



AGENDA
ABILENE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)
TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD
CALLED MEETING

10:00 a.m., Monday, August 5, 2019
South Branch Library Conference Room
4310 Buffalo Gap Road, Abilene, Texas

Councilman Shane Price, City of Abilene (MPO Chairman)
Judge Downing Bolls, Taylor County (MPO Vice-Chairman)
Mr. Carl Johnson, TxDOT District Engineer
Judge Dale Spurgin, Jones County
Mayor Anthony Williams, City of Abilene

1. Call to Order.
Public comment may be taken on any agenda item during the discussion of that item.
2. Discussion and action on Resolutions of Support for the City of Abilene's Submittal for the Texas Department of Transportation's Safe Routes to School (SRTS) "School Zone Flasher Upgrade Program" and the Transportation Alternatives (TA) Program "South 11th Street Sidewalk Project".
3. Adjournment.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Abilene Metropolitan Planning Organization Transportation Policy Board reserves the right to adjourn into executive session at any time during the course of this meeting to discuss any item on the agenda as authorized by Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney), 551.072 (Deliberations about real property) 551.073 (Deliberations about gifts and donations), 551.074 (Personnel matters), and 551.076 (Deliberations about security devices). After discussion in executive session, any action or vote will be taken in public.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the above notice of the meeting was posted on the bulletin boards of _____ on the _____ day of _____, 2019 at _____ (a.m./p.m.)

NOTICE

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Abilene MPO will provide for reasonable accommodations for persons attending this meeting. To better serve you, requests should be received 48 hours prior to the meeting. Please contact the Abilene MPO at (325) 437-9999.

Other than members, ex-officio members, and non-voting review/advisory members of the Transportation Policy Board, each person who wishes to address the Board regarding an item on the agenda shall be limited to a five (5) minute presentation unless such person requests and receives additional time from the Chairman. The Chairman may exercise discretion in allowing or not allowing additional time to any speaker. The use of a single spokesperson to represent a group of people is encouraged. Where there are large numbers of persons who wish to address the Transportation Policy Board on a single matter, the Chairman may decrease the amount of time available to each person who wishes to address the Transportation Policy Board.

1. Call to Order.

Public comment may be taken on any agenda item during the discussion of that item.

2. Discussion and action on Resolutions of Support for the City of Abilene's Submittal for the Texas Department of Transportation's Safe Routes to School (SRTS) "School Zone Flasher Upgrade Program" and the Transportation Alternatives (TA) Program "South 11th Street Sidewalk Project".

Abilene MPO Policy Board Called Meeting
August 5, 2019
Supplemental Agenda Information

2. Discussion and action on Resolutions of Support for the City of Abilene’s Submittal for the Texas Department of Transportation’s Safe Routes to School (SRTS) “School Zone Flasher Upgrade Program” and the Transportation Alternatives (TA) Program “South 11th Street Sidewalk Project”.

Background

On February 8, 2019, TxDOT announced a statewide Call for Projects for two non-motorized infrastructure funding sources: The Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TA) program (including available and anticipated future funds) and available Safe Routes to School (SRTS) infrastructure funding.

The City of Abilene submitted a preliminary application for an “*Abilene South 11st Street Sidewalk Improvement*” project under the TA funding. This proposed project would provide a new 5 foot sidewalk along the Northside of S. 11th Street between Treadaway and Oldham Lane. This would provide a connection to the existing sidewalk and allow opportunities for access to the Expo Center, Zoo, Splash Pad, Nelson Park, the dog park, ball fields, Judge Ely Hike and Bike path, the future Cedar Creek Trailway, and more.

The City of Abilene submitted a preliminary application for an “*Abilene School Zone Flasher Upgrade Program*” under the SRTS funding. This program proposes to upgrade 39 school zone flasher assemblies to address driver awareness of speeds in school zone locations. This project will allow real time monitoring of flashers and will allow remote operation for increment weather days and unexpected release times. It will be tied into the City’s Traffic Management System. Along with various locations in Abilene ISD, there would also be upgrades to the Wylie ISD school zones.

Current Situation

As part of the second detailed application process which is due August 15, 2019, the City of Abilene would like to get resolutions of support for these projects from the MPO and the understanding that if the funding for the projects are approved that the MPO will include those in the Transportation Improvement Program. The TA and SRTS programs are competitive throughout the entire State of Texas.

The cost for the “*Abilene South 11st Street Sidewalk Improvement*” project would be funded through the TA program and the City would make a 20% match. The current estimated cost is \$564,468.75. The cost for the “*Abilene School Zone Flasher Upgrade Program*” would be funded through the SRTS program and the City would make a 20% match. The current estimated cost is \$476,536.50. No cost would be required of the MPO for either of these projects.

Recommendation from the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

N/A.

Action Requested

1. Approval of Resolutions of Support for the City of Abilene’s Submittal for the Texas Department of Transportation’s Safe Routes to School (SRTS) “School Zone Flasher Upgrade Program” and the Transportation Alternatives (TA) Program “South 11th Street Sidewalk Project.

