



# TRI-COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

EST. 1958

## AGENDA

### Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Technical Committee

Wednesday, June 21, 2023, at 9:00am CT  
456 Fulton St, Suite 420  
Peoria, IL 61602

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#### Connect via computer or smartphone:

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/291023189>

#### Or call in with any telephone:

+1 (408) 650-3123  
Access code: 291-023-189

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1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Public Comment
4. Approval of Minutes, May 17, 2023 Meeting
5. Recommend to Commission Transportation Improvement Program Amendments – Attachment
  - a. Project W-24-03 Nofsinger Road
  - b. Project W-24-04 Washington Safe Routes to School
  - c. Project C-24-01 Chillicothe Shared Use Path
  - d. Project S-24-13 Safety: Peoria County Pedestrian Push Buttons
  - e. Project S-24-14 Safety Pedestrian Push Buttons
6. Formation of Review Subcommittee for FY 2024 Special Transportation Studies
7. Call for Projects – Transportation Alternative Set-Aside – Attachment
8. Discussion of Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-saving Transportation (PROTECT) Grant Program - Attachment
9. Updates
  - a. IDOT
    - Local Roads
    - Central Office
  - b. FHWA
10. Other
  - a. Next meeting scheduled for July 19, 2023
11. Adjournment

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The MPO receives federal funding and may not discriminate against anyone on the basis of race, color, or national origin according to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. For more information or to obtain a Title VI complaint form, please call 309-673-9330.

Tri-County Regional Planning Commission strives to provide an environment welcoming to all persons regardless of physical or mental challenges, race, gender, or religion. Please call 309-673-9330 to request special accommodations at least two days in advance.



# TRI-COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

EST. 1958

## MINUTES

### Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Technical Committee

Wednesday, May 17, 2023, at 9:00am CT  
456 Fulton St, Suite 420  
Peoria, IL 61602

#### 1. Call to Order

Chairperson Kinga Krider called the meeting to order at 9:01 am

#### 2. Roll Call

Member	Present	Absent	Member	Present	Absent
<b>Amy McLaren,</b> Peoria County	x		<b>Dustin Sutton*</b> Peoria Heights		x
<b>Jeff Gilles,</b> Peoria County		x	<b>Dennis Carr</b> City of Washington	x	
<b>Mark Gilles*</b> Peoria County		x	<b>Jon Oliphant*</b> City of Washington	x	
<b>Paul Augspurger</b> Tazewell County	x		<b>Patrick Meyer</b> Village of Bartonville	x	
<b>Dan Parr</b> Tazewell County	x		<b>Terrisa Worsfold</b> IDOT-04	x	
<b>Conrad Moore</b> Woodford County		x	<b>Karen Dvorsky*</b> IDOT-04		x
<b>Alyssa Barnett,</b> City of Peoria	x		<b>Kinga Krider</b> City of West Peoria	x	
<b>VACANT</b> City of Peoria			<b>Charles Hess</b> City of West Peoria*	x	
<b>Andrea Klopfenstein</b> City of Peoria	x		<b>Craig Loudermilk</b> Village of Morton	V	
<b>Sie Maroon*</b> City of Peoria	x		<b>Frank Sturm</b> Village of Morton*		x
<b>Cindy Loos*</b> City of Peoria	V		<b>Kenneth Coulter</b> City of Chillicothe		x
<b>Paola Mendez*</b> City of Peoria	x		<b>David Horton*</b> City of Chillicothe		x
<b>VACANT</b> City of Peoria			<b>Terry Keogel</b> Village of Creve Coeur		x
<b>Josie Esker*</b> City of Pekin		x	<b>Nick Standefer*</b> Citylink	V	
<b>Dean Schneider</b> City of Pekin		x	<b>Jamie Arbogast*</b> CityLink		x
<b>Ric Semonski</b> City of East Peoria		x	<b>Doug Roelfs,</b> Citylink		x
<b>Ty Livingston*</b> City of East Peoria	x		<b>Gene Olson*</b> MAAP		x
<b>Chris Chandler</b> Village of Peoria Heights		x	<b>Eric Miller</b> TCRPC		x
<b>Wayne Aldrich*</b> Village of Peoria Heights		x	<b>Rich Brecklin</b> Village of Germantown Hills	x	

Staff: Debbie Ulrich, Logan Chapman, and Michael Bruner. Staff Virtual: Britney West. Also present: Brandon Geber-MPO Manager- IDOT, Simon Alwan (Local Roads), and Tony Sassine (Central Roads)-IDOT, and Virtual: Betsy Tracey- FHWA

3. Public Comment-none
4. Approval of Minutes, April 19, 2023, Meeting  
Patrick Meyer moved to approve the April 19, 2023, minutes and Andrea Klopfenstein seconded. Motion carried.
5. Recommend to Commission Transportation Improvement Program Amendments – Attachment
  - a. Project S-24-11 Safety: Interstate Delineators
  - b. Project S-24-12 Safety: Guardrail Replacement
  - c. Project GH-21-01 Germantown Hills to Metamora Trail
  - d. Project PC-23-03 Maxwell & Middle Road Sidewalk/Multi-Use Trail

Amy McLaren moved to recommend to Commission Transportation Improvement Program Amendments a thru d and Patrick Meyer seconded.

