

**State of Illinois Uniform Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)
Summary Information**

Awarding Agency Name	Transportation
Agency Contact	Lee Ann Prather (LeeAnn.Prather@illinois.gov)
Announcement Type	Initial
Type of Assistance Instrument	Grant
Funding Opportunity Number	25-494-00-1461-02
Funding Opportunity Title	Transportation Alternatives Program - Metropolitan Planning Organization +200,000 population selected
CSFA Number	494-00-1461
CSFA Popular Name	Transportation Alternatives Program
Anticipated Number of Awards	2
Estimated Total Program Funding	\$3,266,383
Award Range	Not Applicable
Source of Funding	Federal
Cost Sharing or Matching Requirements	Yes
Indirect Costs Allowed	No
Restrictions on Indirect Costs	Yes : Indirect not allowed.
Posted Date	10/15/2024
Application Date Range	10/15/2024 - 11/29/2024 : 4:30 PM
Grant Application Link	Please select the entire address below and paste it into the browser... https://r1planning.org/call-for-projects
Technical Assistance Session	Offered : Yes Mandatory : No Date : 10/22/2024 : 2:30pm Registration link : https://r1planning.org/call-for-projects



Notice of Funding Opportunity

The Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) is the uniform method that information is communicated to potential applicants. It should provide detailed information to the applicant so that they may assess if they are eligible for funding, able to successfully manage the public funds, and meet applicable program objectives and performance measures.

Please read all instructions carefully and include all pertinent information for your program solicitation. The instructions for this form can be accessed [here](#).

NOFO Summary Information

1. Awarding Agency Name Illinois Department of Transportation	2. Agency Contact Name Lee Ann Prather
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3. Agency Contact E-mail leeann.prather@illinois.gov	4. Agency Contact Phone (217) 524-3509
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5. Announcement Type Initial Announcement	6. Type of Assistance Instrument Grant	7. Funding Opportunity Number 25-494-00-1461-02
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8. Funding Opportunity Title Transportation Alternatives Program - Locally Programmed (TAP-L) - Rockford	9. CSFA Number 494-00-1461
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10. CSFA Popular Name Transportation Alternatives Program - Metropolitan Planning Organization +	11. Assistance Listing (formerly CFDA No.) 20.205
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12. Anticipated Number of Awards 2	13. Estimated Total Program Funding \$3,266,383	14. Award Range - Award Floor / Award Ceiling
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15. Source of Funding (mark all that apply)	Service Area (pick one)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal or Federal pass through <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Private/other funding	<input type="checkbox"/> Economic Development <input type="checkbox"/> Education <input type="checkbox"/> Environment/Culture <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government Services <input type="checkbox"/> Healthcare <input type="checkbox"/> Human Services <input type="checkbox"/> Public Safety

16. Indirect Costs Allowed: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	17. Cost Sharing or Matching Requirements: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Restrictions on Indirect Costs: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	18. Posted Date 10/15/24
	19. Application Date Open / Date Closed 10/15/24 / 11/29/24

If yes, provide the citation governing the restriction

20. Technical Assistance Session

Session Offered: Yes No Session Mandatory: Yes No Specify date and time 10/22/2024

Provide link to registration, if applicable

<https://r1planning.org/call-for-projects>

NOFO Number

25-494-00-1461-02

Program Description

The goal of the Transportation Alternative Program (TAP), also known as Transportation Alternative Program - Locally Programmed - Rockford is to allocate resources to well-planned smaller scale, but critically important projects that provide and support connected alternate modes of transportation that are safe for all users, enhance the transportation system through preservation of visual and cultural resources, and improve the quality of life for members of the communities impacted.

Projects must enhance the transportation system be serving a transportation need or providing a transportation linkage, use, or benefit. Each project or activity must demonstrate a relationship to surface transportation. Project categories include:

- Pedestrian/bicycle facilities (on-road and off-road), sidewalks;
- Conversion of abandoned railroad corridors to trails;
- Streetscapes (stand-alone landscape projects are ineligible);
- Historic preservation and rehabilitation of historic transportation facilities;
- Vegetation management in transportation rights-of-way;
- Archaeological activities relating to impacts from implementation of a transportation project;
- Storm water management, control and water pollution prevention or abatement related to highway construction or due to highway runoff;
- Reduce vehicle-caused wildlife mortality or restore and maintain connectivity among terrestrial or aquatic habitats; and
- Construction of turnouts, overlooks, and viewing areas.

Region 1 Planning Council follows the requirements and eligibility developed by the Illinois Department of Transportation's Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program (ITEP).

