

Benton-Franklin Council of Governments (BFCG) 2017 Call for Projects

Surface Transportation Block Grant Program
Programming Federal Fiscal Years 2019 - 2021

Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)
Programming Federal Fiscal Years 2019-2021

BFCG is releasing a call for projects for the STBG and TAP programs March 20, 2017

Application(s) for both the STBG and the TAP can be downloaded on the BFCG website
<http://www.bfcog.us/transportation.html>

Return completed applications electronically to tdole@bfcog.us or deliver to the BFCG office at 1622 Terminal Drive, Richland, WA 99354

The deadline to submit project applications is Monday, April 10th at 4:00 p.m.

Project applications MUST include a vicinity map.

TIMELINE	
DATE	ACTION
March 20	BFCG releases a call for projects (STBG-TAP FFY 2019-2021)
April 10	Applications due to BFCG transportation office
April 11-12	BFCG transportation staff screens project applications for completeness and posts on website.
April 13	Joint TAC/PAC Meeting – Selection and Prioritization of projects
May 19	BFCG Board approval of prioritized list of selected projects

For questions please contact Tanna Dole tdole@bfcog.us or phone 943-9185

STBG/TAP FUNDING ESTIMATES BY COUNTY and CATEGORY		
	Surface Transportation Block Grant Program FFY 2019-2021	Transportation Alternatives Program FFY 2019-2021
Benton County		
Urbanized Area >200,000 population	\$6,779,803	\$403,623
Small Urban Area >5,000 and < 200,000 population	\$393,264	\$21,232
Rural Area < 5,000 population	\$1,941,497	\$228,762
Franklin County		
Urbanized Area >200,000 population	\$2,826,898	\$146,891
Rural Area < 5,000 population	\$1,123,296	\$199,186

The final amounts for the call are subject to change based on actual annual allocations of funds to the BFCG.

STBG/TAP PROJECT SELECTION PROCESS

1. BFCG BOARD APPROVES A CALL FOR STBG PROJECTS

2. CALL FOR STP PROJECTS

- ✓ Notification by BFCG to all eligible agencies of a STBG call for projects.
- ✓ Notifications to appear in the BFCG newsletter and the TCH legal notices.
- ✓ Application and informational materials posted to the BFCG website.

3. APPLICATION DEADLINE AND PROCESS

- ✓ 21 following the notification of a call for STBG projects the applications must be delivered electronically to BFCG.
- ✓ 2 weeks for BFCG to review for completeness and the project applications posted to the website.

4. PUBLIC MEETING SCORING AND PRELIMINARY PRIORITIZATION

- ✓ Scoring committees, along with the public will have access via the BFCG website to all applications prior to the public meeting.
- ✓ The Scoring Committee includes both TAC and PAC members (except WSDOT, who by request is excused from participation) that are eligible for STBG and TAP funds regardless of whether or not the agency has a project application submitted.
- ✓ BFCG will provide each scoring committee member a copy of applications for scoring at the beginning of each category's presentations.
- ✓ All projects in the 2017 Call for Projects must address the goals and policies and the goals and objectives of the 2011 M-RTP and the 2017 M-RTP. Once the 2017 M-RTP is adopted, it will be the guiding document.
- ✓ The Scoring Committee members will hear a representative summarize the project as it comes up for scoring, but no formal presentations by each jurisdictions shall be made.
- ✓ Application scores will be entered by BFCG staff into a spreadsheet that will automatically rank applications according to score.
- ✓ After project summaries and scoring is complete the Scoring Committee (TAC and PAC members) will have a discussion of the scoring and proceed with prioritization of the projects. Discussion may include project rankings and project funding levels. Scored applications will be available to the Scoring Committee members to refer to during the discussion. The prioritization list will be recommended to the BFCG Board.
- ✓ Any changes to the ranked order of projects will be documented and forwarded to the BFCG Board along with the original ranking.
- ✓ Selected projects will be posted on the website for a 30 day comment period.
- ✓ BFCG Board has the final decision making authority on the distribution of STBG and TAP funds.

Criteria used in the selection process are the stated goals and policies from the 2011 Regional Transportation Plan, the goals and objectives in the developing 2017 M-RTP, Transition 2040 and the Washington State Transportation Policies. This ensures the projects that are selected and programmed into the TIP/STIP are consistent with both the BFCG M/RTP and the WTP.

STBG/TAP OVERVIEW

STBG

The STBG Program provides flexible transportation funding that may be used by States and localities for projects on Federal Aid highways, transit capital projects, and intra-city and inter-city bus terminals and facilities. Funds are allocated to the MPOs/RTPOs and county lead agencies for selecting regional transportation projects.

All projects must meet federal eligibility requirement as outlined in the 2015 Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, 23 U.S.C. 133(b). <https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/specialfunding/stp/160307.cfm#d>

The project implementing agency will be responsible to provide the required local match.

TAP

The Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act replaced the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) with a set-aside of the STBG Program funding for transportation alternatives (TA). The set-aside funds include all projects and activities that were previously eligible under TAP, encompassing a variety of smaller-scale transportation projects such as pedestrian and bicycle facilities, recreational trails, safe routes to school projects, community improvements such as historic preservation and vegetation management, and environmental mitigation related to storm water and habitat connectivity

All TAP projects must meet federal eligibility requirements of 23 U.S.C. 213(b)(1).

https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/transportation_alternatives/guidance/guidance_2016.cfm#EligibleProjects

The project implementing agency will be responsible to provide the required local match.