Michael Bruner updated on the following:

- Project S-24-11 Safety: Interstate Delineators
  - HSIP safety project replacing delineators along Interstates in D4
  - Adding to FY 2024 Program
- Project S-24-12 Safety: Guardrail Replacement
  - HSIP safety project replacing guardrail along IL-98 from McNaugon Park Dr. to Springfield Rd in Tazewell County; and IL-18 from IL-89 to Meridan RD. in Putnam County.
  - Adding to FY 2024 Program
- Project GH-21-01 Germantown Hills to Metamora Trail
  - Transportation Alternative funding programmed by the Commission earlier this month.
  - Phase I and II engineering for the Germantown Hills to Metamora Trail.
  - Adding to the FY 2024 Program.
- Project PC-23-03 Maxwell & Middle Road Sidewalk/ Multi-Use Trail
  - Transportation Alternative funding programmed by the Commission earlier this month.

- Sidewalk and Multi-Use Trail Construction along Maxwell and Middle Road from Dirksen Parkway to Charleston Rd.
- Adding to the FY 2025 Program.

Motion carried.

#### 6. Call for Projects – FY 2024 Special Transportation Studies

Michael Bruner updated on the following:

- a. The Commission has programmed approximately \$150,000 of FY 2024 Metropolitan Planning Funds for Special Transportation Studies.
- b. The project application is available on the Commission's website, under Funding Programs: <https://tricountyrpc.org/funding-programs/special-studies/>
- c. Project Schedule
  - Project proposals are due to Staff by 3:30 pm on Friday, June 16<sup>th</sup>.
  - A Review Subcommittee will be established during the June Technical Committee meeting on June 21, 2023.
  - The Subcommittee will meet to review, grade, and recommend projects.
  - The Technical Committee makes recommendation to Commission at July Meeting
  - Commission approves projects at the August 2, 2023, meeting.
- d. Eligible projects are corridor plans, feasibility studies, bicycle, and pedestrian plans, TDM, data collection, asset management, etc.

#### 7. Updates

- a. Active Transportation Kickoff Event
  - Last night we had our Active Transportation Workshop at the Neighborhood House.
  - The event went really well.
  - We had two nationally acclaimed transportation experts, Charles Brown, and Mark Fenton.
  - The event kicked off staff's new planning project to start updating our region's bicycle plan to an active transportation plan that not only focuses on bicycles, but also pedestrians and transit users.

- More is to come with this project with the opportunity to participate in the planning process by sitting on the steering committee.

b. Public Participation Plan Update

- Last Fall, the FHWA released guidance on public participation.
- To ensure TCRPC's public participation plan is compatible with this guidance, staff reviewed the guide and updated our plan accordingly.
- Additionally, Staff has been talking with local stakeholders that deals with the public on a regular basis to learn from their best management practices.
- Staff is working on putting the final touches on the document and will release the plan for the required 45-day public comment period soon.

c. FY 2024-27 Transportation Improvement Program

- As you know, Staff has been working on updating the Transportation Improvement Program
- Everyone should have received communications from Staff on getting an update on existing projects in our TIP document and an understanding of future projects that should be added.
- Staff is also asking for any additional illustrative project to be included in the TIP as an unfunded, future project.

d. IDOT

- Local Roads

Simon Alwan updated on the following:

**1. 2023 Special Programs Assistance Conference (SPAC) Announcement**

- IDOT hosting informational conferences in each District to go over several grants' programs to help Local Agencies better understand several funding programs and to put together better applications. Conference for District 4 is June 6 & 7 at the Peoria Public Library- Main Street Branch.
- The programs covered are Economic Development Program (EDP), IL Transportation Enhancement Program (ITEP), and Safe Routes to School (SRTS)

- IDOT will provide general information on the 3 programs and then hold one-on-one sessions with Local Agencies to go over specific projects and applications. The one-on-one sessions are by appointment only. IDOT highly encourages Local Agencies to attend.
- See Circular Letter 2023-09 for more info.

