### **ITEM 9 - Action**

April 15, 2015

Approval of Projects for Funding under the MAP-21 Transportation Alternatives Program for FY 2016 in Virginia

| Staff<br>Recommendation: | Adopt Resolution R20-2015 to approve<br>projects for funding under the Virginia<br>MAP-21 Transportation Alternatives<br>Program for FY 2016.   |
|--------------------------|---|
| Issues:                  | None  |
| Background:              | A portion of Virginia's MAP-21<br>Transportation Alternatives Program<br>(TAP) funds is sub-allocated to the TPB<br>for project selection in Northern Virginia.<br>The Board will be briefed on the projects<br>recommended by a technical review<br>panel for funding as part of the FY 2016<br>TAP project solicitation conducted by<br>the Virginia Department of<br>Transportation, and asked to approve<br>the recommended projects. |

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

#### RESOLUTION TO APPROVE PROJECTS FOR FUNDING UNDER THE TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM FOR FY 2016 IN NORTHERN 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 Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP- 21) for developing and carrying out a continuing, cooperative and comprehensive transportation planning process for the Metropolitan Area; and

**WHEREAS**, under MAP-21's Transportation Alternatives Program of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), a portion of funding based on the relative share of the total State population is sub-allocated to large urbanized areas and "the MPO, through a competitive process, selects the Transportation Alternatives Program projects in consultation with the State"; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation Alternatives Program provides funding for programs and projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation; recreational trail program projects; safe routes to school projects; and projects for planning, designing, or constructing boulevards and other roadways largely in the right-of-way of former Interstate System routes or other divided highways; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation Alternatives Program offers an opportunity to fund projects that implement regional priorities and complement planning activities such as the Regional Transportation Priorities Plan, which promotes improved non-motorized circulation within Regional Activity Centers and improved pedestrian and bicycle access to transit; and

**WHEREAS,** the Transportation Alternatives Program is 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; and

**WHEREAS**, a solicitation for Transportation Alternatives Program projects was conducted by the Virginia Department of Transportation from August 1 through November 1, 2014; and

**WHEREAS**, the TPB's Transportation Alternatives Program Review Panel met on April 2, 2015 and recommended fully or partially funding nine of the applications received based on project readiness and eligibility and each project's ability to meet the regional selection criteria; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 3, 2015, the TPB Technical Committee was briefed on the recommended projects;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD approves the projects for funding under the Transportation Alternatives Program for FY 2016 in Northern Virginia as described in the attached materials.

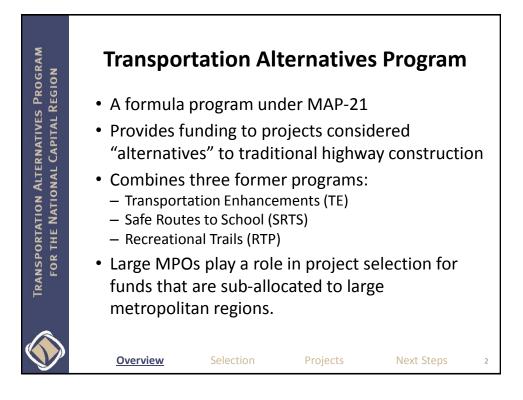


TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM FOR THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

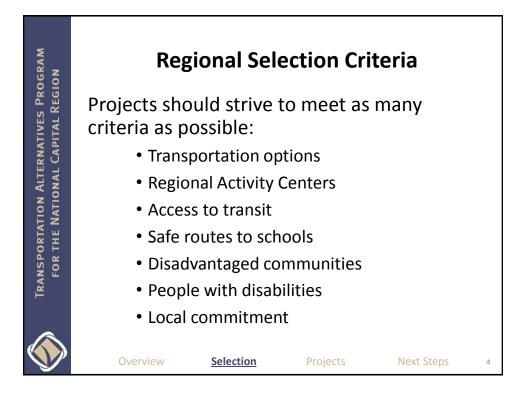
## Transportation Alternatives Program FY 2016 Proposed Projects for Funding in Northern Virginia

