



## FY2018 TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES

### APPLICATION



### **Tennessee Central Heritage Rail Trail**

*Cookeville, Algood and Putnam County*

*Example of Eligible Transportation Alternatives Program Activity Three (3):  
Conversion of Abandoned Railway Corridors to Trail (Rails-with-Trails Project)*

**Deadline for 2018 submittals:  
October 3, 2017 @ 3:00PM (Central)**

**Submit applications electronically via [tdot.enhancements@tn.gov](mailto:tdot.enhancements@tn.gov)**

TDOT - Transportation Alternatives Office  
Suite 600 James K. Polk Building  
505 Deaderick Street  
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0341  
Phone: 615-741-5314

## 2018 Transportation Alternatives Updates

- 2018 TAP funding must be authorized for construction on or before July 1, 2021 or the funds will be automatically withdrawn by FHWA. No contract extensions can be provided by TDOT to secure the funding.
- Undergrounding utilities outside the public right-of-way cannot be a stand-alone project: it must be a direct component of an eligible on-road or off-road trail facility for pedestrians, bicyclists and other non-motorized forms of transportation only, and is limited to 33% of eligible and reimbursable construction costs. Utilities affected within the public right-of-way must relocate at no cost to the project.
- All applications must include both an appropriate indoor and outdoor location for award announcement if the project is selected for funding.
- All TAP projects, regardless of scope or complexity, must be designed per TDOT Standards for Roadway Design and Bridge Construction and be submitted in the required TDOT format and all detectable warning systems/truncated domes must be universal safety yellow only.
- All bicycle and pedestrian facilities must be hard-surfaced, ADA compliant and provide adequate linear connectivity to existing facilities. Funding may not be used for spot improvements, repairs or maintenance and all new construction for multi-modal (shared use) facilities must be a minimum of 12-feet wide.
- All local governmental agencies, including those within the Chattanooga, Knoxville, Memphis and Nashville MPO/TPO's, may submit an application to the State Competitive Program. Please contact your MPO/TPO for additional information and specific guidelines regarding their regional competitive program schedule.
- Applicants with an outstanding uncommitted STP balance or MPO TAP allocation are advised to utilize such funds in lieu of submitting a TA application through the state competitive program.
- Per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, legislation prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability. Other Federal laws which affect the design, construction, alteration, and operation of federally-funded facilities include the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968 (ABA), and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Newly constructed and altered facilities covered by Titles II and III of the ADA, including all Transportation Alternatives-type projects, must be readily accessible to and usable by people with disabilities per the Public Rights-of-Way Accessibility Guidelines (PROWAG).
- The 20% non-federal construction share of the proposed project must be provided as a hard cash match, and all preliminary engineering (PE), design and right-of-way expenditures are solely the responsibility of the local governmental agency.
- Prior to submitting a 2018 application, all applicants must hold a design public involvement meeting to notify the local community of the intended project scope. You must include the date(s) and time(s) of public meetings that were held as well as the sign-in sheet, the record of all public comments received and the disposition of said comments with the completed application.
- Costs associated with application preparation and design public involvement meeting are not eligible for federal reimbursement.
- All line items listed in the application budget are subject to TDOT review and eligibility verification. Ineligible items will be excluded from federal reimbursement but may be included at the local agency's expense.
- If the proposed application is selected for project funding, only the specific description and approved budget items will be eligible for construction. The Transportation Alternatives (TA) funding will not be transferable nor will the project be eligible for major project scope changes. All remaining federal funds will revert to TDOT for re-distribution in the next funding cycle.
- Applications and proposed design plans selected for award have not been fully vetted, reviewed or approved by TDOT and may require further modification.

Please access <http://www.tn.gov/tdot/section/local-programs> for *The Local Government Guidelines for the Management of Federal and State Funded Transportation Projects* manual which provides State and Local Governmental Agencies with the procedures that are required by law, regulation, rule, policy and standards for the use of Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) transportation projects.



