



PROJECT PRIORITIZATION COMMITTEE
Freeholder Kathy DeFillippo – Chair
County Executive Joseph DiVincenzo – Vice Chair

Special Teleconference Agenda
May 6, 2019
1:00 PM

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- I. Roll Call
 - II. Action Item: Approval of Projects for the 2018 Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program and Safe Routes to School Program (Attachment)
 - III. Other items
 - IV. Adjournment

**DRAFT RESOLUTION: APPROVAL OF PROJECTS FOR THE 2018
TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES SET-ASIDE
PROGRAM AND SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority, Inc. (NJTPA) has been designated by the Governor of New Jersey as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the northern New Jersey region; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation Alternates Set-Aside program (TA Set-aside) and Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program are supported in the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act of 2015 with a set-aside of funds under the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBGP); and

WHEREAS, the TA Set-aside program provides an opportunity for eligible applicants to apply for federal funding for the construction of community based "non-traditional" projects designed to strengthen the cultural, aesthetic, and environmental aspects of the nation's intermodal system; and

WHEREAS, the SRTS program provides an opportunity to enable and encourage all children in grades K-8 to walk and bicycle to school; to make bicycling and walking to school a safer and more appealing transportation alternative, thereby encouraging a healthy and active lifestyle from an early age; and, to facilitate the planning, development and implementation of projects and activities that will improve safety and reduce traffic, fuel consumption and air pollution in the vicinity of schools; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) conducted separate solicitations and awards for the TA Set-aside program and the SRTS program; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) sent out solicitation notifications in May 2018 inviting eligible applicants to submit for the programs; and

WHEREAS, NJDOT received 67 eligible TA Set-aside applications and 49 SRTS applications in the NJTPA region; and

WHEREAS, a Technical Review Committee comprised of NJTPA Central Staff, the NJDOT Division of Local Aid, Division of Traffic Engineering and Safety and the Bureau of Environmental Program Resources reviewed the applications; and

WHEREAS, within the NJTPA region, the NJDOT has agreed to fund the top-scoring TA Set-aside and SRTS projects with a combined funding total of \$19.79 million; and

WHEREAS, the recommended projects address the goals of the programs as defined;
and

WHEREAS, no action authorized by the NJTPA shall have force or effect until ten (10) days, Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays excepted, after a copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Trustees has been delivered to the Governor for review, unless prior to expiration of the review period the Governor shall approve same, in which case the action shall become effective upon such approval.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority hereby approves the attached list of projects for the Transportation Alternatives Set-aside Program and the Safe Routes to School Program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the New Jersey Department of Transportation for submission to the Federal Highway Administration and to the counties of the selected applicants.

Summary of Action

Approval of Projects for the 2018 Transportation Alternatives Set-aside Program and the Safe Routes to School Program

Action: Approval of projects for the 2018 Transportation Alternatives Set-aside program (TA Set-aside) and Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program.

Background: These programs are funded through a set-aside of the Federal-aid Highway Program.

TA Set-aside provides an opportunity for eligible entities to apply for federal funding for construction of community based “non-traditional” projects designed to strengthen the cultural, aesthetic, and environmental aspects of the nation’s intermodal system. The State of New Jersey opted to continue its SRTS program with TA Set-aside funding under a separate solicitation. Both programs are presented herein.

The New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) sent out solicitation notifications for the 2018 TA Set-aside program and the Safe Routes to School program funding opportunity in May of 2018. A total of 67 eligible TA Set-aside applications were received for projects in the NJTPA region. A total of 49 eligible SRTS applications were received for projects in the NJTPA region. A Technical Review Committee (TRC) comprised of NJTPA Central Staff, NJDOT Division of Local Aid, Division of Traffic Engineering and Safety and the Bureau of Environmental Program Resources reviewed the applications.

Within the NJTPA region, NJDOT agreed to fund the top-scoring projects in both categories with a combined total of \$19.79 million.

Justification for Action: The TRC is recommending approval of the attached list of 16 TA Set-aside projects (total \$13.99 million) and 11 Safe Routes to School projects (total \$5.8 million).

Staff Recommendation: Central Staff recommends approval of this action.

