


MEMORANDUM

TO: Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program Stakeholders
FROM: Christy A. Hall, Secretary of Transportation 
DATE: October 13, 2022
PURPOSE: SCDOT's New Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program

I am pleased to present the South Carolina Department of Transportation's (SCDOT) new **Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program (TAP)**. Transportation alternatives projects are non-motorized projects including, but not limited to, shared use paths, bicycle and pedestrian crossing improvements, on- and off-road trail facilities for transportation purposes, and sidewalks.

This document was created after many months of communication, coordination, and collaboration with internal and external stakeholders, including SCDOT engineering staff, as well as MPOs, COGs, TMAs, transportation-related non-profits, the SC Association of Counties, and the Municipal Association of South Carolina. SCDOT is grateful for the feedback received from these valued partners; much of their input has been incorporated into our new program.

SCDOT's Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program has been revised to include:

- New Transportation Alternatives guidance from the [Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act \(IIJA\)](#), including
 - State technical assistance
 - New population categories
 - Prioritization of project location and impact in high-need areas
- New and updated guidelines for SCDOT-managed TAP funds
 - Increased emphasis on safety
 - Prioritization of projects that align with SCDOT's Complete Streets Policy and TAP-eligible projects in SCDOT's 10-Year Plan
 - Increased partnerships and collaboration with local jurisdictions, COGs, MPOs, and TMAs
 - Call for applications twice a year
 - Front-end project scope review before applications are submitted
 - No maximum award amount
 - Minimum *total project cost* for grant award is \$500,000
 - SCDOT may provide up to 100% of the non-federal share for projects in certain areas of the state
 - Project phase awards (i.e., planning, design, construction) to prevent lapse



To introduce and thoroughly explain the TAP revisions, SCDOT will provide in-person, live-streaming, and/or online training later this fall. While attendance is not mandatory, new and past TAP applicants are highly encouraged to attend because the revised program is markedly different than in past years.

Additionally, SCDOT expects to have its first call for TAP Letters of Intent by the end of the 2022 calendar year.

We look forward to successfully implementing the new Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program, and welcome our partners' ongoing feedback as we strive for continuous quality improvement.

Please contact Roxanne Ancheta, (803) 737-1232 or AnchetaRM@scdot.org, in the Office of Local Government Services with any questions related to SCDOT's Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program.

