State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
P.O. Box 600
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0600

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

JAMES S. SIMPSON
Commissioner

March 11, 2014

Re: Transportation Alternatives Program
Request for Applications

Dear Applicant:

On behalf of Governor Chris Christie, I am pleased to announce that applications are being accepted for the 2014 Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP). This solicitation is being administered by the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT), in partnership with the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA), the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC), and the South Jersey Transportation Planning Organization (SJTPO).

TAP provides federal funds for community based "non-traditional" projects designed to strengthen the cultural, aesthetic, and environmental aspects of the nation's intermodal system. The TAP program was established by Congress in 2012 under MAP-21, and is funded through a set-aside of the Federal-aid Highway Program. Eligible activities include most activities historically funded as "Transportation Enhancements" under SAFETEA-LU.

The State of New Jersey has elected to run a hybrid program for this solicitation, providing maximum flexibility in using both SAFETEA-LU and MAP-21 funds. This solicitation includes categories from the SAFETEA-LU Transportation Enhancement Program and others from the MAP-21 Transportation Alternatives Program.

For this solicitation, eligible projects must fall into one the following 7 categories:

- Provisions of facilities for bicycles and pedestrians.
- Scenic or historic highway programs, including the provision of tourist and welcome center facilities as well as scenic turnouts, overlooks, and viewing areas.
- Landscaping and other scenic beautification.
- Historic preservation.
- Rehabilitation of historic transportation buildings, structures and facilities (including historic railroad facilities and canals).
- Preservation of abandoned railway corridors (including the conversion and use thereof for pedestrian and bicycle trails).
- Environmental mitigation to address water pollution due to highway runoff or reduce vehicle-caused wildlife mortality while maintaining habitat connectivity.

You are invited to submit an application for a well-developed, construction-ready project that can qualify as a Transportation Alternatives project. The online Transportation Alternatives Handbook provides the necessary information for completing your application and also answers questions regarding eligibility and program requirements. The information can be found at:

http://www.state.nj.us/transportation/business/localaid/Alternatives.shtm

The eligible entities to receive TAP funds are: local governments (municipalities and counties); regional transportation authorities; transit agencies; natural resource or public land agencies; tribal governments and any other local or regional governmental entity with responsibility for oversight of transportation (other than a metropolitan planning organization or a State agency).

Nonprofit organizations will not be directly eligible to apply for this solicitation. However, nonprofit organizations may partner with a local public agency that will assume responsibility and administration for the grant.

As with all federally funded programs, the funds will be disbursed on a reimbursement basis. In addition, the award of Transportation Alternatives grants will be contingent upon the recipient's ability to comply with all applicable federal financial management, project implementation, and oversight regulations. Before applying, applicants should assess their capability to comply with state and federal requirements for the administration of federal-aid highway grants set forth in Title 23 – Highways; 48 CFR – Federal Acquisition Regulation; and 49 CFR 18 – the Common Grant Rule.

Please note that all public right-of-way and facilities are required to be accessible for all users regardless of funding source. Recipients of federal and state grants will be required to comply with the provisions of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

Applications for the Transportation Alternatives Program are due on or before May 15, 2014 and must be submitted online through NJDOT SAGE at:

https://enterprisegrantapps.state.nj.us/NJSAGE/

I recommend that you consult your Local Aid District Office and your corresponding Metropolitan Planning Organization for assistance in preparing applications for this program. Contact information is included.

Thank you for your continued interest and support for this program, and best wishes for success with your project application.

Sincerely,

James S. Simpson

James S. Simpson
Commissioner

Enclosure
c County Engineer
Municipal Clerk
Municipal Engineer

CONTACT INFORMATION

NJDOT Division of Local Aid and Economic Development

District 1
Roxbury Corporate Center
200 Stierli Court
Mount Arlington, NJ 07856
Phone: (973) 601-6700
Fax: (973) 601-6709
Morris, Passaic, Sussex,
and Warren Counties

District 2
153 Halsey Street -5th floor
Newark, NJ 07102
Phone: (973) 877-1500
Fax: (973) 877-1556
Bergen, Essex, Hudson,
and Union Counties

District 3
New Jersey Department of Transportation
District 3 Bureau of Local Aid
P.O. Box 600
Trenton, NJ 08625
Phone: (732) 625-4291
Fax (732) 625-4292
Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth,
Ocean, and Somerset Counties

District 4
1 Executive Campus
Route 70 West, 3rd Floor
Cherry Hill, NJ 08054
Phone: (856) 486-6618
Fax (856) 486-6771
Atlantic, Burlington, Camden,
Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, and Salem
Counties

Metropolitan Planning Organizations

North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA)
One Newark Center
17th floor
Newark, NJ 07102
Phone: (973) 639-8400
Fax: (973) 639-1953
Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Middlesex, Monmouth, Morris, Ocean, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, Union, and Warren Counties, and the Cities of Jersey City and Newark

Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC)
190 North Independence Mall West
Philadelphia, PA 19106
Phone: (215) 592-1800
Fax: (215) 592-9125
Burlington, Camden, Gloucester, and Mercer Counties

South Jersey Transportation Planning Organization (SJTPO)
782 South Brewster Road, Unit B6
Vineland, NJ 08360
Phone: (856) 794-1941
Fax: (856) 794-2549
Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland, and Salem