**FY2018 TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES APPLICATION**

- Check box if re-submittal of a previously non-awarded application. Provide the year of last submission: \_\_\_\_\_
- Check box if application was also submitted to the Chattanooga, Knoxville, Nashville, or Memphis MPO/TPO TAP Program

Project Title:	
Priority Ranking (If multiple applications submitted by applicant):	
Project County:	
Physical Project Address including 9-digit zip (not the address of applicant):	
Current Applicant Population:	Applicant DUNS Number:

**FOR TDOT USE ONLY**  
*Do Not Write In This Box*

Eligible Applicant:	___ Yes ___ No
Eligible Project:	___ Yes ___ No
Adequate Scope:	___ Yes ___ No
Adequate Map:	___ Yes ___ No
Adequate Funding:	___ Yes ___ No
TDOT Budget Template:	___ Yes ___ No
TDOT Line Item Nos.:	___ Yes ___ No
Public Involvement:	___ Yes ___ No
Signed Application:	___ Yes ___ No
_____	_____
TDOT Approval	Date

1. Total Construction Costs (100%): (excluding preliminary engineering/design and right-of-way expenses)	\$ _____
2. <b>FEDERAL CONSTRUCTION FUNDS REQUESTED:</b> (Maximum 80% of number 1)	\$ _____
3. Local Cash Match of Construction Funds: (Minimum 20% of number 1)	\$ _____

**If the application is ultimately selected for funding, please provide both an appropriate outdoor and indoor location from which to formally announce and award the project. These locations must have a physical address and provide suitable parking and accessibility for the public.**

**Outdoor Location Name & Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Indoor Location Name & Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

Name of City/County or State Agency Applicant:
Address:
Local Government Contact Name, Title, Phone Number and E-mail Address:
Other Applicable Contact Name, Title, Company, Phone Number and E-mail Address:

I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the information submitted with this application is accurate, all rules & regulations contained in TDOT's *Local Government Guidelines for the Management of Federal and State Funded Transportation Projects* will be followed & that **ALL funds**, including the required 20% local cash match, are now available for the completion of the project as described herein.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
City or County Mayor or State Agency Head

Printed Name and Title of elected official: \_\_\_\_\_

**THE HIGHEST ELECTED OFFICIAL OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY MUST SIGN THIS APPLICATION**

## SECTION 1: TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES ACTIVITIES

Check only those that apply. Explanations of each activity can be found on page 4 of the instruction booklet.

<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities</b> All facilities must be hard-surfaced, ADA compliant and provide adequate linear connectivity. Multi-modal facilities must be a minimum of 12-feet wide. TA funds can be used for sidewalks, walkways or curb ramps; bike lane striping, wide paved shoulders, bike parking and bus racks; pedestrian safety/traffic calming; off-road trails; bike and pedestrian bridges and underpasses and ADA compliance. Funding may not be used for spot improvements, repairs or maintenance	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Historic Preservation &amp; Rehab of Historic Transportation Facilities</b> Preservation of buildings and facades in historical districts; restoration of historic buildings for transportation-related purposes; access improvements to historic sites. Restoration of railroad depots, bus stations and lighthouses; rehabilitation of rail trestles, tunnels, bridges and canals  <span style="color: red;">All applications are subject to State Historic Preservation Office review and approval</span>
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Safe Routes for Non-Drivers</b> Access and accommodation for children, older adults and individuals with disabilities	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Vegetation Management</b> Improvement of roadway safety; prevention of invasive species; providing erosion control
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Conversion of Abandoned Railway Corridors to Trails</b> Acquisition of railroad rights-of-way; planning, design and construction of multi-use hard-surfaced, ADA accessible trails and rail-with-trail projects	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Archaeological Activities</b> Projects related to impacts from implementation of current highway construction projects
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Scenic Turnouts and Overlooks</b> Construction of scenic turnouts, overlooks and viewing areas	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Stormwater Mitigation</b> Pollution prevention and abatement activities to address stormwater management; water pollution prevention related to highway construction or due to highway runoff
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Outdoor Advertising Management</b> Billboard inventories and removal of illegal and nonconforming billboards. Inventory control may include, but not be limited to, data collection, acquisition and maintenance of digital aerial photography, video logging, scanning and imaging of data, developing and maintain an inventory and control database and hiring of outside legal counsel	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Wildlife Management</b> Reduction of vehicle-caused wildlife mortality; restoration and maintenance of connectivity among terrestrial and aquatic habitats

