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TO: Iowa Region 9 Transportation Technical Committee Members and Other Iowa Communities in Region 9

FROM: Gena McCullough, AICP, Asst. Executive Director/Planning Director

DATE: April 11, 2019

RE: Request for Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program and Transportation Alternatives (TA) Set-Aside Candidate Projects for Iowa Region 9 Evaluation Process

A call for projects is being issued for Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program AND Transportation Alternatives (TA) Set-Aside Program funds within the Iowa Region 9 Transportation Planning Area. This geographic area includes projects located in rural Scott County, Iowa (outside the metropolitan area) and Muscatine County, Iowa, along with all cities therein.

The deadline for submitting both Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program and Transportation Alternative (TA) Set-Aside Program projects will be the end of the business day on Friday, May 31, 2019 at 4:30 p.m.

**Eligibility.** Projects must be sponsored by state or local governments or transit systems, as designated by the Iowa DOT. STBG funds can be used for any mode of surface transportation – roadway, transit, pedestrian, or bicycle facilities. Roads must be federally functionally classified as a minor collector or higher classification, e.g. local roads are not eligible. Under FAST, these eligibilities remain. Under the Iowa Swap Policy Farm-To-Market roads are eligible. TA Set-Aside projects can include multi-purpose trails and pedestrian improvements, among other eligible activities (See link to TA Set-Aside Manual <http://bistateonline.org/transportation/2012-11-14-00-04-13/2012-11-14-00-04-53/project-programming-processes>).

**Funding Available.** The following table indicates the cumulative funding balances available by fiscal year through FFY2023, which represents the maximum dollars available for programming. The balances are based on estimated annual targets and prior programmed projects utilizing these funding sources. Iowa Region 9 is required to fiscally constrain programmed funding by fiscal year. These are estimates of the funding available and contingent on the current transportation act (FAST), or similar funding source in a subsequent act as well as funding appropriation levels, and subject to modifications with the reauthorization of the transportation act, known as Fixing America's Transportation System (FAST), which is authorized through 2020. Beyond FFY 2020, funding levels are assumed at the current levels based on an expectation by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) that programming should reflect anticipated projects within a four-year Transportation Improvement Program.

**Region 9 Federal Aid- Surface Transportation Block Grant Program(STBG)**

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
STBG Target	\$1,517,796	\$1,566,756	\$1,479,000	\$1,479,000	\$1,479,000
TAP Flex Target	\$65,528	\$64,152	\$64,000	\$64,000	\$64,000
Total Available for Programming	\$4,650,889	\$2,132,831	\$3,665,831	\$5,198,831	\$6,731,831
Total TAP Flex Programmed	-\$382,883	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total STBG Programmed	-\$3,766,083	-\$10,000	-\$10,000	-\$10,000	-\$10,000
<b>STBG &amp; TAP Flex Combined Balance</b>	<b>\$501,923</b>	<b>\$2,122,831</b>	<b>\$3,655,831</b>	<b>\$5,188,831</b>	<b>\$6,721,831</b>

**Region 9 Federal Aid- Transportation Alternatives (TA) Set Aside Program**

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
TA Set-Aside Target	\$85,311	\$83,936	\$84,000	\$84,000	\$84,000
Total Available for Programming	\$587,916	\$93,852	\$177,852	\$261,852	\$345,852
Total TA Set-Aside Programmed	-\$578,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>TA Set-Aside Balance</b>	<b>\$9,916</b>	<b>\$93,852</b>	<b>\$177,852</b>	<b>\$261,852</b>	<b>\$345,852</b>

**Matching Funds and Cost Estimates.** Both funding sources are required to be matched with at least 20 percent non-federal funds; however, under the Iowa Swap Policy, STBG-Swap projects can receive up to 100 percent of the eligible costs. Projects must have a total project cost no less than \$125,000, as the federal-aid process requires considerable administration on the part of the project sponsor. Project costs should be estimated in Year of Expenditure (YOE) Dollars for FFY2023. Please note the estimated YOE percentage used with your cost estimate.

A source, known as TAP Flex funds, can be used either as part of an STBG or TA Set-Aside project. The Region 9 Transportation Policy Committee has the authority and discretion to program TAP Flex funds to any eligible project(s) submitted as part of this evaluation process. For accounting purposes, TAP Flex is shown and combined with the STBG funds. If flexed to TA Set-Aside, the amount will be deducted and transferred.

**Evaluation Process.** This is a locally administered application process. Applications are expected to be concise and easily reviewed. We want to keep them as simple as possible while still meeting federal and state requirements. Applications for both STBG and TA Set-Aside funds are located on the website link <http://bistateonline.org/transportation/2012-11-14-00-04-13/2012-11-14-00-04-53/project-programming-processes>.

The Region 9 Transportation Technical Committee ranks candidate projects and recommends programming to the Region 9 Transportation Policy Committee. Recommendations and selection of a project(s) will occur at Technical and Policy Committee meetings in mid-2019. Notice of these meetings will each be sent no less than 48 hours but typically at least one week prior to the meeting date.

Project submittals may be faxed to (309)793-6305, mailed to our 1504 Third Avenue, Rock Island, IL 61201, or e-mailed to [tcullison@bistateonline.org](mailto:tcullison@bistateonline.org). If you have any questions regarding this notice or require an electronic copy of the applications, please contact me or Tara Cullison at (309) 793-6300 or by e-mail at [gmcullough@bistateonline.org](mailto:gmcullough@bistateonline.org) or [tcullison@bistateonline.org](mailto:tcullison@bistateonline.org), or refer to the website link provided.

Staff encourages other persons copied on this notice to work with their respective local governments on potential candidate projects based on local plans and implementation strategies.

The STBG and TA Set-Aside manuals and application forms for Iowa Region 9 are available online at <http://bistateonline.org/transportation/2012-11-14-00-04-13/2012-11-14-00-04-53/project-programming-processes>.

Resources:       Region 9 TA Set-Aside Manual with Application  
                      Region 9 STBG Manual with Application

cc:       Transportation Policy Committee  
          Regional Transportation Advisory Group (Region 9 and Combined Interests)

GM/sdg  
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