



# Active Transportation Working Group

Meeting #3



March 27, 2024



# Meeting #3 Agenda

1. Meeting 2 recap (Glen Johnson, Chair)
  1. Revisit previous discussion
2. Active transportation 2024 funding details (Steve Peterson)
  1. Review requirements and compare to RS application
  2. 2024 projects funding considerations and details
  3. 2024 RS AT projects overview
  4. Potential 2024 AT funding scenario
    - A. Discussion
  5. 2024 Funding option recommendation to TAB

# Purpose of Today

## Forward 2024 Recommendation to TAB & Discuss Future Options

Review and discuss 2024 funding possibilities

- Forward recommendation to TAB on 2024 funding



# Active Transportation (AT) Funding Options



## Total Funding and Options to Consider

Projected Active Transportation Sales Tax Revenues:

2023/2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2023-2030 Total
\$28 M	\$24 M	\$24 M	\$24 M	\$24 M	\$24 M	\$24 M	\$172 M

### Overview of options for funds:

- (2024) Option 1: No AT funds in 2024, include revenue in later solicitations
- (2024) Option 2: Fund 2024 Selected Bike/Ped Projects that Requested \$2M or Less
- ~~(2024) Option 3: Fund 20% Non-Federal Share of Selected Bike/Ped Projects in 2024 Solicitation up to Max Award Amount~~

Sales tax revenue received in 2023 (Oct-Dec) for Active Transportation - \$5 million



# 2024 Option 2 Pros/Cons Revisited



## 2024 Reg Sol: Bike/Ped Projects that Requested \$2M or Less

2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Solicitation	Project Dev	\$10M-\$15M, mostly in 2026 and 2027				

\*Note: Could use up to \$28M ('23+'24 revenue), \$10M-\$15M is based on modal funding ranges and federal funding available.

### Pros:

- Defederalizes small AT projects with only regional money.
- Allows for grant management pilot.
- Starts spending the quickest of options with spending in 26-27.
- Provides funding for more AT projects now.
  - 65 bike/ped projects submitted requesting \$160M.
- Existing application mostly meets 7 required elements.

### Cons:

- Applicants not aware that additional AT funds would be available for this cycle.
- Require follow up and additional information from applicants.



# Active Transportation Project Requirements



## The selection process must include criteria and prioritization of projects based on:

1. *the project's inclusion in a municipal or regional nonmotorized transportation system plan;*
2. *the extent to which policies or practices of the political subdivision encourage and promote complete streets planning, design, and construction;*
3. *the extent to which the project supports connections between communities and to key destinations within a community;*
4. *identified barriers or deficiencies in the nonmotorized transportation system;*
5. *identified safety or health benefits;*
6. *geographic equity in project benefits, with an emphasis on communities that are historically and currently underrepresented in local or regional planning; and*
7. *the ability of a grantee to maintain the active transportation infrastructure following project completion.*

# 2024 Regional Solicitation Requirements Comparison

## Multi-Use Trails/Bike

1. *the project's inclusion in a municipal or regional nonmotorized transportation system plan;*
2. *the extent to which policies or practices of the political subdivision encourage and promote complete streets planning, design, and construction;*
3. *the extent to which the project supports connections between communities and to key destinations within a community;*
4. *identified barriers or deficiencies in the nonmotorized transportation system;*
5. *identified safety or health benefits;*
6. *geographic equity in project benefits, with an emphasis on communities that are historically and currently underrepresented in local or regional planning; and*
7. *the ability of a grantee to maintain the active transportation infrastructure following project completion.*

## Pedestrian

1. *the project's inclusion in a municipal or regional nonmotorized transportation system plan;*
2. *the extent to which policies or practices of the political subdivision encourage and promote complete streets planning, design, and construction;*
3. *the extent to which the project supports connections between communities and to key destinations within a community;*
4. *identified barriers or deficiencies in the nonmotorized transportation system;*
5. *identified safety or health benefits;*
6. *geographic equity in project benefits, with an emphasis on communities that are historically and currently underrepresented in local or regional planning; and*
7. *the ability of a grantee to maintain the active transportation infrastructure following project completion.*