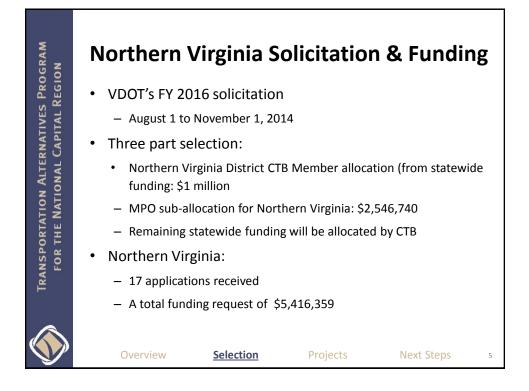
Transportation Planning Board April 15, 2015

John Swanson Department of Transportation Planning

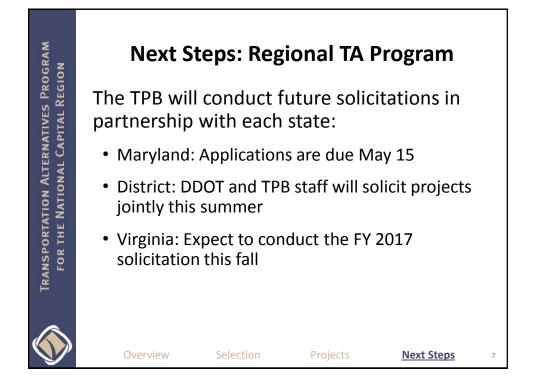


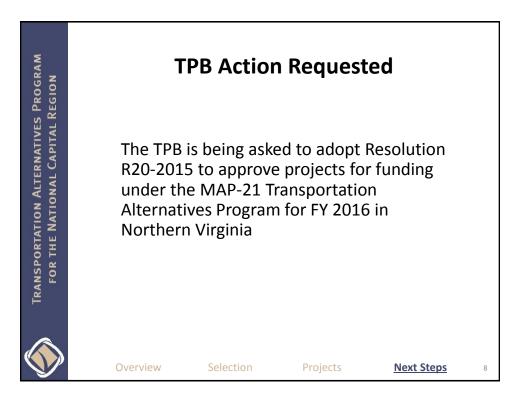














# TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD

#### MEMORANDUM

| TO:      | Transportation Planning Board  |
|----------|--|
| FROM:    | John Swanson, Principal Transportation Planner   |
| SUBJECT: | Projects recommended for funding under the MAP-21 Transportation Alternatives<br>Program for FY 2016 in Virginia |
| DATE:    | April 9, 2015  |

This memo summarizes the process used to select projects for the FY 2016 regional Transportation Alternatives Program for Northern Virginia and the projects recommended for funding. The TPB is asked to approve Resolution R20-2015 to provide funding for projects for the regional sub-allocated program funds under the Transportation Alternatives Program of the Federal Highway Administration for FY 2016 in Northern Virginia.

#### Background

The Transportation Alternatives Program is a formula program under MAP-21 that provides funding to projects considered "alternatives" to traditional highway construction. The program combines three former federal programs: Transportation Enhancements (TE), Safe Routes to Schools (SRTS), and Recreational Trails (RTP). Eligible recipients include local governments, regional transportation authorities, transit agencies, natural resource or public land agencies, school districts and agencies, and other appropriate local or regional governmental entities. Non-profits are not eligible to be direct recipients of the funds.

One of the key differences between the Transportation Alternatives Program and the previous programs is that large MPOs play a new role in project selection for a portion of program funds that are sub-allocated to large metropolitan regions. MAP-21 specified that in urbanized areas with populations over 200,000, the metropolitan planning organization shall, "through a competitive process, select the Transportation Alternatives projects in consultation with the State." TPB staff worked with VDOT to conduct a cooperative solicitation for Northern Virginia.

