

TRANSIT WITHIN REACH

FY 2022/23 Technical Assistance

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Transportation Planning Board
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Background

- More than half of the region's job growth and over 40 percent of new households over the next decade are 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

- 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 Account



Solicitation

- \$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

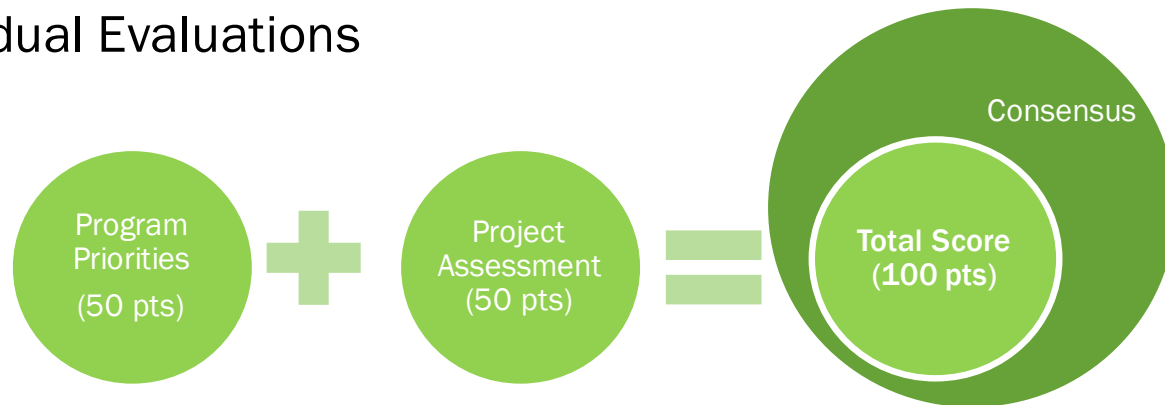
Seeking preliminary design and engineering projects that:

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 communities 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

- 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 Areaa
 - Demonstrate strategies to advance project to construction
- 2 commuter rail projects; 1 Metrorail project
- 2 projects in Maryland; 1 project in Virginia



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

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



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