## SECTION 2: PROJECT DESCRIPTION INCLUDING PURPOSE AND NEED

### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

Include project name, project location, and scope of work. The project location should run from west to east or south to north and must include local road names. You must include a color coded map that clearly delineates the project (with road names, a north arrow and the project location highlighted) and any photographs, plans, drawings and applicable preliminary sketches. You must also provide a photograph of the beginning and ending termini if you are submitting for an Activity 1 project. Please do not submit any documents larger than 11" x 17".

Federal regulations require that a project must have a surface transportation link to be eligible. Please refer to [http://trade.railstotrails.org/relate\\_stp](http://trade.railstotrails.org/relate_stp) for more information pertaining to surface transportation links.

If this is a continuation of an existing project, include the projects applicable Project Identification Number (PIN) project description, current status and estimated completion date.

**If this is a bike/pedestrian facility, you must provide distinct and connecting termini (logical destination points such as federal/county/city offices, historic sites, schools, libraries, vehicular trailheads, etc). Future unbuilt phases do not qualify as eligible destination points.** Note that inadequate connectivity may affect the projected costs for construction.

Note that sidewalks must connect to existing sidewalks, bikeways must connect to existing bikeways, greenways must connect to existing greenways or each facility must connect to an approved trailhead with adequate ADA parking or an eligible destination point. All bicycle and pedestrian facilities must be ADA compliant and provide adequate linear connectivity to existing accessible facilities. Pedestrians cannot utilize bike lanes and all pedestrian facilities must provide adequate separation from vehicular traffic, typically accomplished with the installation of a 6-inch non-mountable curb.

Funding may not be used for spot improvements, repairs or maintenance and all new construction for multi-modal (shared use) facilities must be a minimum of 12-feet wide. Address any questions concerning connectivity to the Transportation Alternatives Office at [TDOT.Enhancements@tn.gov](mailto:TDOT.Enhancements@tn.gov).

**PURPOSE AND NEED:**

Briefly specify the underlying purpose and need to which the applicant is responding in proposing the alternatives including the proposed action. FHWA requires a clear statement of identified objectives that the proposed project is intended to achieve for improving transportation conditions. The objectives should be derived from needs and may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 1: Achieving a transportation objective;
- 2: Supporting land use, economic development or growth objectives established in applicable Federal, State, local plans.

The items listed below may not be applicable to every project, but those that are should be discussed, as appropriate, to help explain and justify the project’s purpose and need. For those which do not apply, simply answer “NA”.

**Project Status:** Provide a brief project history, including all actions taken, other state and federal agencies involved, and project schedule. List any existing transportation plans or other relevant studies which include the project.

**System Linkage:** Is the project a needed connecting link in a transportation system? How does the project fit into both the current and future transportation system? Explain how the proposed improvement would address the needs of the community and the transportation system.

**Social or Economic Conditions:** Explain how the benefits and adverse impacts to interest groups in the project area were considered during the planning process.

**Land Use:** Describe projected changes in land use that spur the need for improving the area’s transportation capacity. Reference the local area’s land use plan and describe how it was considered in the transportation planning process. Explain how the project may impact major existing or planned development.

**Safety:** Is the project needed to correct an existing safety hazard?

**SECTION 3: PROJECT BUDGET**

Pending applications will not be selected for funding until the fall of the following year with most projects not proceeding to construction for an additional two or three years: please adjust your budget accordingly and verify your calculations.