Funding Information

Total Program Funding

\$3,266,383

Funding Sources (mark all that apply):

Federal or Federal pass through

State

Private/other funding

Funding Source Description

Transportation Alternative Program (TAP), federally known as Transportation Alternatives (TA) set-aside funding, also known as Transportation Alternative Program - Locally Programmed - Rockford, was authorized by the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act in 2015 and renewed in the IIJA, signed into law on November 15, 2021

Funding Restrictions

Projects will be funded at a maximum ratio of 80% federal funds to 20% local funds. Matching funds must be provided in cash, as in-kind contributions are not permitted. Utility relocation, construction engineering, and construction are eligible for funding at a maximum ratio of 80% federal funds to 20% local funds. The maximum allowable construction engineering amount is 15% of the total construction cost (based on construction subtotal minus ineligible items). Utility relocations cannot be 50% or more of the project's total construction costs. Right-of-way acquisition are eligible for funding at a maximum ratio of 50% federal funds to 50% local funds. Right-of-way acquisition may be included only as a part of the cost for the entire project, not as a stand-alone project.

In order to be eligible for enhancement funding, a project must be located on public property and must demonstrate a relationship to surface transportation. The enhancement projects must enhance the transportation system either by serving a transportation need or providing a transportation use or benefit. Activities are not eligible if they are routine maintenance projects such as re-striping a trail, cleaning up debris or repairing broken curb.

Projects involving sidewalks will be required to update the facility to meet current ADA Accessibility Standards. That would include, but not be limited to, curb cuts and handicapped ramps at intersections and corrective measures to fix cross slopes that exceed the ADA standards. In this example, curb cuts for the disabled would be eligible since they are required as a part of the overall project.

Award Information

Award Floor	Award Ceiling	Award Start Date	Award End Date	Award Announcement Date
				February 2025

Award Type	Capital Grant	Anticipated Number of Awards	Indirect Costs Allowed
Competitive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	2	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Cash Match Requirement	In-Kind Match Requirement	Other Funding Requirement
20%		

Submission Information

Submission Timeline Type	Submission Open Date	Submission Close Date	Submission End Time
One-Time	10/15/24	11/29/24	

Submission Timeline Additional Information

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Allow Multiple Applications <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Application Review Start Date/Pre-Qualification Deadline
	11/29/24

Other Submission Requirements

Each grant application must answer all of the questions including providing a detailed summary of expenditures. Applicants will be asked to provide the following information:

- Project Applicant Contact Information
- Engineer/Consultant Contact Information, if applicable
- Project Information
 - o Road Name
 - o Project Limits
 - o Location Type
 - o Project Length
 - o Programming Year
 - o Activity Type
 - o MTP Identification #
 - o Functional Classification
- Project Scope
- Cost Summary & Anticipated Schedule
 - o Total Project Cost
 - o Federal Funding Request
 - o Costs per Phase
 - o Local Funding Sources
- Current & Proposed Conditions
- Project Readiness

The application will consist of an online form to be submitted electronically. The link to the application and copies of the application questions will be provided on the R1 website.

Questions on Submission Information

Question Submission Open Date	Question Submission Close Date	Question Submission Email Address
10/15/24	11/29/24	sturner@r1planning.org

Question Submission Additional Information

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Technical Assistance Session

Technical Assistance Session Yes No Yes & Mandatory

Session Date and Time

10/22/2024

Conference Info / Registration Link

<https://r1planning.org/call-for-projects>

Eligibility Information

Eligibility Type Eligible Applicants (choose all that apply)

Select

Public

- City or township governments
- County Governments
- Education Organizations
- For profit organizations (excludes small businesses)
- Foreign Applicants
- For-Profit Organizations

Additional Eligibility Information

Eligible project sponsors, must be located within the Rockford Metropolitan Planning Area, and represent the following entities: Local governments, regional transportation authorities, transit agencies, natural resource or public land agency, school district, tribal government, and any other local or regional governmental entity with responsibility for oversight of transportation or recreational trails

Evaluation & Scoring

Criteria

MPO staff will evaluate and score applications using the following selection criteria and relative weighting (maximum of 112 points):

System Performance: Traffic Volume/AADT (Max. 5 points); Functional Classification (Max. 5 points); # of TSMO Strategies Incorporated (Max. 5 points)

Safety: Crash Rate (Max. 5 points); Fatal and Serious Injury Crash Rate (Max. 5 points); Non-motorized Crash Rate (Max. 5 points); Safety Strategies Incorporated (Max. 5 points)

