



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
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February 16, 2024

TO: Carl Amento, Executive Director
South Central Regional Council of Governments

Rick Dunne, Executive Director
Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments

Matt Fulda, Executive Director
Connecticut Metropolitan Council of Governments

Samuel Gold, Executive Director
Lower Connecticut River Valley Council of Governments

Matt Hart, Executive Director
Capitol Region Council of Governments

Francis Pickering, Executive Director
Western Connecticut Council of Governments

FROM: Pam Sucato
Transportation Planning Director
Bureau of Policy and Planning

SUBJECT: 2024 Transportation Alternatives (TA) Program Project Solicitation

The Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) is soliciting candidate projects for Transportation Alternatives (TA) Program funding. These funds are made available to the State through the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and are administered by CTDOT.

Under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), the nationwide TA Set-Aside increases to nearly \$1.5 billion in FY 2025. IIJA added a provision to the TA Set-Aside requiring that the competitive process used by a State or MPO include prioritization of project location and **impact in high-need areas as defined by the State**, such as low-income, transit-dependent, rural, or other areas (23 U.S.C. 133(h)(4)(D)).

The State's definition of high-need areas is as follows: "Serving any elderly housing facilities, housing authority (public housing), safe routes to school, ethnic community, transit dependent or low or very low-income neighborhoods in rural or urban areas".

In accordance with the current FHWA TA Guidance and level funding targets, the Department is asking the following from the MPOs and Rural COGs:

1. To perform a new TA project solicitation with your member municipalities utilizing a competitive process similar to what was done for the 2020 TA project solicitation;

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2. Provide a brief summary of the competitive project selection process the MPO/COG used in the Solicitation and how it meets the provisions to prioritize project location and impact in high-need areas as defined by the State (using the State definition of high-need, above); and
3. Provide a letter of confirmation from the municipalities stating their intent to move forward with the project and the ability to fund their local match, based upon current project costs.

When submitting projects back to the Department for review, please complete the **2024 TA Program Application** and the **Project Priority Ranking Form - TMAs** (both attached).

Also attached for your use and reference the following:

- FHWA Transportation Alternatives Guidance
- TA Program Cost Estimate Template
- TA Program Estimated Funding Breakdown (2026-2030)
- TA Program Project Selection Criteria Table

Please submit the above stated items to Jennifer Pacacha jennifer.pacacha@ct.gov by **June 28, 2024**.