

January 21, 2020



AGENDA ITEM 6A

2020 CRTPA TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM (TAP) EVALUATION CRITERIA

TYPE OF ITEM: Action

STATEMENT OF ISSUE

This item seeks approval of an update to the evaluation criteria recommended by the CRTPA Transportation Alternatives (TA) Subcommittee for use in the evaluation of the CRTPA's 2020 TA applications.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Option 1: Adopt the evaluation criteria recommended by the CRTPA Transportation Alternatives Subcommittee for use in the review of the CRTPA's 2020 TA applications.

HISTORY AND ANALYSIS

Background

The CRTPA TAP was established in 2013 subsequent to the creation of the Transportation Alternatives Program associated with the July 6, 2012 signing of P.L. 112-141, the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) by President Obama.

Transportation Alternatives are federally funded programs and projects, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation; recreational trail program projects; safe routes to school projects; and projects for the planning, design or construction of boulevards and other roadways largely in the right-of-way of former Interstate System routes or other divided highways.

Fifty percent (50%) of the TA funding received by each state is to be distributed by population. For those Metropolitan Planning Organizations with a population greater than 200,000 (which includes the CRTPA), the agency must manage the competitive grant process, necessitating the creation of the CRTPA TAP.

The CRTPA receives approximately \$310,000 annually in TA funding explicitly dedicated to the CRTPA region. In addition, other TA funding may be available for placement on TA projects within the CRTPA region at the discretion of the Florida Department of Transportation.

Consistent with CRTPA Board direction, solicitation of new TA projects occurs biennially with the CRTPA most recently initiating the solicitation of new applications in November 2019 (with applications due March 6, 2020).

CRTPA TAP Process

Guiding the CRTPA TAP is the CRTPA TAP Subcommittee. The subcommittee, comprised of 6 members (3 from the CRTPA's Citizen's Multimodal Advisory Committee (CMAC) and 3 from the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)), review and recommend a ranking of the TA applications to the CRTPA Board.

Eligible applications are reviewed and ranked by the subcommittee based upon the adopted CRTPA's TAP Evaluation Criteria (most recently approved at the March 21, 2016 CRTPA meeting).

On November 12, 2019, the TA Subcommittee met to review and discuss the CRTPA's TAP Evaluation Criteria that will be used in the 2020 TA solicitation period (FY 2022 – FY 2026). After a review of the current adopted criteria, the subcommittee voted to recommend the CRTPA make the following two (2) minor changes to the adopted criteria:

- Remove "Leveraging of Funds" criterion – this criterion provides 5 points to those applications that identify a commitment of local funding. Discussion related to this criterion included that it had been noted in the past that the criterion may provide a disadvantage to smaller local government sponsors in the region.
- Minor change to "Project Constructability" criterion – this criterion is proposed to be expanded to add more detail related to project constructability. Specifically, the type of detail to be provided by the applicant was expanded to address various constraints including environmental. Additionally, reference to "right-of-way" is recommended to be removed due to the fact that prior to application acceptance, the CRTPA TAP requires right-of-way be under the control of the applicant. Given the importance of receiving well-documented and constructible projects, 5 points were added to this criterion (taken from the proposed deletion of the "Leveraging of Funds" criterion, above) making this criterion eligible for up to 10 points.

As a result of the above recommendations, the following changes are recommended to be made to the CRTPA’s current adopted TAP Evaluation Criteria:

PROPOSED CRITERIA

2020 PROPOSED EVALUATION CRITERIA		MAXIMUM POINTS
1	SAFETY (Describe how the project will improve public safety for all transportation users)	20
2	CONNECTIVITY (Describe how the project facilitates or improves multimodal linkages)	20
3	ACCESSIBILITY (Describe how the project contributes to enhanced mobility options for transp. disadv.)	20
4	PUBLIC BENEFIT (Describe how the project improves the public travel experience and travel options)	20
5	REGIONAL PLAN (Describe how the project relates to the adopted plans of the region)	5
6	PROJECT CONSTRUCTABILITY	5-10
7	LEVERAGING OF FUNDS (Is there a commitment of local funding?)	5
8-7	COMMUNITY SUPPORT	5
Maximum Total Points		100

A detailed discussion of the proposed criteria is provided in **Attachment 1**.