## Safe Routes to School

1. *the project's inclusion in a municipal or regional nonmotorized transportation system plan;*
2. *the extent to which policies or practices of the political subdivision encourage and promote complete streets planning, design, and construction;*
3. *the extent to which the project supports connections between communities and to key destinations within a community;*
4. *identified barriers or deficiencies in the nonmotorized transportation system;*
5. *identified safety or health benefits;*
6. *geographic equity in project benefits, with an emphasis on communities that are historically and currently underrepresented in local or regional planning; and*
7. *the ability of a grantee to maintain the active transportation infrastructure following project completion.*

Green = Covered in RS application  
Yellow = Possibly covered  
Red = Not covered

# 2024 Funding Detail Discussion



## Details to Consider for Funding 2024 RS Projects

### Will not be able to fund all of the 65 submitted AT projects

- Estimated total of \$28 million regional AT funding to be collected by end of 2024 (max amount available – potentially use around \$10M to \$15M for a grants management pilot).

### Need to set a dollar amount cap for grants management pilot

- In order to build up capacity, limit on initial number of funds and subsequently projects.

### Eligible projects to receive funding

- Small projects (AT projects with a funding request of \$2M or below).
- Earliest projects (Regional Solicitation application includes option to indicate earlier start dates).
  - Technical members asked for input on potential years.
- Projects that meet all legislative requirements.
  - High ranking projects which do not meet all requirements may still be funded with federal funds.

### Pilot Project

- Details determined for this one-time process do not need to be carried over into future solicitations.
- Learning experience, will report back on lessons learned.

### Local Match

- Will remain the same as typical for RS projects at 20%.



# 2024 Regional Solicitation AT Projects

## Multi-Use Trails/Bike

- 11 projects with \$2M request or less
- \$14M total requested
- 8 indicated that they could start project earlier
  - 4 – 2025 (\$5M)
  - 4 – 2026 (\$4.6M)
- W/O AT funding – 5 highest ranked projects could be federally funded (total for category, not just under \$2M request)

## Pedestrian Facilities

- 17 total projects (all requested \$2M or less)
- \$26M total requested
- 11 indicated that they could start project earlier
  - 3 – 2025 (\$4.3M)
  - 5 – 2026 (\$11.3M)
  - 3 – 2027 (\$3.7M)
- W/O AT funding - 3 highest ranked projects could be federally funded

## Safe Routes to Schools

- 10 total projects (all requested \$2M or less)
- \$9M total requested
- 7 indicated that they could start project earlier
  - 4 – 2025 (\$3.7M)
  - 3 – 2026 (\$2.3M)
- W/O AT funding - 4 highest ranked projects could be federally funded

This approach would not skip over projects in the ranked list. Highest scoring projects would receive either federal or regional AT funding depending on legislative requirements, and their request amount and ability to deliver the project early.

# Draft 2024 Option 2 – For Discussion



## **Recommend \$XM (somewhere around 10M-\$15M) to 2024 Reg Solicitation projects**

- Approximately 8-12 total projects.
- Mix of the three eligible project categories (Multiuse Trails, Pedestrian, and Safe Routes to School).
  - 3 to 4 projects from each category.

## **Eligible projects**

- Below \$2M federal request
  - If no cap – large multi-use trail projects could take majority of funding and limit total amount of projects to receive funding.
- Meet or can meet legislative requirements.
  - Included in non-motorized system plan.
  - Complete streets policies/programs.
- Can begin project early (Program Years TBD based on technical input).

## **Highest scoring RS applications (that meet above requirements) will get priority for AT funding**

- Remaining projects will receive federal funding per typical RS selection criteria.
- No higher-ranked projects will be skipped for one of the two funding sources.

**AT projects would be assigned a program year and follow TAB's Program Year Policy and Scope Change Policy.**



# Next Steps



- Should staff ask high-scoring applicants the following questions before the April TAB meeting?
  - Requirement 1: Inclusion in a non-motorized system plan (if not already in application).
  - Requirement 2: Complete streets policy or program.
  - Confirm earliest program year if given non-federal funds.
- 2024 Funding Option will go to TAB in April to consider policy questions.
  - Direct Staff to Include \$X of AT funding in all funding scenarios?
- Future Action Items with the specific AT projects recommended for funding will move through the normal committee structure of TAC Funding and Programming then to TAC then to TAB.
- Need to have standing meeting 4<sup>th</sup> week of month to move recommendations through review process and avoid other standing TAB/TAC meeting times – will send a new availability tool to gauge availability during week.





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