For the National Capital Region, the program offers an opportunity to support and enhance regional planning activities. At the direction of the Board, our region's Transportation Alternatives Program 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 funding also offers the region the ability to fund projects that support regional priorities and goals, based on recommendations outlined in the Regional Transportation Priorities Plan. The regional component of Virginia's application and the regional selection criteria are based on these

regional priorities. In particular, these priorities promote better non-motorized circulation within Regional Activity Centers and improved ped/bike access to transit. Improved access to transit is the objective that underlay the TPB's recently completed study "Improving Pedestrian/Bicycle Access at Select Rail Stations," which was funded through the federal Transportation, Community and Systems Preservation (TCSP) Program.

Since the program's establishment in 2012, the TPB has combined its solicitations for each state with the state departments of transportation for the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia.

#### FY 2016 Solicitation for Virginia

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) conducted the solicitation for new projects in Virginia. Applications were due electronically to the VDOT Local Assistance Division on November 1, 2014. For applicants from Northern Virginia, the VDOT's application included a supplementary form requesting information about how projects responded to priorities for the Washington metropolitan region.

For Northern Virginia, a total of 17 applications were received representing a total of \$5,416,359 in requested funding. These applications are eligible for statewide TAP funding as well as the TPB's sub-allocated funds.

Virginia essentially has a three-part process for project selection:

- 1. The district members of Virginia's Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) each have \$1 million for project selection from the statewide pot of funding;
- 2. 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, Mr. Gary Garczyinski, on March 9 announced his project selections for the \$1 million he is responsible for allocating.

#### **Project Selection for Northern Virginia**

The TPB is now completing the second step in the selection process noted above. For FY 2016 in Northern Virginia, the TPB has responsibility for project selection for \$2,546,740 in available funding.

The TPB's regional review panel met on April 2. The members of the review panel comprised:

- Kevin Belanger, Transportation Planner/Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator, City of Rockville.
- Stephen Rice, Transportation Management Specialist, District Department of Transportation. Mr. Rice manages the Transportation Alternatives Program for the District of Columbia.
- Lamont Cobb, Transportation Planner, COG/TPB staff
- Michael Farrell, Bicycle and Pedestrian Planner, COG/TPB staff
- John Swanson, Transportation Planner, COG/TPB staff

The following selection criteria were considered in the review process, with the understanding that some projects would only meet some criteria. These criteria are rooted in TPB policies and programs:

- **Transportation options:** 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?
- **Regional Activity Centers:** Does the project enhance walkability and accessibility within or between Regional Activity Centers?
- Access to transit: Will the project improve ped/bike access to transit?
- Safe routes to schools: Does the project enhance safe ped/bike access to schools?
- **Disadvantaged communities:** Does the project promote accessibility for disadvantaged communities?
- **People with disabilities:** Is the project largely intended to promote accessibility for people with disabilities?
- *Local commitment:* Does the application provide local matches greater than the 20 percent minimum requirement?

At the review panel's meeting on April 2, each member provided a ranking of the project applications under consideration. The projects were then grouped into "high", "medium", and "low" priority based on how each addressed the regional project selection criteria.

At the end of the meeting on April 2, the review panel recommended 10 projects for funding. On April 3, TPB staff was informed that one of its selected projects, a Safe Routes to School (SRTS) application for Alexandria middle schools, was withdrawn. At the guidance of the review panel, the funding for the Alexandria project, \$28,806, was reallocated to Loudoun County's (SRTS) project, which is partially funded.

TPB staff presented the review panel's recommendations to the TPB Technical Committee April 3. The list of recommended projects is at the end of this memo.

#### Next Steps

Following the TPB's action on April 15, TPB staff will forward information regarding the selected projects to VDOT for inclusion in the Commonwealth's Six Year Improvement Plan for Transportation. Virginia's Commonwealth Transportation Board will also consider whether to fund the unfunded projects in Northern Virginia with the remaining statewide TAP funding. Once all selections are finalized, VDOT staff will work with project owners to administer funding.

