

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT VI
2023 TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES APPLICATION CYCLE
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2029

APPLICATION SELECTION AND PRIORITIZATION CRITERIA

ACTIVITY SCHEDULE	DATE	TIME
CALL FOR APPLICATIONS	Thursday, January 5, 2023	8:30 am
TA WORKSHOP	Thursday, January 12, 2023	10:00 am to 12:00 pm
TA APPLICATIONS DEADLINE	Monday, February 20, 2023	5:00 pm (no post submittals)
AGENCY PROJECT PRESENTATIONS	Wednesday, March 15, 2023 (subject to change)	8:30 am to 4:30 pm
	Thursday, March 16, 2023 (subject to change)	8:30 am to 4:30 pm

TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES (TA) WORKSHOP

ATTENDEES	Miami Dade TPO Agencies & Monroe County Agencies
DATE & TIME	January 12, 2023, 10 am to 12 pm
WORKSHOP REGISTRATION	TPO Transportation Alternatives (TA) Workshop Registration Link
ADDRESS	150 West Flagler Street, Suite 1900, Miami FL 33130 TPO Board Conference Room

APPLICATION SUBMITTAL INSTRUCTIONS

TA Application deadline is February 20, 2023, 5pm. The application can only be obtained and accepted through the FDOT Grants Application Process (GAP). GAP will not accept late submittals. Applicants must request user access by registering with flgap.com. For more information on “How to Submit an Application” in GAP. See the last 3 pages of this package.

Note: Failure to respond **to all** application questions will result in the **disqualification** of the submission. If a question is not applicable to the project, respond with “not applicable.”

GENERAL CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

1. **No more than \$1 million of TA funds will be awarded to any single project in any single application cycle, and no more than \$1 million dollars of TA funds will be awarded per phase to any single project.** Applicants whose project costs will exceed \$1 million must demonstrate allocated additional funds are available to complete the project.
2. **No more than 3 applications per department can be submitted.** Agencies submitting more than one application must rank the projects based on the agency’s priorities as needed.
3. The Application package should consist of the following:
 - a) Completed application (may not exceed 15 pages)
 - b) Attachments, exhibits, typical sections, plans, and letters of support (may not exceed 20 pages)
 - c) Report of previous funding awards and the status of each project
4. **The following *must be identified* in the application:**
 - a) Right-of-Way needs and status, including easements
 - b) Environmental and cultural resource analysis
 - c) Permitting requirements

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ELIGIBLE CATEGORIES FOR TA PROJECTS¹

1. Construction of on-road and off-road trail facilities for pedestrians, bicyclists, and other non-motorized 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 (ADA) of 1990
2. 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.
3. Conversion and use of abandoned railroad corridors for trails for pedestrians, bicyclists, or other non-motorized transportation users
4. Construction of turnouts, overlooks, and viewing areas
5. Community improvement activities, which include but are not limited to:
 - a. Inventory, control, or removal of outdoor advertising
 - b. Historic preservation and rehabilitation of historic transportation facilities
 - c. Vegetation management practices in transportation rights-of-way to improve roadway safety, prevent against invasive species, and provide erosion control
 - d. Archaeological activities relating to impacts from implementation of a transportation project eligible under title 23 of the US Code
6. Any environmental mitigation activity, including pollution prevention and pollution abatement activities and mitigation to:
 - a. address storm water management, control, and water pollution prevention or abatement related to highway construction or due to highway runoff, including activities described in 23 U.S.C. 133(b) (11), 328(a), and 329; or
 - b. reduce vehicle-caused wildlife mortality or to restore and maintain connectivity among terrestrial or aquatic habitats
7. The Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program eligible projects and activities listed at section 1404(f) of the SAFETEA-LU include:
 - a. Infrastructure-related projects
 - b. Non-infrastructure-related activities
 - c. SRTS coordinator. SAFETEA-LU section 1404(f)(2)(A) lists “managers of safe routes to school programs” as eligible under the non-infrastructure projects
8. Planning, designing, or constructing boulevards and other roadways largely in the right-of-way of former Interstate System routes or other divided highways
9. The recreational trails program under 23 U.S.C. 206 of title 23

ELIGIBLE PROJECT SPONSORS

1. Local government: Local government entities include any unit of local government below a state government agency, except for a TPO. Examples include city, town, township, village, borough, parish, or county agencies.
2. Regional transportation authority: Regional transportation authorities are considered the same as the Regional Transportation Planning Organizations defined in the statewide planning section (23 U.S.C. 135(m))
3. A transit agency: Transit agencies include any agency responsible for public transportation that is eligible for funds as determined by the Federal Transit Administration.
4. A natural resource or public land agency: Natural resource or public land agencies include any Federal, Tribal, State, or local agency responsible for natural resources or public land administration. Examples include State or local park

¹ Please use FHWA Guidance for more information

https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/transportation_alternatives/guidance/ta_guidance_2022.pdf

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or forest agencies; State or local fish and game or wildlife agencies; Department of the Interior Land Management Agencies; U.S. Forest Service.

