



Solano Transportation Authority

SOLANO TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

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... working for you!

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January 4, 2011

Re: Solano TLC Planning Grants Call for Projects

Dear Transportation Partner:

The Solano Transportation Authority (STA) is currently accepting Solano Transportation for Livable Communities (TLC) Planning Grant applications for Project Documents and TLC Implementation Plans. Enclosed is a copy of the STA's Countywide TLC Planning Grant Guidelines and Application which includes information regarding eligibility and application requirements. An electronic copy of the TLC Planning Grant application is also available in word format online at www.solanolinks.com.

All applicants must submit a resolution from the City Council or governing board that commits a 20% local funding match for their application(s) to be considered. The resolution should also include additional information as indicated on in the TLC Planning Grant guidelines and application.

Applications are due to the STA no later than 3 p.m., February 3, 2011. Resolutions will be accepted by STA staff after the February 3rd application deadline, but no later than February 18, 2011.

Please contact me at 707.424.6014 if you have any further questions regarding funding opportunity.

Best Regards,

Robert Z. Guerrero
Senior Planner

TRANSPORTATION FOR LIVABLE COMMUNITIES (TLC) PLANNING GRANT APPLICATION GUIDELINES

Overview

The Solano Transportation Authority (STA) has set aside \$150,000 of Transportation for Livable Communities (TLC) funds for planning grants intended to advance projects or plans in designated Priority Development Areas (PDAs). Solano County currently has 9 PDA's. The Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) is responsible for making PDA designations. For more information on ABAG's PDA Designation process please visit their website at:

<http://www.bayareavision.org/initiatives/prioritydevelopmentareas.html> .

The purpose of the STA's TLC planning grants is to plan and design TLC PDA concept projects to be ready for construction. The goal is to have the TLC PDA concept projects eligible and competitive for future STA and Metropolitan Transportation Commission's (MTC's) TLC capital funds.

Two separate types of planning documents are eligible for the STA's TLC planning grants: 1) **Project Documents** and 2) **TLC Implementation Plans**. *Project Documents* are engineering and environmental documents that lead directly to the construction of improvements such as bike routes, sidewalks or pedestrian plazas. *TLC Implementation Plans* are land use documents that identify allowable land use and provide supporting design and infrastructure information. TLC Implementation Plans must also include bicycle and pedestrian components for consideration of future TLC capital funds.

The STA's TLC planning grants are provided by federal Surface Transportation Program (STP) allocated to STA by MTC. Grant recipients must provide a 20% local match of non-federal funds to be eligible. The grant recipients will be responsible for compliance with all federal contracting requirements.

The STA will approve a maximum of three (3) Project Document or TLC Implementation Plan grants. If the STA evaluation team determines that none of the applications received adequately advance the goals of the STA and the TLC program, the STA may reject all applications and either issue a new call for projects or not approve any grants.

Eligibility

- A. The STA TLC funds are available to cities in Solano County that have a PDA designation.
- B. At least 50% of a Project Document area must be located within a designated PDA. TLC Implementation Plans must include the entirety of one or more PDA's, but may also include areas within ½ mile outside of a designated PDA. Applications must demonstrate that the area included in the Project Document or TLC Implementation Plan Area has clear and complete boundaries. Detailed maps and photos of the proposed project area are required.
- C. Project Documents and TLC Implementation Plans applications for Potential PDAs (as defined by ABAG) will only be considered if there are no qualifying projects in Planned PDAs.
- D. Applicants must provide a local non-federal cash match of 20% of the total project cost.
- E. Plans must be completed by December 1, 2011.

Criteria: Project Documents

The intent for the STA's TLC Planning grant in this category is to fund the development of *Project Documents* that make a TLC project "shovel" ready. The goal is to provide planning grant funds for completing preliminary engineering and environmental documents in order to have the TLC project ready for construction.

Project Document Applications will be evaluated on the following criteria:

1. The Project must provide a clear transportation benefit. Typical Projects include bicycle or pedestrian infrastructure, or transit center improvements that include bike and pedestrian elements.
2. The Project must be directly tied to a development project that will deliver high-density mixed uses. Development projects that include housing that considers ABAG's Sustainable Communities Strategies will receive a higher rating.
3. The ability of the Project to provide access from high-density housing or mixed-use development to a Transit Facility of Regional Significance (see attachment A to this announcement).
4. A Project that results in the construction of a portion of a priority bicycle or pedestrian project identified in the draft *Solano Countywide Bicycle Plan* or draft *Solano Countywide Pedestrian Plan* will receive a higher rating.
5. A Project that provides complete connectivity from high density mixed use to transit, rather than building only a segment leaving an intervening gap, will be given a higher rating.
6. Identifies or has secure funding source for Project beyond the federal local match requirement.
7. The Project sponsor's history and current ability to deliver the project in a timely manner.

Criteria: TLC Implementation Plans

The intent for the STA's TLC Planning grant in this category is to fund the development of TLC Implementation Plans that included clear implementation strategies for TLC project concepts in PDAs. The goal for this category is to fund a plan that defines policy, preliminary designs and has estimated costs for transit, bicycle and pedestrian connections to mixed use projects within a PDA.

