





# FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR WALKABLE COMMUNITIES IN VIRGINIA

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## Specials

Updated August 2022

### Main Courses (Federal Funding Programs)

#### SMART SCALE

Projects related to improvements to safety, congestion reduction, accessibility to jobs and businesses, land use, economic development and the environment. Includes High-Priority Projects and District Grant funding.

Biennial app cycle  
Req. 0% match

#### Transportation Alternatives (TA)

Smaller-scale, non-traditional transportation projects; includes on-road and off-road facilities/accommodations for pedestrians, bicyclists and other non-motorized forms of transportation, includes Safe Routes to School.

Biennial app cycle  
Approx.  
\$1M/year/district  
Req. 20% Match

#### Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP)

Bike/Pedestrian Safety Program, Systemic roadway safety improvements; could include pedestrian improvements at intersections flashing yellow arrows, road diets, etc.

Annual app cycle  
Approx.  
\$18M/yr/statewide  
Req. 0% match

#### Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP)

Urbanized areas > 200k population; apply through the Transportation Planning Organization for surface transportation projects; must be federally obligated w/in 12 months of allocation & expended w/in 36 months of obligation.

Biennial app cycle  
Approx.  
\$6M/year/RVTPO  
Req. 0% match

#### Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP)

Improvements to transportation facilities that provide access to, are adjacent to, or are located within Federal lands.

\$8.7M/FY23-26  
statewide  
Req. 0% match

#### Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC)

Provides adequate access to qualifying establishments in the Appalachian Region to better link the region's businesses, communities and residents to the Appalachian Development Highway System (ADHS) and to other key parts of the region's transportation network.

\$3M/yr/statewide  
Req. 0% match

#### State of Good Repair (SGR) Primary Extension

For pavement overlay, rehabilitation, or reconstruction of Primary Route Extensions maintained by municipalities with a combined condition index (CCI) of <60. Must be advertised for construction w/in 12 months of allocation.

Annual app cycle  
\$1.5M/locality/yr  
Req. 0% match

#### State of Good Repair (SGR) Local Bridges

For structurally deficient bridges owned/maintained by the locality.

Annual app cycle  
Req. 0% match



## Specials

Updated August 2022

### Main Courses (State Funding Programs)

#### Revenue Sharing

Provides additional funding for use by a county, city, or town to construct or improve the highway systems; can include construction, reconstruction, improvement or maintenance projects.

Biennial app cycle  
\$100M/yr/statewide  
Limit of \$5M/yr &  
\$10M/project  
Req. 50% Match

#### Economic Development Access (EDA)

To provide adequate access, in consideration of the type and volume of traffic anticipated to be generated by the subject site to qualifying development sites; may require the construction of a new roadway, improvement of an existing roadway, or both.

Rolling, open apps  
\$700k unmatched +  
\$150k matched/  
project/locality/yr  
Design only:  
\$150k unmatched +  
\$50k matched/  
project/locality/yr

#### Recreational Access Program

Construction/improvements to publicly developed recreational areas or historic sites operated by a state agency, a locality, or a local authority. Requires coordination with DCR or DHR. Funding levels dependent on owner/operations status.

Rolling, open apps  
State Road - \$400k  
Local Road - \$250k  
unmatched + \$100k  
matched  
State Bikeway - \$75k  
Local Bikeway -  
\$60k unmatched +  
\$15k matched

#### Airport Access Program

To improve access to an existing public-use airport or to establish adequate access to a new public-use airport licensed by the Virginia Dept. of Aviation (DOAV).

Rolling, open apps  
\$500k unmatched +  
\$150k matched/  
project/airport/yr





# Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Overview

Intended to improve non-motorized transportation, enhance public's travel experience, revitalize communities, and improve quality of life



# TAP Overview

- **Federal reimbursement program**
  - **80% federal funds; 20% minimum required local match**
    - Local match as cash or pre-approved third-party donation as requested in application
    - Can layer TAP with other funding; restrictions apply to local match eligibility
- **Funds community-based projects that:**
  - **Expand non-motorized travel options**
  - **Enhance transportation experience**
    - Improve cultural, historical, and environmental aspects of transportation infrastructure
- **Focuses on providing pedestrian and bicycle facilities and community improvements**
- **Does NOT fund traditional roadway projects or maintenance**

# TAP Overview, Continued

- **Projects are typically administered by the project sponsor**
  - Staff must have completed the Qualifications Program
  - Complete Request to Administer form with pre-application
- **Projects can be VDOT administered**
  - Work with the appropriate District if you plan to request VDOT administration
  - In all cases, there are VDOT oversight expenses that should be accounted for in the application
    - Collaborate with your District prior to application
      - Site Visit



# TAP Funding

- **Project selections are made by Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) members**
- **Over 50% of available funding MUST be allocated by population:**
  - **<5,000**
  - **>5,000 to 50,000**
  - **>50,000 to <200,000**
  - **>200,000 (MPOs select)**
  - **Remaining funds are available statewide**
- **Typical TAP allocation is less than \$750,000**

