



MEMORANDUM

TO: TPB Technical Committee
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 6, 2018

SUMMARY

Under the federal Transportation Alternatives Set Aside (TA Set Aside) Program, the TPB is responsible for selecting projects using sub-allocated funding for Suburban Maryland, Northern Virginia, and the District of Columbia. 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
W&OD Trail - Mode Separation	Falls Church (Northern Virginia Regional Parks Authority)	\$274,250
Vienna Metro Bike Connection Improvement	Fairfax County	\$800,000
Rosslyn-Ballston ADA Improvements	Arlington County	\$392,000
PY-Four Mile Run Trail Connection	Arlington County	\$241,000
Judicial Trail Connection	City of Fairfax	\$174,800
Sudley Road Sidewalk	Prince William County	\$148,000
Fair Lakes Boulevard Walkway	Fairfax County	\$480,000
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
Total		\$5,440,710

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/.

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 2018 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 (10 points):** 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 (10 points):** 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 (10 points):** Will the project improve ped/bike access to major transit facilities, such as Metrorail, VRE, or bus rapid transit?
- **Access in Equity Emphasis Areas (10 points):** 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 (5 points):** Does the project enhance safe ped/bike access to schools? Increased access for people with disabilities (5 points): 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. A table listing all the submitted applications and funding recommendations is attached to this memorandum.

NEXT STEPS

Following the TPB's anticipated approval 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**

App No.	Project Name	Jurisdiction	Description	Funding Request	CTB Member Funding	Panel Recommendation
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

App No.	Project Name	Jurisdiction	Description	Funding Request	CTB Member Funding	Panel Recommendation
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

App No.	Project Name	Jurisdiction	Description	Funding Request	CTB Member Funding	Panel Recommendation
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

App No.	Project Name	Jurisdiction	Description	Funding Request	CTB Member Funding	Panel Recommendation
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
Total				\$16,425,802	\$2,361,127	\$5,440,710

TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES SET-ASIDE PROGRAM

Virginia Project Recommendations for FY 2019-2020

John Swanson
Transportation Planner

Transportation Planning Board
April 6, 2018



National Capital Region
Transportation Planning Board

Agenda Item #5

Overview

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



National Capital Region
Transportation Planning Board

Agenda Item #5: Virginia TA Set Aside | 2
April 6, 2018

TA Set Aside

- *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

- 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)

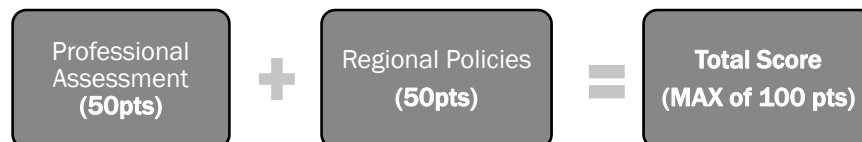


Virginia: FY 2019-2020 Schedule

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

TPB Selection Process

- 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

- 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 $\frac{3}{4}$ mile of transit
 - Four projects (or component) are in Equity Emphasis Areas
 - One project is for "Safe Routes to School"

FY 2019 Project Recommendations

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- The TPB is scheduled to approve projects on April 18, 2018.
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