## **2. Dynamic Invoice Form (Circular Letter 2023-15)**

- To be used for reimbursements for a joint funding agreement, township Bridge Program, or Grade crossing Protection Fund
- Effective date was May 1<sup>st</sup> with transition period for reimbursements already in progress until June 30<sup>th</sup>.
- There currently is an issue with the email button so will need to email directly to your respective District Field Engineer.

## **3. Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-Saving Transportation (PROTECT) for FY 22-23**

- Discretionary grant
- \$848M to be distributed to projects.
- 4 categories- Planning grants/ Resilience Improvement/ Community/ Resilience and Evacuation Routes/ At-Risk Coastal Infrastructure projects
- Planning Grants- Minimum award for \$100k. No maximum award size.
- Other 3 categories- min award of \$500k. No maximum award size.
- Application Deadline is August 18, 2023, and apps to be submitted through Grants.gov.
- See circular letter 2023-16 for more info.

## **4. Local Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP)**

- 31.3M for the FY25 funding cycle
- Applications will be received through Friday, June 30, 2023, with award announcements expected in September 2023.
- There was an informational webinar on May 11<sup>th</sup>. It may have been recorded and available for viewing but not completely sure.
- More info can be found in Circular Letter 2023-14

## **5. Safe Routes to School (SRTS)**

- Next funding cycle coming up. Has not been officially announced yet.
- Applications will be accepted from August 1<sup>st</sup> through Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- Another good reason to attend the SPAC especially if Local Agency has a specific project in mind.
- Central Office  
Brandon Geber updated on the following:
  - Protect Grant- MPO is applying for grant.

### **e. FHWA**

Betsy Tracey has nothing to add except to comment there is a lot of programs going on.

## **8. Other**

- a. Next meeting scheduled for June 21, 2023

## **9. Adjournment**

Patrick Meyer moved to adjourn at 9:45 am and Paola Mendez seconded. Motion carried.

Submitted by:

Eric Miller, Executive Director

Recorded by:

Britney West, GIS III

Transcribed by:

Debbie Ulrich, Office Administrator

**TRI-COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**  
**FY 2023-2026 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)**

Adopted July 6, 2022, as amended

**TIP AMENDMENT REQUEST FORM**

DATE	AMENDING TIP DOCUMENT		AGENCY REQUESTING AMENDMENT(S)
6/5/2023	From 2023	To 2026	City of Washington, Chillicothe, and IDOT

PROJECT INFORMATION									
PROJECT TITLE	PPUATS TIP NUMBER	PROJECT CONTRACT NUMBER	PROJECT NUMBER (PPS#)	PROJECT SECTION NUMBER	IMPROVEMENT LOCATION	ACTION	FUNDING SOURCE	FUNDING SHARE (%)	TOTAL COST
Nofsinger Road	W-24-03			23-00113-00-SP	Cruger Road to Santa Fe Road	Realignment and Construction of existing Nofsinger Road from Santa Fe Road to Cruger Road, including new intersection at US-24 and at Dallas Road at the south end of the project.	CPF Federal Earmarks	50%	\$ 4,000,000
							HSIP	34%	\$ 2,700,000
							State	4%	\$ 300,000
							Local	13%	\$ 1,000,000
							Total		\$ 8,000,000
Reason for Amendment: Adding to the FY 2024 Program									

Washington Safe Routes to School	W-24-04			22-00131-00-SW	Grant Street from School St to the east, and North Street from Main St to West St	Work will consist of a 5 foot sidewalk on the south side of Grant Street, as well as on the north side of North Street.	SRTS	80%	\$ 377,280
							State		
							Local	20%	\$ 95,045
							Total		\$ 472,325
Reason for Amendment: Adding to the FY 2024 Program									

Chillicothe Shared Use Path	C-24-01				From Library along Bradley and Cloverdale to Calvary Baptist	Construction of off-road multi-use path	ITEP	88%	\$ 740,271
							State		
							Local	12%	\$ 98,919
							Total		\$ 839,190
Reason for Amendment: Addition to the FY 2024 Program									

Safety: Peoria County Pedestrian Push Buttons	S-24-13	68H76	0-00819-4001	D4 ADA Pushbuttons 2024	Various locations throughout Peoria County	Replace pushbuttons with APS push buttons		90%	\$ 1,350,000
								10%	\$ 150,000
									\$ 1,500,000
Reason for Amendment: Addition to IDOT Dist. 4 Fiscal Year 2024 Annual Program. Project scheduled for the September 22, 2023 letting.									

Safety: Pedestrian Push Buttons	S-24-14	68H77	0-00819-4002	D4 ADA Pushbuttons 2024-1	Various locations in District 4	Replace pushbuttons with APS push buttons	HSIP	90%	\$ 1,350,000
							State	10%	\$ 150,000
							Local		
							Total		\$ 1,500,000
Reason for Amendment: Addition to IDOT Dist. 4 Fiscal Year 2024 Annual Program. Project scheduled for September 22, 2023 letting.									