5. A school district, local education agency, or school: School districts, local education agencies, or schools may include any public or nonprofit private school. Projects should benefit the general public and not only a private entity.
6. A tribal government.
7. A nonprofit entity responsible for the administration of local transportation safety programs: Examples include a nonprofit entity responsible for: a local program implementing 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; and safe routes to school program.
8. Any other local or regional governmental entity with responsibility for, or oversight of, transportation or recreational trails (other than an TPO or a State agency) that the State determines to be eligible, consistent with the goals of this subsection.

REVIEW PROCESS

Miami-Dade County:

- FDOT Technical Review of applications for project feasibility
- Project Presentations to the FDOT TA Reviewers
- Approval of TPO projects to program in the Work Program by TPO Governing Board

Monroe County:

- FDOT Technical Review of applications for project feasibility
- Presentation of ranked projects to FDOT TA Reviewers
- Final selection and recommendation to the Monroe Board of County Commissioners (BOCC)
- BOCC's approval of projects to program in FDOT's Work Program

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL REVIEW EVALUATION CRITERIA (125 points)

1. Project Feasibility (0-60 points):
 - a. Scope of Work (0-10 points)
 - b. Project Implementation Plan (0-20 points)
 - i. Project Schedule (0-10 points)
 - ii. Project Permits (0-10 points)
 - c. Environmental Evaluation (0-10 points)

**** Note: Environmental impacts may affect the total project cost and budget. Should the Local Agency need assistance assessing the budget considerations that should be given to environmental impacts, please reach out to FDOT prior to submitting this application. ****
 - d. Right of Way Evaluation (0-10 points)
 - e. Opinion of Probable Cost/Cost Estimate (0-10 points)
2. Local Agency Funding Contribution (0-10 points)
3. LAP Certification Status (0-15 points)
4. Past Performance (0-40 points)
 - a. Procurement (10 points)
 - b. Project Management- Professional Services (0-10 points)
 - c. Project Management- Construction (0-10 points)
 - d. Invoicing (0-10 points)

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PROJECT PRESENTATIONS at FDOT DISTRICT 6

Applicants will be required to present their project to the FDOT TA Reviewers. Presentations are tentatively scheduled for March 15 and/or March 16, 2023. Applicants are allotted 5 minutes to present each application, followed by 10 minutes of a question-and-answer session.

**** Note: Any project applications not presented to the Transportation Alternative reviewers on the date scheduled will be disqualified from consideration. ****

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION PROJECT EVALUATION (125 points)

1. Project safety improvements for bicycle riders and/or pedestrians (0-20 points)
2. Intermodal transportation linkages improvements, including those that provides access to transit stations and/or facilities. For applications in Miami-Dade this includes the Strategic Miami Area Rapid Transit (SMART) Plan.
3. (0-20 points)
4. Mobility enhancement or community development for disadvantaged groups (i.e., children, the elderly, the poor, those with limited transportation options, and the disabled) (0-15 points)
5. Local funding contribution or the completion of previous phases of project development (0-10 points)
6. Neighborhood or community quality of life improvements, improving environmental air, noise, water quality, and/or reducing the need for single occupancy vehicle trips (0-15 points)
7. Community support, including minutes of public meetings, newspaper clippings, petitions, letters of support from local business owners, property owners, nonprofit organizations, political leaders, and other groups (0-15 points)
8. Prioritization - Miami-Dade County's TPO and Monroe County will prioritize projects and award points based on prioritization. A maximum of 25 points will be assigned. The top ranked project from each county agency receives 25 points, the second ranked receives 24 points, the third ranked receives 23 points, etc. The final ranking is submitted to the TPO TA Coordinator and to Monroe County for Board Approval. All applicants will be notified of the results. (0-25 points)

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

Projects prioritized in this funding cycle are programmed into the FDOT 5-Year Work Program. Project sponsors must enter into a Local Agency Program (LAP) Agreement (Form No. 525-010-40) with FDOT prior to the start of any work for which reimbursement is requested. Project sponsors must have or obtain LAP Certification to qualify for project funding². Projects must meet federal requirements, standards and rules, and procedures governing federally funded transportation projects, including right-of-way certification, environmental review, and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance.

² State and federal agencies are generally exempt from the certification requirements of this section. This is due to the fact that state and federal agencies undergo extensive annual auditing protocols by both state and federal entities which are available for department review as needed. However, a District may request a state or federal agency obtain certification or recertification as needed.

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IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR NEED ASSISTANCE CONTACT

Miami Dade County

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Florida Department of Transportation

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Florida Department of Transportation District Six
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RESOURCES

FDOT Local Agency Program Manual

<http://www.fdot.gov/programmanagement/LP/Default.shtm>.

FDOT PD&E Manual

<https://www.fdot.gov/environment/pubs/pdeman/pdeman1.shtm>

FDOT Basis of Estimates Manual

<https://www.fdot.gov/programmanagement/estimates/documents/basisofestimatesmanual/boemanual>