The TPB is currently participating in MDOT's solicitation for FY 2016 TAP projects. The deadline for those applications is May 15.

DDOT intends to issue a solicitation for projects in late spring or early summer.

| Projects Recommended for Funding<br>Northern Virginia Project Selection<br>for the FY2016 Transportation Alternatives Program |   |                                    |                                       |   |  |  |  |
|---|---|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| Applicant<br>Jurisdiction   | Project   | FY 2016 Federal<br>Funding Request | CTB District<br>Member<br>Allocations | TPB Review<br>Panel<br>Recommen-<br>dations |  |  |  |
| Arlington<br>County   | McKinley Road/N Ohio St<br>Safe Routes to Schools (SRTS)<br>Bicycle-Pedestrian<br>Improvements      | \$440,000                          | \$220,000                             | \$220,000                                   |  |  |  |
| Arlington<br>County   | Rosslyn-Ballston Corridor<br>Accessibility Improvements   | \$200,000                          |                                       | \$200,000                                   |  |  |  |
| Town of Vienna<br>(Fairfax County)  | Louise Archer Elementary<br>School Missing Sidewalks  | \$292,000                          | \$146,000                             | \$146,000                                   |  |  |  |
| Fairfax County  | Westbriar Elementary School<br>Access - Old Courthouse Road<br>Sidewalk                             | \$280,000                          |                                       | \$280,000                                   |  |  |  |
| Fairfax County  | Cinderbed Road Bikeway  | \$400,000                          |                                       | \$150,000                                   |  |  |  |
| Fairfax County  | Lorton Cross-County Trail   | \$258,015                          | \$153,000                             |   |  |  |  |
| Town of<br>Herndon<br>(Fairfax County)  | Van Buren Street Multi-modal<br>Improvements Project  | \$280,000                          |                                       | \$280,000                                   |  |  |  |
| Loudoun<br>County   | Safe Routes to Schools (SRTS):<br>Various locations   | \$541,682                          | \$271,000                             | \$144,580                                   |  |  |  |
| Prince William<br>County  | Smoketown at Gideon Road<br>and Opitz Boulevard at<br>Potomac Mills Road Pedestrian<br>Improvements | \$560,000                          |                                       | \$560,000                                   |  |  |  |
| Prince William<br>County  | Old Bridge Road Sidewalk<br>Project   | \$566,160                          |                                       | \$566,160                                   |  |  |  |
| Prince William<br>County  | Jefferson Davis Highway<br>Sidewalk and Footbridge<br>Connection over Powell Creek                  | \$210,000                          | \$210,000                             |   |  |  |  |
|   |   |                                    | \$1,000,000                           | \$2,546,740                                 |  |  |  |

#### Northern Virginia Project Selection for the MAP-21 FY 2016 Transportation Alternatives Program National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board Review Panel Recommendations

