



South Carolina  
Department of Transportation

January 26, 2018

Ms. Lisa Bollinger, MCRP  
Transportation Planner  
Spartanburg County Administration Office Building  
366 North Church Street  
Spartanburg, South Carolina 29303

Re: FY 2018 Transportation Alternatives Program Funding

Dear Ms. Bollinger:

The South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) is pleased to announce that funding for the **FY 2018 Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)** in South Carolina has been identified in the most recent Federal Transportation Funding Act, Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act. The TAP statewide federal allocation for FY 2018 is \$4,520,909 and further detailed as:

- \$1,870,230- In areas of the state other than urban areas with a population greater than 5,000
- \$2,650,679 - In areas of the state with a population less than 5,000

Local Public Agencies, including MPOs, located within the MPO boundaries not designated Transportation Management Areas (TMAs) such as SPATS are now eligible for funding under the statewide allocation. Proposed projects under the statewide program are approved by SCDOT's Secretary of Transportation and limited to a maximum of \$400,000 for each project. Please submit applications to SCDOT to the attention of the Local Program Administration Office at Post Office Box 191, Room 424, Columbia, South Carolina 29202. All applications would be reviewed by SCDOT's staff to ensure eligibility under the Federal Highway Administration's guidelines for TAP Projects. SCDOT's Secretary of Transportation would determine how the funds are distributed. Once approved by the Secretary of Transportation as a funded project, coordination to include the project's incorporation in the TIP would be required. Additional information regarding project eligibility, eligible applicants, and the application process can be found on SCDOT's website at <http://www.scdot.org/getting/community.aspx>.

Any applicant or participant seeking to manage a project or any phase of a project that uses federal transportation funds must be determined to be qualified and adequately staffed to manage the project. SCDOT has prepared an application process which is available on our website at <http://www.scdot.org/doing/localPublicAdmin.aspx>.

Post Office Box 191  
955 Park Street  
Columbia, SC 29202-0191



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This process should be considered in local planning efforts. The Department would like to work with each applicant as necessary to ensure all project applications include budget items for oversight and administration to adequately accomplish the work in the overall project costs.

These expenses are to include engineering, inspection, and testing in accordance with state and federal requirements. In addition, SCDOT encourages each applicant to review the applications thoroughly for accuracy and completeness to ensure the expeditious delivery of the project.

This evaluation should include a study of the project elements and costs by line items and unit prices to ensure accurate cost estimates for the intended work are reflected in the submittal. The review would ensure the project satisfies the federal requirements, and, is eligible, viable, and locally supported and approved.

Funding allocated for these projects must follow guidelines of federal transportation legislation. Federal transportation funding associated with TAP projects is more restrictive than traditional federal grant funding, and are subject to limitations in authority. TAP funds are not available on an indefinite basis; therefore, projects that are initially well planned and engineered would be suitable candidates for eligibility ensuring funding is available at the time of award. Projects that have been approved are subject to reviews, and funds allocated but not spent within a time representative to the scale of the project, or just simply not advanced, could be jeopardized according to limitations and actions at the federal level.

We look forward to receiving applications for these projects. If you have any questions, please contact me at (803) 737-0230.

Sincerely,



Herbert J. Cooper, PE  
Local Program Administrator

cc: Sherry Dull, SPATS TAP Coordinator  
ec: Randall Young, Chief Engineer for Project Delivery  
File: LPAO/CPR