							State		
							Local		
Total								\$	-
Reason for Amendment:									

							State		
							Local		
							Total		\$ -
Reason for Amendment:									

Technical	
Commission	

IDOT District 4 Local Roads	
IDOT District 4 Programming	
FHWA	

# Call for Projects

## Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside

### Fiscal Years 2021-2023

#### Program Description

Tri-County Regional Planning Commission (TCRPC), the metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for the Peoria-Pekin Urbanized Area, announced the availability of Transportation Alternatives (TA) funding for transportation projects.

TA was initially authorized under Section 1122 of Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Act (MAP-21). The Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act replaced the original Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) with Transportation Alternative set-aside funds under the Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program. The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) continued the Transportation Alternatives set-aside from the STBG program.

TA authorizes funding for programs and projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities such as historic preservation and vegetation management, and environmental mitigation related to storm water and habitat connectivity; recreational trail projects; safe routes to school projects; and projects for planning, designing, or constructing boulevards and other roadways largely in the right-of-way of former divided highways.

#### Funding Information

Federal funding for TA is provided by the Transportation Alternatives set-aside of the STBG Program and is authorized by the FAST Act and reauthorized by the IIJA. The IIJA authorized five years of TA funding.

These funds come from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) serves as the administrator. As an MPO with an urbanized population over 200,000, TCRPC receives an annual allotment of TA funds to program. This is the second Call for Project for Fiscal Years (FY) 2021-2023. Of the available \$1,458,565, \$783,159 have been programmed because of the first Call for Projects. As a result, **a total of \$675,406 is available** for funding in this Call for Projects.

Below is an overview of the two projects awarded from the first Call for Projects.

- The Village of Germantown Hills received \$240,000 for Phase I and II Engineering for a 10-foot trail from the Village of Germantown Hills to the Village of Metamora.

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Call for Projects #2 – FY 2021-23 Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside

- Peoria County received \$543,159 for constructing a sidewalk on the west side of Maxwell Road from Charleston Road to Middle Road, a multi-use path on the east side of Maxwell Road from Charleston Road to Middle Road, and a multi-use path on the north side of Middle Road from Maxwell Road to Dirksen Parkway.

## **Eligibility Information**

An entity may not apply for a grant until the entity has registered and pre-qualified through the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA) Grantee Portal, <https://gata.illinois.gov/>. Each entity should check with their county's or municipality's highest-level personnel (such as the treasurer, clerk, etc.) to see how they are currently registered in the GATA portal. Registration and pre-qualification are required annually. During pre-qualification, verifications are performed including a check of federal SAM.gov Exclusion List and status on the Illinois Stop Payment List. The Grantee Portal alerts the entity of "qualified" status or informs them how to remediate a negative verification (e.g., inactive UEI, not in good standing with the Secretary of State). Inclusion on the SAM.gov Exclusion List cannot be remediated.

## **Eligible Applicants**

All projects applying for TA funding must be sponsored by one or more member entities of the Peoria-Pekin Urbanized Area MPO. Other governmental entities within the MPO planning area are eligible only with co-sponsorship by one of the MPO member entities. A map of the MPO planning area may be found at the end of this document.

Examples of Non-MPO eligible project co-sponsors include:

- Local governments
- Transit agencies
- Natural resource or public land agencies
- School districts, local education agencies, or schools
- Tribal governments
- Any other local or regional governmental entity with responsibility for oversight of transportation or recreational trails

Sponsors assume responsibility and accountability for the use and expenditure of program funds. Applicants and/or implementing agencies must be able to comply with all the federal and state laws, regulations, policies, and procedures required to enter into project agreements.

## **Federal Share and Matching Funds**

**TA is a reimbursable program.** The Federal share for TA projects is as follows:

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- Preliminary engineering, utility relocations, construction engineering and construction are eligible for funding at an 80/20 match, i.e., 80% is TA matched by 20% sponsor share.
- Acquisition of right-of-way and easements are eligible for funding at a 50/50 match, i.e., 50% is TA funding matched by 50% sponsor share.
- Street lighting, unless in a designated historical area, also requires a 50% local match. In a designated historic area, street lighting may qualify for 80% TA with a 20% local match.

The local match does not necessarily have to be provided directly by the sponsor, but it must be a non-federal source to qualify as match. Submission of an application commits the applicant to the required match.