The source of the matching funds that will be provided by the Local Government cannot be from another FHWA surface transportation source. ALL COST OVERRUNS IN EXCESS OF THE AWARDED FUNDING AMOUNT ARE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

The 20% non-federal construction share of the proposed project must be provided as a hard cash match, and all preliminary engineering (PE), design and right-of-way expenditures are solely the responsibility of the local governmental agency.

**No add alternates or deductions will be allowed in the final construction cost estimate or bid documents.**

Standardized budget templates are located on our website. Line items can be added or deleted as needed for any stage utilizing TDOT line item numbers when available; however, this is the required format in which all budgets must be submitted. Note: structural template tab is for Historic Preservation and Rehabilitation of Historic Transportation Facilities only.

Access TDOT Line Item Numbers at <https://www.tdot.tn.gov/APPLICATIONS/RoadwayItems>

**SECTION 4: INVESTMENT OF PUBLIC FUNDS**

The project being developed must be maintained by the applicant and remain open to the public for a sufficient time based upon the federal investment as shown below:

<b>Federal Amount</b>	<b>Lease</b>
\$1.00 - \$199,999	5 years from Federal close-out date
>\$200,000 - \$499,999	10 years from Federal close-out date
>\$500,000 - \$1,000,000	20 years from Federal close-out date

Projects over \$1,000,000 carry a minimum 25 year lease and will be subject to individual review.

## SECTION 5: SUPPORT AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Include the local, statewide, and legislative support for the proposed project and attach any federal, state or local government mandates or resolutions for the project.

**Please provide the legislative districts that correspond to the proposed project location, NOT the address of the applicant:**

Senate District No.  House District No.  U.S. Congressional Representative District No.

Prior to submitting an application, all applicants must hold a design public involvement meeting to notify the local community of the intended project scope. In addition, correspondence must be sent to the appropriate Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) / Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) or Rural Planning Organization (RPO) describing the proposed activity and inviting input regarding the project. You must include the date(s) and time(s) of public meetings that were held as well as the sign-in sheet, the record of all public comments received and the disposition of said comments with the completed application

### METROPOLITAN AREAS

Are you in a Metropolitan Area over 50,000 population?  yes  no

If yes, please provide the MPO/TPO name: \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE:** If the project is selected for funding you must have MPO/TPO project endorsement and amendment into the applicable Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP)

## SECTION 6: RIGHT-OF-WAY IMPACT

Is all land necessary for the project publically owned or leased?  yes  no

Is any part of the project to be constructed inside State or Federal highway right-of-way?  yes  no

Is the project along or adjacent to a State or Federal Highway?  yes  no

Will the project impact an existing or eligible National Register Historic Site or District?  yes  no

Does the project include a pedestrian/bike bridge or tunnel or impact an existing TDOT structure?  yes  no

Will any part of your project (including parallel pedestrian facilities) impact a rail or trolley line?  yes  no

TDOT will accept applications electronically via [tdot.enhancements@tn.gov](mailto:tdot.enhancements@tn.gov). The electronic submission must still include the scanned signature of the applicable Mayor or State Agency Head as well as all necessary detailed maps, photographs, preliminary sketches, plans and support letters. **Please note that only Word, PDF and JPG documents will be accepted for electronic submissions and limit only one application per e-mail.**

All applications must include the County, Applicant and Project Title in the subject line. Limit one application per e-mail. If more than one e-mail is necessary per application submittal, you must label each e-mail accordingly, e.g. County, Applicant, Title of Project, Part 1 of 2. NOTE: TDOT's mailbox limit is 15MB per e-mail.

If you choose not to submit electronically, you must submit one (1) CD containing the complete application. All CD's must be labeled County, Applicant and Title of Project. Submissions are to be mailed to:

TDOT - Transportation Alternatives Office  
Suite 600 James K. Polk Building  
505 Deaderick Street  
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0341  
Phone: 615-741-5314 Fax: 615-741-9673  
<http://www.tn.gov/tdot/topic/tap>