



2024-2027 Transportation Alternatives Program Call for Projects & Guidelines

**Estimated Funding to be Available: \$450,000
For the Counties of Ferry, Pend Oreille, and Stevens**

**This Call for Projects will be open for submittal of proposals from Aug 1st, 2024
through September 16th, 2024.**

GUIDELINES:

- The 2024-2027 Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) is anticipating providing grant funding in an amount of \$450,000 (\$89,757 carried forward from FFY 2024, \$126,572 per year for 2025-2027 and \$143,200 for 2024, leaving \$16,473 for contingency) for non-motorized projects. Projects are to be completed in FFY 2024 and FFY 2027. Funding is estimated based on historic allocations and is subject to change in each federal fiscal year.
- 2024-2027 Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) proposals will be evaluated, scored, and ranked by the NEW RTPO Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). The TAC will recommend award of TAP funding for consideration and final decision to the Tri-County Economic Development District (TEDD)/NEW RTPO Board of Directors. Projects will be scored and ranked according to the criteria identified in the application form. The TEDD/NEW RTPO Board of Directors has full discretion to identify final priorities and make funding awards as deemed appropriate.
- The TAC will oversee the entire grant process. Committee members and TEDD/NEW RTPO staff will advise, make recommendations, and manage the administration with WSDOT Highways and Local Programs and the three counties of Ferry, Pend Oreille, and Stevens.
- The following projects are eligible for consideration, per Federal guidelines:
 - The BIL retained previous TA Set-Aside eligibility, amended the reference for SRTS projects, and added activities in furtherance of a vulnerable road user safety assessment, as defined in 23 U.S.C. 148(a). See 23 U.S.C. 133(h)(3). The BIL

also added eligibility for State DOTs to use funds for administrative and technical assistance, limited to 5 percent of the TA Set-Aside fund (after the RTP set-aside). 23 U.S.C. 133(h)(6)(C). TA Set-Aside eligible projects consist of:

- Section 133(h)(3)(A): Projects or Activities described in 23 U.S.C. 101(a)(29) or 23 U.S.C. 213 as in effect prior to the enactment of the FAST Act. Those sections contained the following eligible projects:
- Transportation Alternatives as defined in 23 U.S.C. 101(a)(29) as it appeared prior to changes made by the FAST Act: The term “transportation alternatives” means any of the following activities when carried out as part of any program or project authorized or funded under title 23 U.S.C., or as an independent program or project related to surface transportation:
 - Construction, planning, and design of on-road and off-road trail facilities for pedestrians, bicyclists, and other nonmotorized forms of transportation, including sidewalks, bicycle infrastructure, pedestrian and bicycle signals, traffic calming techniques, lighting and other safety-related infrastructure, and transportation projects to achieve compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.).
 - Construction, planning, and design of infrastructure-related projects and systems that will provide safe routes for non-drivers, including children, older adults, and individuals with disabilities to access daily needs.
 - Conversion and use of abandoned railroad corridors for trails for pedestrians, bicyclists, or other nonmotorized transportation users.
 - Construction of turnouts, overlooks, and viewing areas.
 - Community improvement activities, including:
 - Inventory, control, or removal of outdoor advertising
 - Historic preservation and rehabilitation of historic transportation facilities
 - Vegetation management practices in transportation rights-of-way to improve roadway safety, prevent against invasive species, and provide erosion control (see [State DOTs Leveraging Alternative Uses of the Highway Right-of-Way Guidance](#))
 - Archaeological activities relating to impacts from implementation of a transportation project eligible under title 23, U.S.C.
- Any environmental mitigation activity, including pollution prevention and pollution abatement activities and mitigation to:
 - Address stormwater management, control, and water pollution prevention or abatement related to highway construction or due to highway runoff; This includes activities described in 23 U.S.C. 119(g), 328(a), and 329. Page 21 of 30 Transportation Alternatives (TA) Set-Aside Implementation Guidance March 30, 2022
 - Reduce vehicle-caused wildlife mortality or restore and maintain connectivity among terrestrial or aquatic habitats.