Funding Opportunity: Available TA FY19/20

Eligible project locations:

- Projects must be located outside the smoothed boundary of Census Urbanized Areas greater than 200,000 in population, known as Transportation Management Areas (TMAs)

Eligible population areas:

- Nonurban communities (5,000 people or less)

Funding available:

- \$10.6 million

Local match requirement:

- 20%
- For Economically Disadvantaged Counties, state-participation is available (discussed in more detail in later slides)
- Eligible in-kind contributions will be considered (discussed in more detail in later slides)

Eligible reimbursable activities:

- Project construction
 - TxDOT administrative fee

TA projects
must be let
within 3 years
or risk losing
funding

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Funding Opportunity: Future TA FY21/22 (Conditional Project List)

Eligible project locations:

- Projects must be located outside the smoothed boundary of TMAs

Eligible population areas:

- Nonurban communities (5,000 people or less)
- Small communities (5,001 to 200,000 people)

FUTURE funding anticipated(FY 21/FY 22):

- ~\$13.5 million nonurban & ~\$13.5 million small urban

Local match requirement:

- 20%
- For Economically Disadvantaged Counties, state-participation is available (discussed in more detail in later slides)
- Eligible in-kind contributions will be considered (discussed in more detail in later slides)

Eligible reimbursable activities:

- Project construction
 - TxDOT administrative fee

TA projects
must be let
within 3 years
or risk losing
funding

Funding Opportunity: Safe Routes to School-Infrastructure

Eligible project locations:

- Within 2-mile radius of public, private, or charter school(s)
- All SRTS projects located outside TMAs will also be considered for TA funding

Eligible population areas:

- All population areas

Funding available:

- \$8.7 million

Local match requirement:

- 0%. SRTS funding is 100% federal funding

Eligible reimbursable activities:

- Project development (design/environmental)
- Construction
- TxDOT administrative fee (15%)

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2019 TA/SRTS Call for Projects: Funding Sources

Program	Location	Population Size	Funding	Local Match	Eligible Activities
SRTS Infrastructure	<2 miles from schools (K-8)	Any	\$8.7M	0%	Project Development & Construction
			\$10.6M		
Transportation Alternatives (TA) Program	Nonurban*	<5,000	Conditional Project List**	20%	Construction
			Conditional Project List**		
	Small Urban*	5,000 - 200,000	Conditional Project List**		

* TxDOT's TA funds must be administered outside Transportation Management Areas

** Conditional Project Lists will be created to assist TxDOT in prioritizing Nonurban and Small Urban projects for future anticipated federal TA appropriations for FY 2021 - 2022.



ABILENE

Metropolitan Planning Organization

R-2019-04

A RESOLUTION BY THE ABILENE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION IN SUPPORT OF THE CITY OF ABILENE FILING AN APPLICATION WITH THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TxDOT) FOR THE SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PROGRAM FOR THE ABILENE SCHOOL ZONE FLASHER UPGRADE PROGRAM.

WHEREAS, The Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Program is federally funded through the Surface Transportation Program, administered by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) for the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) of the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT); and

WHEREAS, The *Abilene School Zone Flasher Upgrade Program* will provide a safe route for non-drivers, including children, older adults, and individuals with disabilities to access daily needs and encourage the overall safety of the traveling public, and

WHEREAS, The *Abilene School Zone Flasher Upgrade Program* facilitates alternative modes of transportation in our community, allows people more transportation accessibility options to places of interest throughout our neighborhoods, and will become a vital part of our transportation system network.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE ABILENE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION OF ABILENE, TEXAS, supports the City of Abilene filing an application with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) for the Transportation Alternatives Program for the *Abilene School Zone Flasher Upgrade Program*, AND:

- That if the *Abilene School Zone Flasher Upgrade Program* is selected for funding, the MPO will include the project in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED ON THIS 5th day of August, 2019

ABILENE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

By:

Councilman Shane Price, MPO Chairman

Attest:

Approved:

Ms. E'Lisa Smetana
MPO Executive Director

Ms. Kelley Messer,
First Assistant City Attorney, City of Abilene



ABILENE

Metropolitan Planning Organization

R-2019-05

A RESOLUTION BY THE ABILENE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION IN SUPPORT OF THE CITY OF ABILENE FILING AN APPLICATION WITH THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TxDOT) FOR THE TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM FOR THE SOUTH 11TH STREET SIDEWALK PROJECT.

WHEREAS, The Transportation Alternatives Program (TASA) Program is federally funded through the Surface Transportation Program, administered by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) for the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) of the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT); and

WHEREAS, Any projects funded by the Transportation Alternatives Program should go above and beyond standard transportation activities and should be integrated into the surrounding environment in a sensitive and creative manner that contributes to the livelihood of the communities, promotes the quality of our environment, and enhances the aesthetics of our roadways; and

WHEREAS, The *South 11th Street Sidewalk Project* facilitates alternative modes of transportation in our community, allows people more transportation accessibility options to places of interest throughout our neighborhoods, and will become a vital part of our transportation system network.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE ABILENE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION OF ABILENE, TEXAS, supports the City of Abilene filing an application with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) for the Transportation Alternatives Program for the *South 11th Street Sidewalk Project*, AND:

- That if the *South 11th Street Sidewalk Project* is selected for funding, the MPO will include the project in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED ON THIS 5th day of August, 2019

ABILENE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

By:

Councilman Shane Price, MPO Chairman

Attest:

Approved:

Ms. E'Lisa Smetana
MPO Executive Director

Ms. Kelley Messer,
First Assistant City Attorney, City of Abilene

3. Adjournment.