### **Application and Submission Information**

The application and all relevant materials will be posted on Tri-County Regional Planning Commission's website at <https://tricountyrpc.org/funding-programs/tap>, but may also be requested from TCRPC staff. To apply, applications must be completed digitally and submitted to [funding@tricountyrpc.org](mailto:funding@tricountyrpc.org) with all relevant materials in PDF format **by 3:30pm on Monday, July 31, 2023**. Applications are also accepted by mail and must be marked as TA Application. The mailing address is: 456 Fulton Street, Suite 401, Peoria, IL 61602.

Applications should include the following:

- TA Application Form
- Project Location Map
- Resolution to Commit Matching Funds
- Optional supporting documentation, such as letters of support, photographs, conceptual designs, etc.

Please direct any questions to Commission staff at (309) 673-9330 or by email at [funding@tricountyrpc.org](mailto:funding@tricountyrpc.org).

### **Submission Dates and Times**

The call for projects begins Wednesday, June 21, 2023, and ends at 3:30pm on Monday, July 31, 2023. Applications received after this date will be considered ineligible for TA funding.

### **Funding Restrictions**

All awarded funds must be used according to all applicable federal and state laws, regulations, policies, and procedures. TA funds lapse within three years if not obligated. Projects unable to meet these deadlines will be rescinded.

## Eligible Projects

A project must demonstrate a relationship to surface transportation to be eligible for TA funding. TA projects must enhance the transportation system either by serving a transportation need or providing a transportation use or benefit and not be solely for recreational use. Projects must be consistent with the goals of TCRPC's Long-Range Transportation Plan, the IIJA, and the BikeConnect HOI Regional Bicycle Plan. In addition, projects need to be constructed in reasonable, useable segments and provide logical termini.

Activities are not eligible if they are routine maintenance projects such as re-stripping a trail, cleaning up debris, or repairing a broken curb. Please be advised – if your project involves sidewalk work, you most likely 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.

The MPO follows guidance from the FHWA. The FHWA has prepared a document, [Transportation Alternatives Guidance](#), which outlines all eligible activities. Additionally, the FHWA has a [Transportation Alternative Fact Sheet](#). IDOT also offers TA guidance with their [Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program \(ITEP\)](#).

**23 U.S.C. 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:

Under 23 U.S.C. 213(b), eligible activities under the TA program consists of:

1. Transportation Alternatives as defined in 23 U.S.C. 101(a)(29) (MAP-21 §1103):
  - A. Construction, planning, and design 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 of 1990 (42 USC 12101 et seq.).
  - B. 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.
  - C. Conversion and use of abandoned railroad corridors for trails for pedestrians, bicyclists, or other non-motorized transportation users.
  - D. Construction of turnouts, overlooks, and viewing areas.

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Call for Projects #2 – FY 2021-23 Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside

- E. Community improvement activities, which include but are not limited to:
- i. inventory, control, or removal of outdoor advertising
  - ii. historic preservation and rehabilitation of historic transportation facilities
  - iii. vegetation management practices in transportation rights-of-way to improve roadway safety, prevent against invasive species, and provide erosion control
  - iv. archaeological activities relating to impacts from implementation of a transportation project eligible under title 23
- F. Any environmental mitigation activity, including pollution prevention and pollution abatement activities and mitigation to:
- i. address stormwater management, control, and water pollution prevention or abatement related to highway construction or due to highway runoff, including activities described in sections 133(b)(11), 328(a), and 329 of title 23; or
  - ii. reduce vehicle-caused wildlife mortality or to restore and maintain connectivity among terrestrial or aquatic habitats.
2. The recreational trails program under section 206 of title 23.
3. The safe routes to school program eligible projects and activities listed at section 1404(f) of the SAFETEA-LU: [http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/safe\\_routes\\_to\\_school/overview/legislation.cfm](http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/safe_routes_to_school/overview/legislation.cfm)
- Safe Routes to School was formerly a stand-alone program, but is now one of the eligible activities under TA:
- A. Infrastructure-related projects.
  - B. Non-infrastructure-related activities.
  - C. Safe Routes to School coordinator.
4. Planning, designing, or constructing boulevards and other roadways largely in the right-of-way of former Interstate System routes or other divided highways.
5. An urbanized area with a population of more than 200,000 to use up to 50% of its suballocated TA funds for any STBG-eligible purpose (but still subject to the TA-wide requirement for competitive selection of projects); and [23 U.S.C. 133(h)(6)(B)]

TA funds cannot be used for:

- Promotional activities, except as permitted under the SRTS.

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Call for Projects #2 – FY 2021-23 Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside

- General recreation and park facilities, playground equipment, sports fields, campgrounds, picnic areas and pavilions, etc.
- Routine maintenance and operations.