2018 TA Set-aside Awards

| Sponsor | Counties | Municipalities | Project Name | Improvement Type | Award Amount |
|--------------------------|------------------|---|---|-------------------|-----------------|
| Emerson Borough | Bergen County | Emerson Borough | Emerson Borough Downtown Redevelopment Project Along Kinderkamack Road (Phase 2) and (Phase 3) | Quality of Life | \$780,000.00 |
| Hillsdale Borough | Bergen County | Hillsdale Borough | Borough of Hillsdale Downtown Bus & Rail Alternate Access Improvements Project | Pedestrian Safety | \$1,300,000.00 |
| Leonia Borough | Bergen County | Leonia Borough | Broad Avenue Complete Streets Improvement Project | Pedestrian Safety | \$920,000.00 |
| Bloomfield Town Township | Essex County | Bloomfield Town Township | Morris Canal Greenway- Phase 3 | Quality of Life | \$428,000.00 |
| Jersey City | Hudson County | Jersey City | Johnston Avenue Improvements Project | Pedestrian Safety | \$1,000,000.00 |
| Weehawken Township | Hudson County | Weehawken Township | Hudson River Waterfront Walkway | Pedestrian Safety | \$1,200,000.00 |
| Frenchtown Borough | Hunterdon County | Frenchtown Borough | Downtown Business District Streetscape Improvements | Quality of Life | \$1,000,000.00 |
| Carteret Borough | Middlesex County | Carteret Borough | Carteret Pedestrian & Cyclist Waterfront Access Improvement Plan Project | Pedestrian Safety | \$500,000.00 |
| Metuchen Borough | Middlesex County | Metuchen Borough | Grove Avenue Bike Lane | Bikeway | \$307,000.00 |
| Old Bridge Township | Middlesex County | Old Bridge Township | OBT Route 516 Pedestrian Safety Sidewalk Improvement Project | Pedestrian Safety | \$350,000.00 |
| Monmouth County | Monmouth County | Freehold Borough, Hazlet Township, Keansburg Borough, Keyport Borough, Marlboro Township, Union Beach Borough | Henry Hudson Trail Extension and Pedestrian Safety Improvements, Monmouth County Park System | Bikeway | \$1,200,000.00 |
| Marlboro Township | Monmouth County | Marlboro Township | Route 79 Sidewalk Extension | Pedestrian Safety | \$875,000.00 |
| Red Bank Borough | Monmouth County | Red Bank Borough | Shrewsbury Avenue Streetscape | Quality of Life | \$1,000,000.00 |
| Passaic County | Passaic County | | Highlands Rail Trail - Phase 1 | Bikeway | \$1,500,000.00 |
| Manville Borough | Somerset County | Manville Borough | Restoration of Lost Valley | Quality of Life | \$800,000.00 |
| Warren County | Warren County | Greenwich Township, Lopatcong Township | Morris Canal Museum Bridge / Vehicle Access Roadway over Lopatcong Creek & Riparian Zone Mitigation | Quality of Life | \$830,000.00 |
| | | | | | \$13,990,000.00 |

2018 SRTS Awards

| Sponsor | Counties | Municipalities | Project Name | Improvement Type | Recommended Amount |
|------------------------|------------------|------------------------|---|----------------------------|--------------------|
| Westwood Borough | Bergen County | Westwood Borough | Westwood Safe Routes to School Project for Berkeley Elementary School | Pedestrian Safety | \$210,000.00 |
| Newark City | Essex County | Newark City | City of Newark Safe Routes to School | Pedestrian Safety | \$1,000,000.00 |
| Orange City Township | Essex County | Orange City Township | Pedestrian Safety Upgrades-Park Avenue Elementary School | Pedestrian Safety | \$1,000,000.00 |
| High Bridge Borough | Hunterdon County | High Bridge Borough | SRTS Downtown Connection | Pedestrian Safety | \$360,000.00 |
| Highland Park Borough | Middlesex County | Highland Park Borough | Phase 2 Intersection Safety Improvements in Highland Park | Pedestrian Safety | \$250,000.00 |
| Asbury Park City | Monmouth County | Asbury Park City | Traffic Calming, Bike and Pedestrian Safety Upgrades | Pedestrian Safety/Bikeways | \$500,000.00 |
| Highlands Borough | Monmouth County | Highlands Borough | The Borough of Highlands Safe Routes to Schools Project Phase I | Pedestrian Safety | \$275,000.00 |
| Long Branch City | Monmouth County | Long Branch City | Prospect and John Streets Sidewalk Improvements | Pedestrian Safety | \$230,000.00 |
| Middletown Township | Monmouth County | Middletown Township | Hubbard Avenue Pedestrian Improvement Project | Pedestrian Safety | \$1,000,000.00 |
| Chatham Township | Morris County | Chatham Township | Shunpike Road Sidewalk Replacement Project | Pedestrian Safety | \$545,000.00 |
| New Providence Borough | Union County | New Providence Borough | Various Sidewalk Improvements SRTS 2018 | Pedestrian Safety | \$430,000.00 |
| | | | | | \$5,800,000.00 |