# Last Round Overview (FY23/24)

District	Total Funding Awarded FY23/24 Round	Total Projects Awarded	Average FY23/24 Award
Bristol	\$4,500,974	5	\$900,195
<b>Culpeper</b>	\$3,292,027	4	\$823,007
Fredericksburg	\$3,854,410	2	\$1,927,205
Hampton Roads	\$9,745,696	13	\$749,669
Lynchburg	\$2,642,909	5	\$528,582
NOVA	\$13,943,244	16	\$871,453
Richmond	\$7,604,156	16	\$475,260
Salem	\$4,871,386	9	\$541,265
Staunton	\$5,225,852	12	\$435,488
<b>STATEWIDE</b>	<b>\$55,680,654</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>\$679,032</b>



# Program Applicants

- **Eligible Applicants:**
  - Local governments
  - Regional transportation authorities (including PDCs)
  - Transit agencies
  - Natural resource or public lands agencies
  - School districts, local education agencies, and schools
  - Federally recognized Tribal governments
  - Other local or regional governmental entities with responsibility for oversight of transportation or recreational trails
- **Ineligible Applicants:**
  - State DOTs
  - MPOs
  - Non-Profits

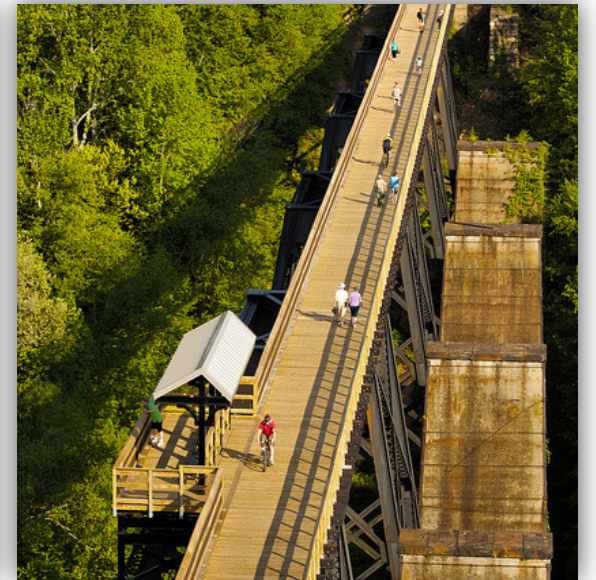
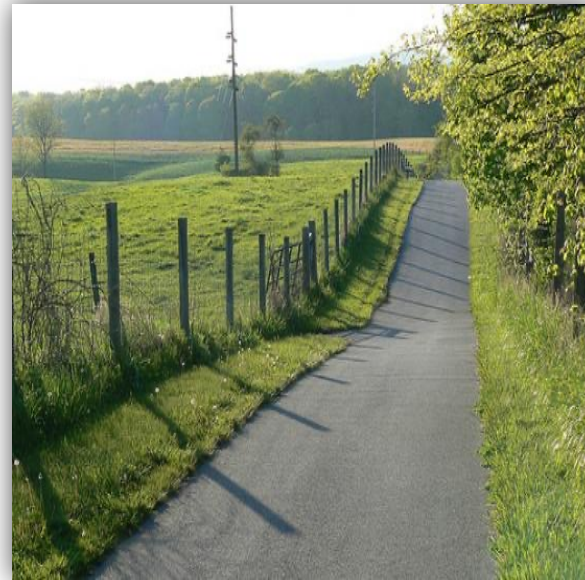
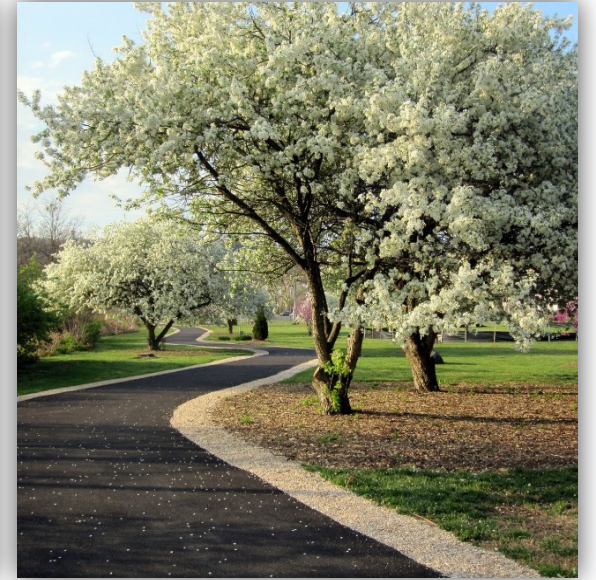