### Eligible Project Phases and Costs

The sponsor must prepare (or have prepared by an engineering or architectural firm) an accurate cost estimate for all types of work involved with the TA project. Agencies or their consultants should be knowledgeable about estimating these types of project costs and the requirements of utilizing Federal funds.

- The costs eligible for reimbursement are:
- Preliminary engineering
- Utility relocations
- Right-of-way and easements
- Construction engineering
- Construction

Preliminary engineering is divided into two phases. Phase I Engineering (PE I) is the design and environmental study that determines the best overall approach to and the location of a project, addresses environmental concerns, prepares a cost estimate, and defines the scope of work. Phase II Engineering (PE II) consists of preparation of final construction plans, summary of quantities, specifications, and final cost estimate.

Utility relocations include any costs not covered in an existing utility agreement for relocation of power lines, telephone lines, gas lines, and other utilities affected by the TA project. Rights-of-way (ROWS) or easements include acquiring land or rights necessary for the construction of the project. Buildings cannot be purchased with enhancement funds. Construction Engineering (CE) involves the supervision of construction. Construction includes all materials and labor costs necessary to complete the construction of the project.

Any costs associated with the project that are necessary for implementing the TA project are eligible. For example, costs for environmental mitigation required for the project would be eligible costs of a project.

Feasibility and planning studies are not project-specific and therefore are ineligible costs. Projects can have enhancement eligible items and ineligible items implemented in the same project if the project elements are similar in construction procedures. The eligible and ineligible project elements must be separated in the local or interagency agreements, summary of quantities, plans, and contracts.

The project sponsor is responsible for 100% of any ineligible costs.

## Application Review Information

All TA project applications submitted by the deadline will be evaluated for funding using the project scoring and evaluation criteria, selection process, and anticipated scheduled reviews in this section of the Call for Projects.

### Project Scoring and Evaluation Criteria

The scoring and evaluation criteria included in the TA application is below.

Criterion	Maximum Points Available
<i>Self-Scored on Application</i>	
Consistency with LRTP 2045: TCRPC's Long Range Transportation Plan	10
Jurisdiction's Long Range or Comprehensive Plan	10
Co-Sponsorship	10
Documented Public Involvement	10
Documented Community Support	10
Intermodal Connections	10
Infrastructure and Facilities	10
Safety Factors	10
Project Schedule and Readiness	5
<i>Determined by Subcommittee</i>	
Public Benefits – Usage	10
Public Benefits – Value	5
TOTAL	100

### Project Review and Selection Process

TCRPC staff will review all TA project application submittals to ensure project eligibility and application completeness and accuracy. Staff will verify all relevant documentation, such as the LRTP or local comprehensive plans. When developing the proposed program, timely implementation will be considered as a major factor in project selection, as TA funds lapse within three years. For example, the FY 2021 TA funds must be obligated by September 30, 2024. Staff may request to have discussions with sponsors to verify project details and assess complications that might affect project readiness.

A TA subcommittee consisting of selected Technical Committee members will evaluate each application and assign scores to the "Public Benefits" section of the application, for a maximum of fifteen points total. IMPORTANT: The total point scores are a guide for programming decisions. The subcommittee may recommend funding a lower-scoring project over a higher-scoring project. It is at the discretion of the subcommittee to determine their reasoning for a recommendation, if not solely relying on point totals. However, any reasoning

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Call for Projects #2 – FY 2021-23 Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside

must be clearly documented and articulated in the final recommendation to the Technical Committee.

Additional TA funds will not be available beyond the initial programmed amounts without approval of the Commission; any increases in project costs will be the responsibility of the sponsors. Likewise, if a jurisdiction changes the scope of a project, after the funds are awarded, the project must be reviewed again and approved by the Commission before previously awarded funds are used for activities not included in the original scope of work.

### Anticipated Schedule and Programming Date

Date	Action
<b>June 21, 2023</b>	Issue call for projects and publish applications on website
<b>July 31, 2023</b>	TA applications due to TCRPC staff by 3:30 pm
<b>Week of August 1, 2023</b>	Staff reviews applications, ensuring completeness and validity
<b>August 16, 2023</b>	Project proposals presented during Technical Committee meeting
<b>August 16, 2023</b>	Establish TA Subcommittee during Technical Committee meeting
<b>August 29, 2023 (est.)</b>	TA Subcommittee convenes, reviews applications, assigns “Public Benefits” scores, and makes recommendation to Technical Committee
<b>September 20, 2023</b>	Technical Committee considers TA Subcommittee recommendation
<b>October 4, 2023</b>	Commission considers Technical Committee recommendation and programs TA funding

### **Award Administration Information**

The TA project selection process is transparent at the MPO level. Project presentations and the formation of a TA Subcommittee occur at the Technical Committee meeting following the application due date. The TA Subcommittee’s scoring results and recommendations are presented to the Technical Committee for the members to review and recommend to the Commission. The Commission members will in turn review and program the funding allotments.