TLC Implementation Plans will be evaluated on the following criteria:

1. Specified transportation improvements and land uses in the Plan area. Transportation facilities are typically roadways, bicycle or pedestrian paths, or transit centers.
2. Other provisions for high-density mixed use development including housing with consideration for ABAG's development of Sustainable Communities Strategy housing scenarios. Incorporation of high density housing as a permitted use, rather than conditional use is desirable.
3. Description of designated areas of development with immediate access to a Transit Facility of Regional Significance.

4. Description of a how a priority bicycle or pedestrian project identified in the draft *Solano Countywide Bicycle Plan* or draft *Solano Countywide Pedestrian Plan* is incorporated in the plan.
5. Preference will be given to applications that incorporate MTC's Parking Strategies.
6. The committed participation of a private or not-for-profit entity to construct one or more of the high-density mixed use projects authorized by the plan.
7. The application for Planning funds must include a City Council resolution authorizing development of the Plan, and include the parking, streetscape and housing elements listed above as items to be included in the Plan.

Selection Process

Projects will be reviewed and scored by a staff committee, including STA Planning and Projects staff and outside agencies. The staff committee will make a recommendation that may be reviewed by the STA Alternative Modes Committee or similar STA policy committee before being recommended to the STA Board for approval. A maximum of three (3) projects will be selected for funding.

Important Dates

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| 1. Call for TLC Planning Grant Applications | January 4, 2011 |
| 2. Applications Due to the STA no later than 3 p.m. | February 3, 2011 |
| 3. Alternative Modes Committee Application Review | February 17, 2011 (tentative*) |
| 4. STA Board Approval | March 9, 2011 |

Reference Documents:

The Draft Solano County Bicycle Project List can be found at:

<http://www.solanolinks.com/pdfs/Plans/FINAL%20Bike%20Projects%2003-15-10.pdf>

The Draft Solano County Pedestrian Project List can be found at:

[http://www.solanolinks.com/pdfs/Plans/02%2003-10%20Board_\(17\)%20Ped%20Plan%20Update%20-%20Projects%20Lists.pdf](http://www.solanolinks.com/pdfs/Plans/02%2003-10%20Board_(17)%20Ped%20Plan%20Update%20-%20Projects%20Lists.pdf)

MTC Parking Study can be found at:

http://www.mtc.ca.gov/planning/smart_growth/parking_study.htm

The Regional TLC Design Guidelines can be found at:

http://www.mtc.ca.gov/planning/smart_growth/TLC_Design_Guidelines-DRAFT.pdf

**TRANSPORTATION AND LAND USE PLANNING
GRANT APPLICATION**

TRANSPORTATION AND LAND USE PLANNING GRANT APPLICATION

Project Information:

Project title: _____

Project sponsor: _____

Total project cost: _____ **Planning Grant Request (maximum of \$150,000):** _____

Priority Development Area (PDA) Location _____

Please indicate if the PDA is a planned or potential PDA: _____

Local match: _____

Source: _____
Source: _____
Source: _____

Contact Information:

Contact person: _____

Phone No: _____

E-Mail: _____

Address: _____

Grant Application Type:

(Type 'X' for selected category)

- 1. Project Document
- 2. TLC Implementation Plan

Section 1. Project Summary Form.

Section 2. Project Document Application Information

Complete the following section for Project Document grant requests.

1. Describe how you intend to use the TLC Project Document grant if awarded, including a draft list of task that will be the basis for your scope of work. Attach a schedule which assumes that the project can commence in April 2011 and will be completed by December 1, 2011.
2. Describe the transportation and land use benefits of your TLC Project.
3. Please describe how the project demonstrates it is consistent with local zoning and/or specific plans.
4. Describe how the Project is directly tied the Priority Development Area (PDA) and describe how it will be linked to a higher density mixed use development project and transit within the PDA. Attach a detailed map of the PDA, planned and existing land use, and the location of the TLC Project and transit facilities.
5. Does the project currently have Engineering and Environmental plans completed to at least 10%? If yes, indicate what has been completed including existing environmental documentation.
6. A resolution from the agency governing board authorizing submittal of the application, including a description of committed project funding. Please note that the Grants are federal funds, and a 20% local match of non-federal funds is required.

Section 3. TLC Implementation Plan Application Information

Complete the following section for **TLC Implementation Plan** grant requests.

1. Describe the proposed improvements to transportation facilities in the **TLC Implementation Plan** area. Discuss tasks to be completed with the grant funds and provide a schedule for each tasks completion. Assume that the project can commence in April 2011 and will be completed by December 1, 2011.
2. Attach a map of the area to be covered by the **TLC Implementation Plan**. The map must also show that the Plan area is contained in a designated PDA. Highlight proposed land uses, densities, development commitment that will be considered as a part of the Plan's development and public consideration.
3. Discuss policies the city would consider evaluating or creating for the TLC Implementation Plan.
4. Identify bicycle or pedestrian projects to be considered in the Plan area that are also included in either the draft *Solano Countywide Bicycle Plan* or draft *Solano Countywide Pedestrian Plan*.
5. Describe how you would incorporate public participation as part of the TLC Implementation Plan.

6. Attach a City Council resolution authorizing development of the Plan. The Resolution is required to include a description of the source and amount of committed funding. Please note that the Grants are federal funds, and a 20% local match of non-federal funds is required.