# Getting Started: Self Evaluation

- **Evaluate the following local resources when considering seeking federal transportation funding:**
  - **Do you have experience in administering federal aid projects?**
  - **Do you have a current full-time employee who has passed VDOT's Qualifications Program? Will you ask VDOT to administer?**
  - **Do you have a financial system in place to track and monitor project expenses?**
  - **Do you have staff available to meet the project timeframe?**
    - The CTB has established a four-year rule for TA projects

# Project Eligibility

- Pedestrian and bicycle facilities
- Converting abandoned railroad corridors to trails
- Systems to improve safety for non-drivers





# Project Eligibility, 2

- Turnouts and viewing areas at historic or scenic sites and meet logical termini requirements
- Restoration of historic transportation structures
- Safe Routes to School





# Project Eligibility, 3

- Outdoor advertising control and removal
- Vegetation management
- Archaeological activities
- Environmental mitigation
  - Erosion and pollution control
  - Wildlife mortality and habitat connectivity



# Preparing to Apply

- **Identify an eligible project need**
  - Work with your local VDOT District if you need assistance
- **Perform some preliminary engineering and/or evaluation for constructability and cost**
  - Conduct a site visit
- **Finalize the planned scope:**
  - Logical termini and independent utility
  - Project must reach construction within four years



# SMART Portal

- **All applications are accepted through SMART Portal**
  - Establish access and Organizational Administrator
- **Pre-applications open May 15; due June 30**
  - Pre-applications are validated/screen-in decisions made
  - Eligible pre-applications reopen on August 15
  - Full applications are due by October 2
- **Pre-application information**
  - Project title and description; eligibility category
  - Project termini
  - Cost estimate; tentative federal funding request, including match
  - What conceptual/pre-design work has been completed?

# More Information = Stronger Application

## Example Purpose:

The planned improvements will make it safer for children walking to school and attending after school sporting events.

## Stronger Purpose:

The planned improvements will install sidewalks were none previously existed and add crosswalks and accessible curb ramps, thereby improving the safety of students and other pedestrians entering Running Creek Elementary school. Most children don't walk to school due to the high traffic volumes and lack of sidewalks. Those who do must walk in the street and hope that cars slow down at the intersections since there are no markings to indicate a pedestrian or school crossing. The school is located in a residential area with high numbers of school-age children; the school also has a very active after school program including sports and other student activities.



# Ready, Set, Go!

- **Project development grant program**
- **Consultant team supports smaller communities in developing potential TA project ideas**
  - **Tabletop exercise – two-page content deliverable with checklist**
  - **Map**
  - **Schedule**
  - **Estimate**
- **Available to communities with populations of <50,000**

# TAP Resources



**Virginia's TAP page**

<http://www.virginiadot.org/business/prehancegrants.asp>



**VDOT Smart Portal site**

<http://smartscale.org>



**Transportation Alternatives Data Exchange site**

<https://www.railstotrains.org/policy/trade/>



**Safe Routes to Schools page**

<http://www.virginiadot.org/saferoutes>

# FY25/26 Pre-Application Training

**April 5, 10 a.m. until noon**  
**Virtual training via WebEx**

**Register at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VZBMB5P>**

# TAP Contact Information

- **For all existing TAP projects and potential TAP applications, VDOT District Staff are the first point of contact**
  - **If you do not know your District contact, refer to the contact list on VDOT's TAP page:**  
<https://www.virginiadot.org/business/prehancegrants.asp>
- **For all Safe Routes to School (non-infrastructure) projects:**
  - **Kathy Graham, Safe Routes to School Coordinator**
    - [Katherine.Graham@VDOT.Virginia.gov](mailto:Katherine.Graham@VDOT.Virginia.gov)



# VDOT Central Office Contacts

- **Brittany Voll, Federal Programs Manager**
  - [Brittany.Voll@VDOT.Virginia.gov](mailto:Brittany.Voll@VDOT.Virginia.gov)
  - Richmond
- **Jay Lindsey, Special Fund Consultant, FLAP Manager**
  - [Jay.Lindsey@VDOT.Virginia.gov](mailto:Jay.Lindsey@VDOT.Virginia.gov)
  - Culpeper, Fredericksburg, Lynchburg, and Northern Virginia
- **Synthia Waymack, Special Fund Consultant, Byway Manager**
  - [Synthia.Waymack@VDOT.Virginia.gov](mailto:Synthia.Waymack@VDOT.Virginia.gov)
  - Bristol, Hampton Roads, Salem, and Staunton

# VDOT Local Contacts: Culpeper Residencies

- **Warrenton: Culpeper, Fauquier, Rappahannock**
  - **540-347-6441**
- **Louisa: Louisa, Fluvanna, Orange**
  - **540-967-3710**
- **Charlottesville: Albemarle, Greene, Madison**
  - **434-293-0011**

[https://www.virginiadot.org/about\\_vdot/residencies.asp](https://www.virginiadot.org/about_vdot/residencies.asp)