### Award notices

Following program approval, all applicants are notified, and successful sponsor(s) are requested to work with IDOT and TCRPC staff to initiate the awarded projects.

### Administrative and National Policy Requirements

Federal: 23 USC 133(h), IIJA 1109; State: 20 ILCS 2701/615

## Reporting

The Uniform Periodic Performance Report (PPR) and the Uniform Periodic Financial Report (PFR) have been combined into IDOT's BoBS1 2832 Reporting Form. Quarterly reporting will be required unless more frequent reporting is required pursuant to specific award conditions.

These reports will describe the expenditure(s) of the funds and performance measures related thereto. The first BoBS 2832 report shall cover the first three months after the award begins. Quarterly reports must be submitted no later than thirty (30) calendar days following the three-month period covered by the report. Failure to submit the required BoBS 2832 report may cause a delay or suspension of funding.

The FHWA is responsible for generating a report on the status of TA and project details. IDOT works with the FHWA on this report, which is submitted annually to the U.S. Secretary of Transportation and made available to the public. Additional reporting for individual projects may be necessary for projects not moving to completion in a timely manner.

## **Awarding Agency Contact**

Tri-County Regional Planning Commission  
456 Fulton Street, Suite 401  
Peoria, IL 61602

Phone: (309) 673-9330

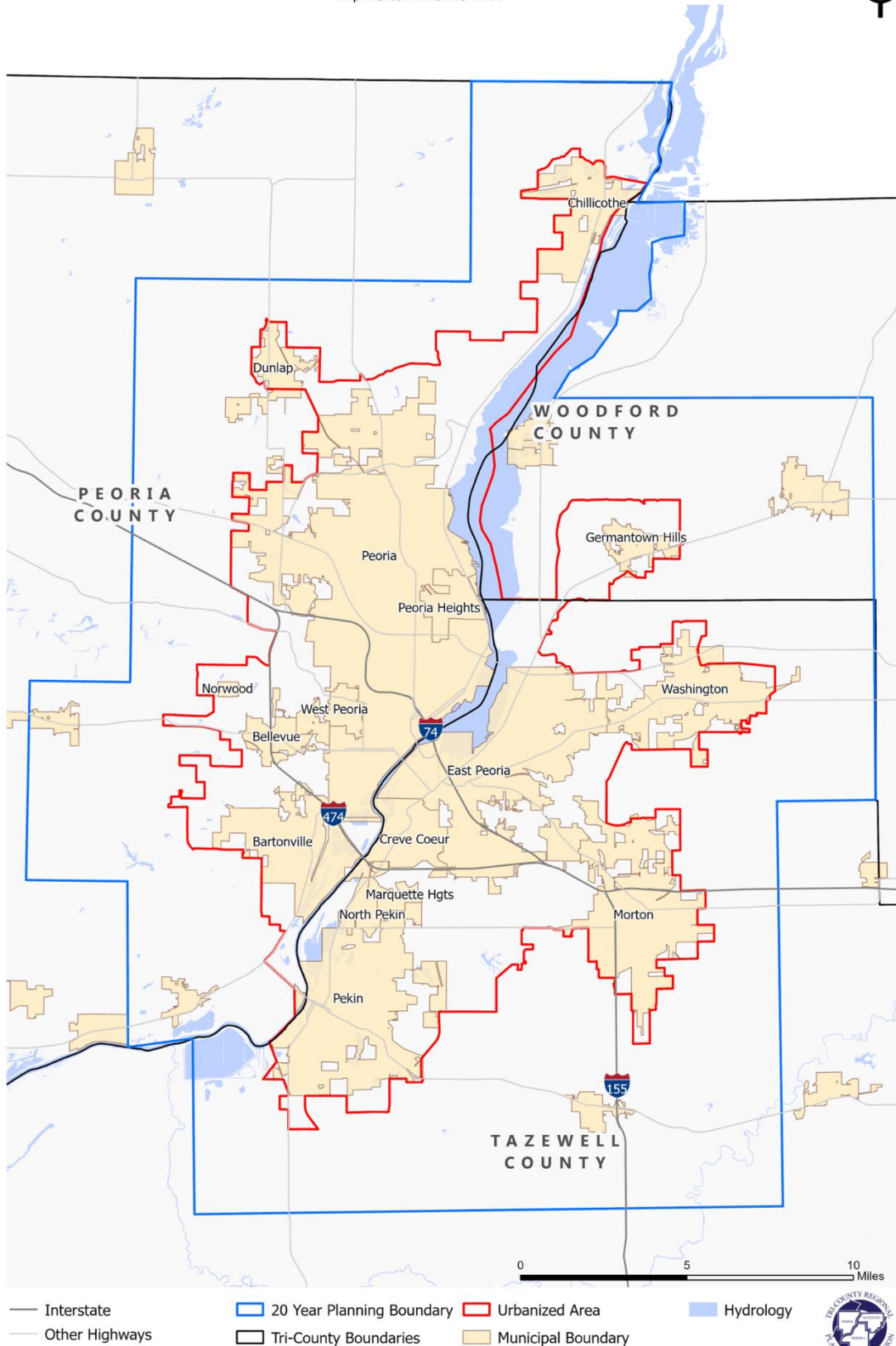
Email: [funding@tricountyrpc.org](mailto:funding@tricountyrpc.org)