#### FY 2016 MPO TAP Funding Allocation: \$2,546,740

| Project   | Jurisdiction     | Agency  | Description   | Total<br>Project<br>Cost | Federal<br>Funding<br>Request | Local<br>Match | CTB District<br>Member<br>Allocation | TPB Review Panel<br>Recommendation |
|---|------------------|---|---|--------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| McKinley Road/N Ohio St SRTS<br>Bicycle-Pedestrian Improvements         | Arlington County | Department of<br>Environmental<br>Services -<br>Transportation<br>Division        | Construction of raised medians, pedestrian curb extensions, and buffered<br>bike lanes on McKinley Rd/N Ohio St from Wilson Blvd to 14th ST N. Project<br>intends to reduce vehicle speed in the corridor, as well as to provide a safe<br>and continuous pathway for bicylists and pedetrians. McKinley Elementary<br>School is centrally located on the project Corridor; this project will provide<br>safer access for students. | \$550,000                | \$440,000                     | \$110,000      | \$220,000                            | \$220,000                          |
| Rosslyn-Ballston Corridor<br>Accessibility Improvements                 | Arlington County | County Department<br>of Environmental<br>Services -<br>Transportation<br>Division | Improvements to sidewalks and streets to remove obstructions that restrict access by persons with disabilities, per the 1990 ADA. Specific locations were identified in an 2012 TLC project.  | \$250,000                | \$200,000                     | \$50,000       | -                                    | \$200,000                          |
| Louise Archer Elementary School<br>Missing Sidewalks                    | Fairfax County   | Town of Vienna  | Install missing portions of sidewalks, as well as gutter, curb and drainage<br>improvements along Nutley ST NW and West ST NW.  | \$365,000                | \$292,000                     | \$73,000       | \$146,000                            | \$146,000                          |
| Westbriar Elementary School<br>Access - Old Courthouse Road<br>Sidewalk | Fairfax County   | County Department<br>of Transportation  | Complete missing sidewalk segments from Creek Crossing Drive to<br>Westbriar Elementary School. Project includes construction of new curb,<br>curb ramps and gutters.   | \$850,000                | \$280,000                     | \$70,000       | -                                    | \$280,000                          |
| Cinderbed Road Bikeway  | Fairfax County   | Department of<br>Transportation   | Construction of a 3.1 mile bikeway connecting Fort Belvoir with Franconia-<br>Springfield Metrorail Station, with connections to the Fairfax County<br>Parkway trail. Trail segments to include asphalt trail, Rail-Trail alignment,<br>and on-road bike lanes.   | \$4,000,000              | \$400,000                     | \$100,000      | -                                    | \$150,000                          |
| Van Buren Street Multi-modal<br>Improvements Project                    | Fairfax County   | Town of Herndon   | Rebuild a 1/2 mile section of Van Buren St. to include bicycle and pedestrian<br>improvements, enhancements to subterranean infrastructure, and ADA<br>accessibility enhancements.  | \$350,000                | \$280,000                     | \$70,000       | -                                    | \$280,000                          |



#### Northern Virginia Project Selection for the MAP-21 FY 2016 Transportation Alternatives Program National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board Review Panel Recommendations

#### FY 2016 MPO TAP Funding Allocation: \$2,546,740

| Project  | Jurisdiction             | Agency                                 | Description  | Total<br>Project<br>Cost | Federal<br>Funding<br>Request | Local<br>Match | CTB District<br>Member<br>Allocation | TPB Review Panel<br>Recommendation |
|--|--------------------------|--|--|--------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Loudoun County Public Schools<br>SRTS Infrastructure<br>Improvements, Phase II                   | Loudoun County           | Loudoun County<br>Public Schools       | Installation of sidewalks, crosswalks and trails to provide walkable paths for students to walk or bike to school at several campuses across the County.   | \$676,976                | \$541,682                     | \$135,385      | \$271,000                            | \$144,580                          |
| Smoketown at Gideon Road and<br>Opitz Boulevard at Potomac Mills<br>Road Pedestrian Improvements | Prince William<br>County | County Department<br>of Transportation | Improvements to pedestrian facilities at the intersection of Smoketown Rd<br>and Gideon road and Opitz Blvd and Potomac Mills Rd. Project to include<br>three new signal-controlled crossings, curb ramps, cut through pathways at<br>four channelized islands for each intersection and 300' of sidewalk. | \$700,000                | \$560,000                     | \$140,000      | -                                    | \$560,000                          |
| Old Bridge Road Sidewalk Project   | Prince William<br>County | County Department<br>of Transportation | Install 900' of sidewalk on Old Bridge Rd between Mohican Rd and Antietam<br>Rd. Will integrate with existing SRTS project on Antietam Rd.   | \$707,700                | \$566,160                     | \$141,540      | -                                    | \$566,160                          |
|  |                          |  |  |                          |                               |                | Total:                               | \$2,546,740                        |

Item #9

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