

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AGENDA ITEM 4 D

NORTH MONROE STREET 2024 SAFE STREETS AND ROADWAYS FOR ALL (SS4A) AWARD DISCUSSION

Type of Item: Action

STATEMENT OF ISSUE

This item seeks direction related to the CRTPA's receipt of a partial Safe Streets and Roadways for All (SS4A) federal grant award that was submitted for funding safety improvements on N. Monroe Street in 2024.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Option 1: Executive Committee Direction

BACKGROUND

In September 2024, the CRTPA approved the North Monroe Street Safety Implementation Plan, which identified potential safety improvements along the North Monroe Street corridor for all roadway users, including motorists, pedestrians, and bicyclists. As part of the plan's development, the CRTPA submitted a federal grant application under the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Grant Program to fund implementation of many of the identified improvements.

In mid-May 2024, the CRTPA submitted the SS4A grant application in coordination with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and the Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency (BPIA). The BPIA provided the required 20% local match—\$4.2 million—for the \$21 million grant, which included \$16.8 million in federal funds. The application proposed implementing various safety improvements along the corridor, including a small median barrier project classified as a "demonstration project."

In fall 2024, the CRTPA was notified of a partial grant award. Specifically, \$198,618 in federal funds—approximately 1.1% of the total federal request—was awarded to implement the median barrier demonstration project. The remainder of the grant application was not funded.

Following the award, the CRTPA determined that implementing the demonstration project as a standalone effort was not financially feasible. The proposed improvements included in the grant application were designed to be implemented concurrently as one comprehensive project, and the cost estimates developed for the grant package reflected that approach.

As a result, the awarded funds were deemed insufficient to move forward with the median barrier project. The CRTPA has reached out to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) several times to seek guidance on this issue, including inquiring whether the funding amount could be increased.

At the June 16 CRTPA meeting, the Executive Director briefed the Board on the issues associated with the partial award.

Most recently, due to the majority of improvements not receiving funding under the 2024 SS4A submission, the CRTPA partnered with Leon County in spring 2025 to prepare a new SS4A grant application. That application was submitted in late June 2025 by Leon County and, if awarded, will fund many of the same corridor improvements previously proposed in the 2024 grant submittal.