Connectivity: Provides access to essential services (Max. 28 points); Community Connectivity (Max. 2 points); Justice 40/DCEO Underserved Area (Max. 10 points)

Economic Linkages: Supports a Commercial or Industrial Area (Max. 15 points)

Environmental Resiliency: Incorporates green infrastructure and design approaches that address air and water quality (Max. 5 points)

Investment & Coordination: % Non-federal Match (Max. 1 point); Continues an already completed 3R project (Max. 1 point); Benefits multiple communities (Max 1 point); # of Partners (Max. 1 Point); Project Sponsor Ranking (Max. 1 point)

Project Delivery & Readiness: Previous Delivery Performance (Max. 4 points); Project readiness (Max. 8 points)

NOTE: Please note that the above listed project evaluation criteria will be discussed at the September 19, 2024 MPO Technical Committee meeting for recommendation and the October 1, 2024 MPO Policy Committee meeting for adoption. Any modifications to the project evaluation criteria that result from the upcoming MPO Technical Committee and MPO Policy Committee meetings will be reflected in the application and notice of changes in the evaluation criteria will be posted to the MPO website and distributed through our mailing list.

Review & Selection Process

For any transportation alternative project located within MPO Adjusted Urbanized Area, the MPO follows a process for the assignment of Transportation Alternative Program funds. As part of this process, there is also an understanding that TA (Transportation Alternative) funds are distributed equitably in the entire MPO planning area. The MPO follows a process for the purpose of determining how the area's allocated Transportation

Alternatives Program funds shall be used. The steps of this process are outlined below.

Step 1 – Solicitation of Projects: The official selection process starts with the Call for Projects and interested agencies completing the appropriate application to apply for the TAP funding prior to the start of the annual Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) preparation procedure which typically begins in March of each year.

To the extent possible, and for the purpose of easing the task of comparing projects that are competing for the same funds, an application form will need to be submitted Download the application here: www.r1planning.org

Step 2 - Staff Review & Scoring: MPO staff will review the proposed project applications for completeness and verify that the project is located within the Rockford Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA). MPO staff will conduct an initial project selection to determine if the submitted project will proceed to the evaluation process. If the project does not clear the initial selection process the applicant will be notified and may be provided an opportunity to submit additional information to support approval of the project. The MPO will use the eligibility criteria detailed above as the initial selection process.

After the initial selection process, based on the project eligibility criteria, the MPO will collect the data for reviewers to evaluate and score applications using the MPO Project Evaluation Criteria. Five evaluation criteria are used to score the projects based on MPO evaluation process to select and prioritize projects to receive TAP funding. The total possible score that any project can receive is 112 points.

After completion of the evaluation process, MPO staff will prepare a priority list with all of the projects evaluated based on the ranking system. Staff will then submit the priority list to the TA Selection Committee for consideration and project recommendation.

Step 3 - Committee Review & Allocate Funds: Once MPO staff has submitted the priority list to the MPO Alternative Transportation Committee for review, the MPO Alternative Transportation Committee will meet and discuss the proposed candidates' project submittals. Proposals will be reviewed and discussed in light of the Project Selection Criteria (above). Based on the feedback of the MPO Alternative Transportation Committee, MPO staff will present and discuss the MPO Alternative Transportation Committee's recommendation to the MPO Technical Committee. Once the MPO Technical Committee has reviewed and discussed the recommendation, MPO staff will submit a draft TAP project(s) to the MPO Technical Committee for recommendation to the MPO Policy Committee. If approved, the MPO Technical Committee will make a recommendation to the MPO Policy Committee.

Step 4 - Policy Committee Review and Approval: The MPO Policy Committee will review the proposed candidates or changes and recommendations. The MPO Policy Committee will then take an official action based on staff and Technical Committee recommendations and render a decision.

Step 5 – TIP Programming: The action of the MPO Policy Committee will be incorporated by formal resolution via an amendment to the current TIP and placed into the draft TIP for the coming fiscal year. The formal resolution, upon adoption by the MPO Policy Committee, will be forwarded to the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT).

Additional Information

Additional Information (URL) / Link to Agency Application

<https://r1planning.org/call-for-projects>

Additional Information URL Description

Award Administration Information

State Award Notices

Administrative and National Policy Requirements

Reporting

State Awarding Agency Contacts


Lee Ann Prather - LeeAnn.Prather@illinois.gov

Other Information

Opportunity Review (IDOT GATA)

Opportunity has been reviewed and is approved for posting Yes No

Review Completed by Signature & Date

**Carissa
Calloway**  Digitally signed by Carissa
Calloway
Date: 2024.10.08 05:50:54
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