

# TRANSIT WITHIN REACH

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## FY 2022/23 Technical Assistance

John Swanson, TPB Transportation Planner

TPB Community Advisory Committee  
September 16, 2021



National Capital Region  
**Transportation Planning Board**

# Background

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- More than half of the region's job growth and over 40 percent of new households over the next decade is expected to be within a half mile of high-capacity transit
- Even where transit is physically close, it often is not within reach for people who walk and bike.



# Purpose

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- New Program / First Round
- Goal to move small, high-impact projects that improve walk and/or bike access to transit into preliminary design or preliminary engineering (up to 30 percent)
- Program funded by UPWP Technical Assistance Regional Transit Technical Assistance Account



# Solicitation

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- \$250,000 contributed for first round (FY 2022/23)
- Application solicitation period May 3 to July 1, 2021
  - Optional Abstracts due May 18
- 6 applications were received for \$474,000 in funding requests
- Short-term consultant services, not direct financial assistance
- Projects to be completed in late 2022/early 2023
- Solicitation to be repeated every other year.



# Program Priorities

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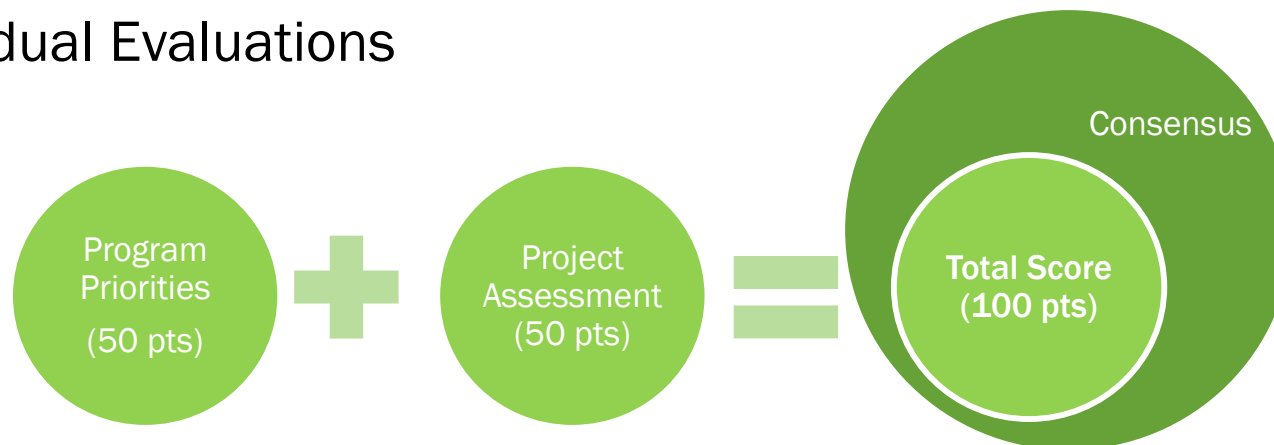
Seeking preliminary design and engineering projects that:

1. Improve bike/ped access to High-Capacity Transit, in particular, to our Transit Access Focus Areas
2. Increase transit ridership and/or utilize available ridership capacity
3. Improve access for low-income and communities of color
4. Demonstrate collaboration with other agencies or jurisdictions
5. Demonstrate strategies to advance project to construction



# Selection

- Selection Panel
  - Chair of Regional Public Transportation Subcommittee
  - Chair of Bicycle and Pedestrian Subcommittee
  - 3 TPB Staff
- Individual Evaluations



- Consensus Building Meeting – Seek balance among projects (transit modes, regional balance, equity)

# Overview of Recommendations

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- 3 applications recommended for funding:
  - In Transit Access Focus Areas and improve bike/ped access to high-capacity transit
  - Support access improvements that will increase transit ridership and/or utilization of available ridership capacity
  - Improve access for low-income communities and communities of color; 2 projects are within Equity Emphasis Area;
  - Demonstrate strategies to advance project to construction
- 2 commuter rail projects; 1 Metrorail project
- 2 projects are from Maryland jurisdictions and 1 project is from Virginia jurisdictions



# Draft Funding Recommendations

Jurisdiction Name	Project	Panel Recommendation
City of Manassas	Preliminary design for new shared-use path connection within Broad Run Transit Access Focus Area (TAFA)	\$74,000
Montgomery County	Preliminary Engineering of the Walter Johnson Road Shared-use Path connection to the Germantown MARC Station	\$85,000
Prince George's County	Suitland-Silver Hill Neighborhood pedestrian and Bike Access Improvement Project	\$85,000





# Next Steps

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- Seek TPB approval of project recommendations at meeting on September 22
- Begin consultant selection process



**John Swanson**

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