

April 16, 2024



AGENDA ITEM 7 A

CRTPA FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2026 – FY 2030 TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROJECT PRIORITY LIST

TYPE OF ITEM: Action

STATEMENT OF ISSUE

This item seeks adoption of the CRTPA FY 2026 – FY 2030 CRTPA Transportation Alternatives (TA) Project Priority Project List (PPL), provided as **Attachment 1**.

CRTPA COMMITTEE ACTIONS

The CRTPA's Technical Advisory Committee and Citizen's Multimodal Advisory Committee met on April 2 and both committees voted to recommend the CRTPA adopt the CRTPA FY 2026 – FY 2030 Transportation Alternatives Project Priority List.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Option 1: Adopt the CRTPA FY 2026 – FY 2030 Transportation Alternatives Project Priority List.

BACKGROUND

The federal Transportation Alternatives Program was established 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 encompass 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 stormwater and habitat connectivity.

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 Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP). As a result, the CRTPA TAP coordinates the solicitation and ranking of TA projects within the four-county CRTPA region prior to provision of the ranked projects to the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) for funding consideration. Applications must be submitted through the State of Florida Grant Application Process (GAP) system.

The CRTPA TAP solicits *new* applications biennially (every two years), consistent with Board direction. The most recent solicitation of new applications was initiated in late 2023 for the current cycle of applications that are reflected on the draft FY 2026 – FY 2030 Transportation Alternatives Project Priority List.

Guiding the CRTPA TA Program is the CRTPA TA Subcommittee. The subcommittee, consisting of three (3) members from each of the CRTPA’s two (2) committees (Citizens Multimodal Advisory Committee (CMAC) and Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)), reviews and recommends a ranking of the TA applications to the CRTPA Board.

The review of applications by the TA Subcommittee involves use of evaluation criteria that is adopted by the CRTPA Board (most recently in November 2024). Ultimately, the projects are placed in recommended priority order on the agency’s TA Project Priority List for CRTPA Board consideration and adoption (prior to submission to the FDOT).

LATEST INFORMATION

The 2021 passage of the [Bipartisan Infrastructure Law \(BIL\)](#) included changes to the TA Program. Such changes include increased funding to the program as the [BIL](#) nearly doubled funding for the Transportation Alternatives (TA) Set-Aside (from \$850 million annually for fiscal years 2018 through 2020 to an average annual amount of \$1.44 billion from 2022 through 2026).

Within the CRTPA region, this increase amounts to an approximate annual average of \$660,000 of dedicated TA funds over the next five years pursuant to funding estimates provided to the CRTPA by FDOT District 3. Previously, the CRTPA received approximately \$330,000 annually in TA funding exclusively dedicated to the CRTPA region.

Additional changes to the TA Program associated with the BIL include new language and guidance related to *equity*. Specifically, states are required to define “high need” communities and prioritize such communities in project selection.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Due to federal changes to the TA Program from the BIL discussed above, a reexamination of the CRTPA’s adopted review criteria occurred on October 18 by the TA Subcommittee. Ultimately, the Subcommittee evaluated the existing criteria (adopted by the CRTPA in January 2020) and recommended the following evaluation criteria which were adopted by the CRTPA in November 2024:

ADOPTED CRITERIA

CRTPA TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES EVALUATION CRITERIA *		MAXIMUM POINTS
1	SAFETY (Describe how the project will improve public safety for all transportation users including addressing documented safety concerns)	20
2	CONNECTIVITY (Describe how the project facilitates or improves multimodal linkages)	20
3	EQUITY (Describe how the project addresses equity by improving access to traditionally underserved communities as determined by the U.S. Census. Such communities could include low-income residents, minorities, those with limited English proficiency, persons with disabilities, children, or older adults)	20
4	PUBLIC BENEFIT (Describe how the project improves the public travel experience and travel options, including benefits to the environment)	20
5	REGIONAL PLANS (Describe how the project relates to the adopted plans of the region)	10
6	COMMUNITY SUPPORT	10
Maximum Total Points		100

TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES APPLICATIONS

The CRTPA region had a total of four (4) applications submitted for TA funding consideration in the most recent TA application solicitation. The following applications were received:

- [Spring Creek Highway \(CR 365\) Phase I - Multi-Use Path](#)/Funding Sought: \$763,081 (Sponsor: Wakulla County) (Total Project Cost: \$763,081)
- [Dr. MLK, Jr. Memorial Road Phase II - Multi-Use Path](#)/Funding Sought: \$947,633 (Sponsor: Wakulla County) (Total Project Cost: \$947,633)
- [Highland Drive Sidewalk](#)/Funding Sought: \$1,647,814 (Sponsor: Leon County) (Total Project Cost: \$2,554,111)
- [Waverly Road Sidewalk](#)/Funding Sought: \$ 1,320,000 (Sponsor: City of Tallahassee) (Total Project Cost: \$3,500,000)

DRAFT TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROJECT PRIORITY LIST

The CRTPA TA Subcommittee met on February 27 to interview TA applicants prior to discussing and ranking each individual project. Ultimately, the project scores resulted in the following recommended ranking of TA projects:

Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency
DRAFT Transportation Alternatives (TA) Project Priority List
 Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 - FY 2030

Priority	Project Name	Limits
1	Spring Creek Highway (CR 363) (Phase 1) Multi Use Path Sponsor: Wakulla County	US 98 to Parkland Drive (1.13 miles)
2	Waverly Road Sidewalk Project Sponsor: City of Tallahassee	Meridian Road to Thomasville Road (1.22 miles)
3	Dr. MLK, Jr. Memorial Boulevard (Phase II) Multi Use Path Sponsor: Wakulla County	Mallard Pond Circle to Pheasant Hill Trail (1.6 miles)
4	Highland Drive Sidewalk Project Sponsor: Leon County	Buck Lake Road to Mahan Drive (0.67 miles)

CRTPA TA SCHEDULE

The following provides the timeline associated with the CRTPA’s 2023/2024 TA Solicitation Cycle:

- October 18, 2023 TA Subcommittee met to review and discuss TA evaluation review
- November 1 CRTPA initiated call for new TA projects
- November 7 CRTPA Committee Meetings considered changes to TA Program (criteria and funding guidance)
- November 21 CRTPA Board adopted changes to criteria and funding guidance
- November 30 CRTPA Virtual Public Meeting Discussing TA Program conducted
- January 19, 2024 TA Applications Due
- February 27 CRTPA TA Committee met to review applications (using approved TA criteria) & recommended project ranking
- April 2 Committees (TAC & CMAC) scheduled to discuss the Draft FY 2026 – FY 2030 TA PPL
- April 16 (TODAY)** **CRTPA scheduled to adopt the Draft FY 2026 – FY 2030 TA Project Priority List**
- April 26 Adopted TA PPL due to FDOT

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Information related to the development of the Draft FY 2026 – FY 2030 TA PPL and opportunities for public comment were placed on the [CRTPA’s TA page](#) on March 18. Additionally, a widely distributed email was sent on March 27 noting development of the draft TA PPL and opportunities to provide comment via email or at scheduled CRTPA Committee and Board meetings in April.

NEXT STEPS

Subsequent to adoption of the CRTPA FY 2026 – FY 2030 TA PPL, the list will be provided to the FDOT for consideration in the development of the FY 2026 – FY 2030 Tentative Work Program.

ATTACHMENT

Attachment 1: Draft FY 2026 – FY 2030 TA Project Priority List

Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency
DRAFT Transportation Alternatives (TA) Project Priority List
 Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 - FY 2030

Priority	Project Name	Limits	Funding Sought	Phase
1	Spring Creek Highway (CR 363) (Phase 1) Multi Use Path Sponsor: Wakulla County	US 98 to Parkland Drive (1.13 miles)	\$763,081	Construction & CEI
2	Waverly Road Sidewalk Project Sponsor: City of Tallahassee	Meridian Road to Thomasville Road (1.22 miles)	\$1,320,000	Construction & CEI
3	Dr. MLK, Jr. Memorial Boulevard (Phase II) Multi Use Path Sponsor: Wakulla County	Mallard Pond Circle to Pheasant Hill Trail (1.6 miles)	\$947,633	Construction & CEI
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