

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
Inter-office Communication

DATE: 2/18/2022
TO: Marcelia Nicholson, Chairperson, County Board of Supervisors
FROM: Donna Brown-Martin, Director, Transportation
SUBJECT: From the Director of the Department of Transportation a Request to accept one (1) Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) Transportation Alternatives Grant Program (TAP) application, if approved, with the capability to submit subsequent TAP applications to implement the recommended outcomes
FILE TYPE: Action Report

REQUEST

Request to accept one (1) Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) Transportation Alternatives Grant Program (TAP) application, if approved, with the capability to submit subsequent TAP applications to implement the recommended outcomes. The project purpose of the one (1) TAP application submission is to investigate existing pedestrian/bicycle crossings (up to 20) on County Trunk Highways (CTH) throughout Milwaukee County and create a prioritized plan for pedestrian/bicycle crossing enhancements.

POLICY

N/A

BACKGROUND

The Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) is a legislative program that was authorized in Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (or "FAST Act"), the federal transportation act that was signed into law on December 4, 2015. TAP projects expand travel choice, strengthen the local economy, improve the quality of life, and protect the environment by supporting non-traditional projects linked to the transportation system. TAP grants are very competitive and projects must commence within four years of the award date.

The purpose of the one (1) TAP application submission (project named Pedestrian and Bicycle Crossing Planning Assessment) is to investigate existing pedestrian/bicycle crossings (up to 20) on County Trunk Highways (CTH) throughout Milwaukee County and create a prioritized plan for pedestrian/bicycle crossing enhancements. Currently, Milwaukee County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) reviews pedestrian/bicycle crossings as part of each adopted Capital Improvement project to address increased safety, visibility, and other enhancements. In addition, MCDOT periodically reviews pedestrian/bicycle crossings for issues based on safety concerns. The project will review select crossings (up to 20) that have not been recently reviewed that are well used, have concerns with safety or have received concerns from the public in the past. Then a report will be compiled containing a prioritized list, improvement alternatives/recommendations, and construction cost estimates for candidate pedestrian/bicycle crossings implementation projects. Overall, the report will be used by MCDOT to determine where to prioritize implementation to take advantage of subsequent future TAP grant funding.

The following is a table matrix of fourteen (14) pedestrian/bicycle crossings that connect to bus routes, trails, parks, or schools that will be reviewed in the project:

Number	Location	SAFETY ELEMENTS				Within Upcoming Project Limits
		Fatality	Bus Stop	School Crossing	Park Crossing	
1	W Good Hope Rd & N Pierron Rd Intersection Crossing				X	No
2	W Mill Rd & Oakleaf Trail Crossing (N Sidney Pl)	X				No
3	S 76th St & Root River Pkwy Crossing				X	No
4	N Port Washington Rd Crossing at Pick N Save		X			No
5	Oak Leaf Trail Crossing on W Good Hope Rd near N Teutonia Ave				X	No
6	8600 block W Oklahoma Ave		X			No
7	S 76th St & Old Loomis Rd				X	No
8	S 76th St & W Wedgewood Ave		X	X	X	No
9	N Port Washington Rd & W Indian Creek Pkwy		X	X	X	No
10	W Layton Ave 600ft W of S 51st St		X	X	X	No
11	S 72nd St & W Layton Ave		X			No
12	S 103rd St & W Oklahoma Ave		X	X		No
13	N Port Washington Rd & W Fairy Chasm Rd					No
14	N 80th St & Mill Rd		X	X		No

There are six (6) additional locations not listed in the table matrix above that will be determined during the project.

TAP is a reimbursement program that is funded 80% federally, with a 20% local share (Milwaukee County). Federal funds are capped at the award amount. The following is the estimated cost of the project:

<i>TAP Project</i>	<i>Total Cost (100%)</i>	<i>Federal Share (80%)</i>	<i>Local Share (20%)</i>
Pedestrian and Bicycle Crossing Planning Assessment	\$134,000	\$107,200	\$26,800

ALIGNMENT TO STRATEGIC PLAN

The TAP projects will allow Milwaukee County to provide enhancements/improvements that support health equity by applying a racial equity lens to pedestrian/bicycle crossings on County Trunk Highways (CTH) throughout Milwaukee County, utilizing 80% Federal funding to enhance fiscal health. The project will provide recommendations to improve safety for alternatives to driving such as at trail crossings or crosswalks used to walk to school or MCTS bus stops: 1C, 2A, 2C, 3B, 3C.

- 1C: Increase the number of County contracts awarded to minority and women-owned businesses.
- 2A: Determine what, where, and how we deliver services to advance health equity.
- 2C: Apply a racial equity lens to all decisions.
- 3B: Enhance the County's fiscal health and sustainability.
- 3C: Dismantle barriers to diverse and inclusive communities.

FISCAL EFFECT

Either a fund transfer will be submitted in 2022 or a request will be made for the 2023 Capital Improvement Budget to provide funding for the project with 80% Federal share of the awarded TAP funding and 20% share with Milwaukee County funding. Similarly, subsequent TAP funding related to the project will be requested and funded in future Capital Improvement budgets.

TERMS

The (1) TAP application has been submitted to WisDOT to meet the deadline of January 28, 2022, for the 2022-2026 Program Cycle. The TAP grant will not be awarded until a Board resolution is passed by the deadline of April 18, 2022. Subsequent TAP applications will be submitted separately based on the alternatives/recommendations resulting from the TAP application/project submitted.

VIRTUAL MEETING INVITES

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PREPARED BY:

Andrea Weddle-Henning, P.E.
Director of Transportation Engineering

APPROVED BY:

Julie Esch, Deputy Director

Donna Brown-Martin
Director, Department of Transportation

ATTACHMENTS:

Resolution, Fiscal Note

cc: Kelly Bablitch, Chief of Staff, County Board of Supervisors
Janelle M. Jensen, Legislative Services Division Manager, Office of the County Clerk