPB staff

The selection panel met on November 30 to review the project applications and develop a list of recommended projects for this round of technical assistance. The selection panel applied TPB funding priorities as well as their own extensive knowledge of roadway safety to assess the proposed projects. The selection panel members individually reviewed and scored each application in advance of the meeting and then used their scores to assign each application a high, medium, or low score. The rankings served as a starting point for the panel's collective discussion.

Based upon a consensus developed at the November 30 meeting, the selection panel developed a list of five projects to recommend to the TPB for approval. The panel believes this package of projects will result in safety improvements, including fewer deaths and injuries.

In some cases, the panel chose to award funding at lower levels than the applications requested. These changes were made in accordance with information on scalability provided in the applications.

PROPOSED PROJECT COMPLETION TIMELINE

On December 15, 2021, the TPB will be asked to approve the proposed slate of five projects for technical assistance funding under the FY 2022 Regional Roadway Safety Program. Upon approval of the projects, TPB staff will begin to coordinate with the jurisdictions to begin the consultant selection process from a pre-qualified list of consultants. All projects will begin soon after consultant contracts are signed. The projects will be scheduled for completion by October 31, 2022.

For further questions regarding the Regional Roadway Safety program, contact Jon Schermann (jschermann@mwkog.org; 202-962-3317).

REGIONAL ROADWAY SAFETY PROGRAM

FY 2022 Technical Assistance

Jon Schermann
Transportation Planner

TPB Technical Committee
December 15, 2021

Regional Roadway Safety Program

- Second round
- Established and funded by the TPB via Resolution R3-2021 adopted July 2021
- Promotes TPB roadway safety priorities
- Program Funding (FY 2021)
 - Core UPWP: \$150,000
 - Maryland Technical Assistance: \$35,000
 - Virginia Technical Assistance: \$35,000
 - District of Columbia Technical Assistance: \$30,000
 - **Total Program Funding: \$250,000**



Solicitation

- Application solicitation between August 16 – October 12, 2021
 - Optional abstracts were due September 10
- 6 applications were received for \$395,000 in funding requests
 - One application from a Maryland jurisdiction, four applications from Virginia jurisdictions, and one joint application (from Arlington and Prince George's Counties)



Selection

- Selection Panel
 - TPB staff + safety officials from DDOT, MDOT, and VDOT
 - Individual Evaluations



- Discussion: consensus recommendations



Overview of Recommendations

- Total funding: \$250,000
- 5 applications recommended for funding
 - All projects address one or more of the funding priorities outlined in TPB Resolution R3-2021
 - All projects either directly or indirectly encourage improved road user behavior
 - Three of the five projects work to identify and/or design safety countermeasures
 - All projects are intended to equitably improve safety outcomes for all roadway users
 - Four projects are from Virginia jurisdictions, and one is collaboration between Arlington and Prince George's County



Selection Panel Funding Recommendations

Jurisdiction Name	Project	Request	Panel Recommendation
Arlington County / Prince George's County	Planting Seeds for Regional Roadway Safety, One Traffic Garden at a Time	\$35,000	\$35,000
City of Alexandria	Improving the Capabilities and Availability of a "Pedestrian and Cyclist Safety Analytics Application"	\$60,000	\$45,000
City of Falls Church	S. Washington Street Planning Opportunity Area Pedestrian Network	\$60,000	\$50,000
Prince William County	Graham Park Road Safety Improvements Road Diet and Roundabout	\$80,000	\$60,000
Fairfax County	Harrison Lane Corridor Pedestrian Improvements	\$80,000	\$60,000
Total			\$250,000



Next Steps

- Begin consultant selection process in January
- Open the third round (FY 2023) application period in January

Jon Schermann

Transportation Planner
jschermann@mwkog.org

mwkog.org/TPB

Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
777 North Capitol Street NE, Suite 300
Washington, DC 20002



National Capital Region
Transportation Planning Board