NEXT STEPS

Subsequent to CRTPA adoption of the TAP Evaluation Criteria, the criteria will be placed on the CRTPA’s TA page and, ultimately, used by the TA Subcommittee in review of TA applications.

The following provides the timeline associated with the CRTPA’s 2020 TA Solicitation Cycle:
 2020 Schedule

- November 12, 2019 – CRTPA TA Subcommittee meeting to discuss TA review criteria
- November 26, 2019 – CRTPA initiates call for new TA applications for FY 2022 – FY 2026
- December 19, 2019 – TA Informational Public Meeting
- January 21, 2020 – CRTPA Adopts TA review criteria
- March 6, 2020 – TA applications DUE
- March 2020 – TA applicant interviews with TA Subcommittee
- March 2020 – TA Subcommittee application ranking meeting
- April 2020 – CRTPA adopts FY 2022 – FY 2026 Transportation Alternatives Priority Project List

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Option 1: Adopt the evaluation criteria recommended by the CRTPA Transportation Alternatives Subcommittee for use in the review of the CRTPA's 2020 TA applications.
(Recommended)

Option 2: Board Direction

ATTACHMENT

Attachment 1: Recommended TA Evaluation Criteria

CRTPA TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES (TA) PROGRAM

2020 UPDATED EVALUATION CRITERIA

(Recommended by TA Subcommittee)

(1) SAFETY

Describe how the project will improve public safety for all transportation users (Examples include reducing hazards for pedestrians, cyclists and motorists) (*Maximum Points = 20*) (OPERATIONALIZE: Maximum points to those applications which provide supporting documentation including crash data, documentation of unsafe activity. Does the project propose the addition of a crosswalk, sidewalk, bike lanes, traffic calming?)

(2) CONNECTIVITY

Describe how the project facilitates or improves multimodal transportation linkages (To what extent does the project facilitate access to the daily needs of the region's residents such as school, work, shopping, transit and parks? Maximize use of existing network?) (*Maximum Points = 20*) (OPERATIONALIZE: Project connects to existing transportation facilities; project maximizes use of existing facilities)

(3) ACCESSIBILITY

Describe how the project contributes to enhanced mobility options for the transportation disadvantaged including disabled, elderly, low income and minority populations (*Maximum Points = 20*) (OPERATIONALIZE: Does the project address needs of the elderly and disabled populations that go beyond ADA requirements? Is project in proximity to affordable housing? Will the project improve low income resident access to transit, regional jobs, local essential services and educational opportunities? Maximum points to those projects which enhance mobility options as identified above).

(4) PUBLIC BENEFIT

Describe how the project will improve the public travel experience and travel options, including the value to the community (Examples include to what extent will the project benefit the community or region, will the project facilitate economic development activity? Likelihood of pedestrian project usage given surrounding land uses and densities) (*Maximum Points = 20*) (OPERATIONALIZE: Greater public benefit = maximum points)

(5) REGIONAL PLANS

Describe how the project relates to adopted plans of the region (Examples include Regional Mobility Plan; local government comprehensive plan; capital improvements plan) (*Maximum Points = 5*) (OPERATIONALIZE: Yes/No)

(6) PROJECT CONSTRUCTABILITY (Application contains information related to the project's constructability including permitting, drainage, trees, utilities, grades and other environmental considerations (*Maximum Points = 10*))

(OPERATIONALIZE: Project comprehensively addresses issues related to constructability)

(7) COMMUNITY SUPPORT (Project contains support from citizens, local governments; neighborhood associations; private non-profit agencies, etc. NOTE: This is in addition to a required resolution of support for each application) (*Maximum Points = 5*) (OPERATIONALIZE: More documented support = maximum points; less support = minimum points)

TOTAL MAXIMUM POSSIBLE POINTS = 100

NOTE: The evaluation criteria are scheduled to be adopted on January 21, 2020 by the CRTPA.