

TA Program Overview



- Set-aside from the Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) program
- Reimbursable federal funding program for transportation related projects that strengthen the intermodal transportation network
- TA Program projects must meet one of the qualifying categories listed in the federal legislation
- Example projects include 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 stormwater and habitat connectivity

TA Program Overview



- **Approximately 59% of TA program funds are apportioned to MPOs in urbanized areas with populations over 200,000 (BRTB, TPB, WILMAPCO)**
- **Approximate funds available in the region for fiscal year 2025**
 - \$4,252,237 in the Baltimore region
 - \$412,619 in Aberdeen/Bel Air South/Bel Air North
- **MPOs are responsible for completing a competitive project selection process for these funds**
- **The remaining 41% of funds can be allocated anywhere throughout the state through a competitive process managed by MDOT SHA**

BMC Project Evaluation



- **Evaluation criteria for regional competitive process:**
 - Impact on high need areas such as low-income, transit-dependent, rural, or other areas
 - Expected benefits to the community
 - Feasibility and project readiness
 - Sponsor’s demonstrated ability to manage a federal-aid project
 - How the project advances the Goals and Strategies of Resilience 2050
 - How the project improves public safety for all users

Fiscal Year 2025 TA Program



- MDOT SHA call for projects opens April 1
- Applicants submit their proposals by May 15
- BMC review team receives the proposals late May
- BMC review team evaluates applications and conducts site visits with MDOT SHA
- Applicants respond to comments and questions
- BMC review team develops project selection recommendations

Fiscal Year 2025 TA Program



- Recommendations are presented to the Technical Committee for their consideration to move to the Baltimore Regional Transportation Board (BRTB) through a resolution
- If Technical Committee approves the resolution, it is presented to the BRTB for their vote
- If BRTB approves the resolution, the resolution is submitted to MDOT SHA

Highlighted TA Program Requirements



- **Summary: An individual project should be awarded no more than 50% of allocated funds**
 - $\$4,252,237 \div 2 = \$2,126,118.50$ in the **Baltimore region**
 - $\$412,619 \div 2 = \$206,309.50$ in **Aberdeen/Bel Air South/Bel Air North**
- **23 U.S. Code § 133 - STBG program**
 - *A metropolitan planning area may use not to exceed 50 percent of the funds set aside under this subsection for an urbanized area described in subsection (d)(1)(A)(i) for any purpose eligible under subsection (b).*
- **Transportation Alternatives (TA) Set-Aside Implementation Guidance**
 - *The MPO may use up to 50 percent of its suballocated funds for any project eligible under STBG (23 U.S.C. 133(h)(6)(B). These projects must be selected through the MPO's competitive project selection process. 23 U.S.C. 133(h)(4)(B).*

Highlighted TA Program Requirements



- Any project eligible under the Recreational Trails Program (RTP) is also eligible under the TA program
- Any recreational trail project funded under the TA program will follow the same procedures the state uses for RTP projects
- [MDOT SHA Recreational Trails Program Manual](#)

TA Program Work Group



- **Focus**

- Develop project evaluation and scoring criteria
- Consider eligible project types

- **Tentative schedule**

June – July 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Volunteers requested from BPAG for work group
Aug – Oct 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Approximately three work group meetings: kick off and work group scope, draft scoring criteria, and finalize scoring criteria• Feedback will be requested from all BPAG members at key points during the process
Nov – Dec 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Recommended scoring criteria presented to BRTB and Technical Committee for approval

For more information

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