- The recreational trails program under 23 U.S.C. 206 of title 23. (See the Recreational Trails Program section. Any project eligible under the RTP also is eligible under the TA Set-A-side).
- The safe routes to school program under section 1404 of the SAFETEA-LU (23 U.S.C. 402 note; Public Law 109-59) [now codified as 23 U.S.C. 208 and including]:
 - Infrastructure-related projects eligible under section 1404(f)(1) [now eligible under 23 U.S.C. 208(g)(1)].
 - Non-infrastructure-related activities eligible under section 1404(f)(2) [(now eligible under 23 U.S.C. 208(g)(2)].
 - SRTS coordinators eligible under section 1404(f)(3) [now eligible under 23 U.S.C. 208(g)(3)].
- Planning, designing, or constructing boulevards and other roadways largely in the right-of-way of former Interstate System routes or other divided highways.
 - [See Boulevards from Divided Highways](#) for examples.
- Section 133(h)(3)(B): projects and activities under the safe routes to school program under 23 U.S.C. 208.
- Section 133(h)(3)(C): activities in furtherance of a vulnerable road user safety assessment (as defined in 23 U.S.C. 148(a)).
- Section 133(h)(6)(C): Improving Accessibility and Efficiency. See State Technical Assistance description under the Allocations and Suballocations under the [FHWA TA Guidance page](#).
- The BIL amended other sections of title 23 that relate to projects eligible under the TA Set-A-side, including:
 - STBG: 23 U.S.C. 133(b)(7) clarified eligibility for recreational trail projects including the maintenance and restoration of existing recreational trails and amended the citation for the safe routes to school program under section 208.
 - HSIP: 23 U.S.C. 148(a)(11)(B)(v) added SRTS non-infrastructure projects as eligible under HSIP as a specified safety project. Many activities eligible under the TA Set-Aside already were eligible under HSIP, subject to HSIP criteria.
- Shared Micro mobility and Electric Bicycles
 - The BIL inserted shared micro mobility to CMAQ eligibility under section 149 and as eligible bicycle and pedestrian projects under section 217. For consistency, FHWA interprets this eligibility as applicable to TA Set-Aside projects.
 - CMAQ: Under 23 U.S.C. 149(b)(7), a project or program is eligible for CMAQ funding if it “shifts traffic demand to nonpeak hours or other transportation modes, increases vehicle occupancy rates, or otherwise reduces demand for roads through such means as ... shared micro mobility (including bike sharing and shared scooter systems)[.]” Page 22

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- Bicycle Transportation and Pedestrian Walkways: Under 23 U.S.C. 217(a), a State may obligate its apportioned STBG and CMAQ funds for “construction of pedestrian walkways and bicycle and shared micro mobility transportation facilities and for carrying out non-construction projects related to safe access for bicyclists and pedestrians.”
- The BIL also changed the definition of an electric bicycle in section 217(j)(2), which modified the kinds of electric bicycles that States, and local governments may allow on nonmotorized trails and pedestrian walkways that use Federal-aid funds. Therefore, electric bicycle infrastructure is eligible under the TA Set-Aside. However, the BIL did not amend section 217(h) which lists restrictions on the use of motorized vehicles to allow other shared micro mobility devices on non-motorized trails and pedestrian walkways.
- Bicycle Projects
 - Since TA Set-Aside funds may be used for both bicycle projects eligible under 217(i) and recreational bicycle projects eligible as recreational trails projects under 133(b)(7) and 133(h), bicycle projects funded by TA Set-Aside funds (as well as any STBG funds) may be for both transportation and recreational purposes. *TA Set-Aside projects must benefit the general public (23 CFR 1.23 and 23 CFR 460.2).* For more information regarding eligibility and funding please visit: https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/transportation_alternatives/
- Go to the TEDD website <https://tricountyedd.com/new-rtpo/local-agency-resources/> for:
 - 2024-2027 TAP Call for Projects & Guidelines
 - 2024-2027 TAP Grant Application
 - Current Membership List for NEW RTPO and TEDD Board of Directors
 - NEW Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)
- **PLEASE BE MINDFUL OF THE FOLLOWING DATES:**
- **August 1, 2024 – TAP Call for Projects Announced**
- **August 1, 2024, through September 16, 2024 -- TAP Application Submittal**
Applications must be delivered either electronically, by mail, or hand delivered to the TEDD office by 4:00 p.m. on or before September 16, 2024.

All Application are to be Mailed or Hand Delivered to:

Tri-County Economic Development District
986 S. Main Street, Suite A
Colville, WA 99114

Hours: Monday – Thursday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Email- fmetlow@teddonline.com

- **September 17th, 2024 – Distribution of Applications**
All applications will be emailed to TAC and the TEDD Board by 4:00 p.m. on September 17th, 2024, for review prior to an October 16th, 2024, Special TAC meeting.
- **October 16th, 2024 – TAP Presentations to the TAC and Application Reviews**
A Special TAC meeting will convene at 10:00 a.m. to hear presentations from applicants requesting funding awards. (All applicants will receive advance notice of this Special TAC meeting and are required to attend, make a brief presentation, and be available to answer questions). At approximately 11:00 a.m., following the presentations, the TAC will review and discuss the applications.
- **October 23rd, 2024 – TAP Applications: TAC Ranking and Board Final Review, Selection & Funding**: The TAC will rank the projects and a recommendation will be prepared for the subsequent TEDD Board meeting, where the TEDD Board will make final award decisions. Letters of award will be sent out after that meeting.

Should you have any questions please contact:

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