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<sup>1</sup> Bureau of Business Services

# 2010 Urbanized Area and 20-Year Planning Boundary

Approved by PPUATS Policy Committee May 7th, 2014  
Map Created November 2021





# MEMORANDUM

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**TO:** Technical Committee  
**FROM:** Staff  
**SUBJECT:** PROTECT Grant Program  
**DATE:** June 21, 2023

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**Action needed:**

Discussion of Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-saving Transportation (PROTECT) Grant Program.

**Background:**

The Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-saving Transportation (PROTECT) Grant Program aims to reduce damage and disruption to the transportation system, improve the safety of the traveling public, and improve equity by addressing the needs of disadvantaged communities that are often the most vulnerable to hazards. Up to \$45 million is available for Planning Grants, with a minimum grant award of \$100,000 and no maximum award size.

The PROTECT program offers 100% funding for Planning Grant projects that address the climate crisis by improving the resilience of the surface transportation system, including highways, public transportation, ports, and intercity passenger rail. Planning Grants may be used for resilience planning, predesign, design, or the development of data tools to simulate transportation disruption scenarios, including vulnerability assessments; technical capacity building to facilitate the ability of the eligible entity to assess the vulnerabilities of its surface transportation assets and community response strategies under current conditions and a range of potential future conditions; or evacuation planning and preparation.

Applications are due August 18, 2023.

**Proposed Project:**

TCRPC proposes the creation of a Regional Resiliency Plan (RRP) spanning the Tri-County area. This consultant-led plan will assess vulnerabilities, transit access, and other environmental risks such as flooding, erosion, and heat island impacts through lenses of economic resilience and social justice. The plan would produce grant-ready, coordinated but distinct projects and objectives designed to facilitate environmental, economic, and social resilience, and to competitively position the region for federal infrastructure funding.

In alignment with PROTECT program objectives and thematic objectives emphasized in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), the RRP would consider factors such as:

- Vulnerability Assessment, including environmental risks:
  - Stormwater
    - Erosion
    - Flooding
  - Heat island impacts
- Multimodal transportation access
- Recreation access
- Social justice factors (such as income, race, age, and disability)
- Economic opportunities (geographic distribution)

**Next Steps:**

The next step will be to gather letters of support from municipalities in the Tri-County area and other regional entities willing to contribute support or resources. TCRPC staff will be available to answer questions. Letters of support will be accepted until two weeks before the grant application deadline. The next page has a sample letter of support that can be edited and placed on jurisdiction's letterhead.

**Sample Letter of Support:**

Eric Miller  
Executive Director  
Tri-County Regional Planning Commission  
456 Fulton Street, Suite 401  
Peoria, Illinois 61602

Re: Letter of Support for Tri-County's PROTECT Grant Application

Mr. Miller,

I write in support of the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission's application for the Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-saving Transportation (PROTECT) grant to develop a Regional Resiliency Plan. The PROTECT grant program aims to reduce damage and disruption to the transportation system, enhance the safety of the traveling public, and improve equity by addressing the needs of disadvantaged communities that are often the most vulnerable to hazards.

A Regional Resiliency Plan will assess vulnerabilities in the Tri-County area by ensuring the longevity of and access to surface transportation. Such a plan will examine the state of existing infrastructure, explore regional response strategies under current and future conditions, and identify potential system bottlenecks. These analyses will help the region prioritize future improvements, advance transportation equity, and improve the mechanical and environmental systems supporting surface transportation facilities. All these practices will allow regional stakeholders to more effectively plan for the future.

Without this financial support, the tri-county region of Peoria, Tazewell, and Woodford counties would not have the necessary resources to conduct a planning study of this size to improve the region's resiliency and safeguard future transportation investments. Our organization reiterates our support for this crucial planning initiative. Sincerely,

Sincerely,