



Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) – Project Application Notice
Oklahoma Department of Transportation - TAP Project Selection Process
January 1st, 2016

Federal funding for the TAP program funding is comprised of 3 population based categories:

- Urbanized areas over 200,000
 - Suburban Areas 5,000-200,000
 - Rural Areas 0-5,000
- Available Urbanized area TAP funding is sub-allocated to ACOG and INCOG by formula.
 - ACOG and INCOG are responsible for project selection within the Urbanized Area Boundaries.

The Department is responsible for TAP project selection for the 0-5,000 and 5,000-200,000 funding categories.

TAP	2013	2014	2015	EST 2016	Totals
ACOG	\$1,409,749	\$1,434,858	\$1,434,858	\$1,434,858	\$5,714,323
INCOG	\$1,072,613	\$1,091,716	\$1,091,716	\$1,091,716	\$4,347,761
0-5K	\$2,260,840	\$2,301,108	\$2,301,108	\$2,301,108	\$9,164,164
5K-200K	\$1,395,432	\$1,420,286	\$1,420,286	\$1,420,286	\$5,656,290
Totals	\$6,138,634	\$6,247,968	\$6,247,968	\$6,247,968	\$24,882,538

A standardized Online TAP project application process has been developed by the Department for local sponsors to register and file TAP applications.

- The Department’s TAP Project Managers will work with the sponsors during a Pre-Application submission period to provide a technical and eligibility review of the projects.
- Sponsors will then file their final applications online with the Department.

The Sub-State Planning Districts from across the State have agreed to assist the Department with the TAP program announcement to their members, and to participate in the scoring and ranking process for local applications in order to provide the Department with TAP project recommendations based on each Sub-State Planning District’s Regional Priorities.

Those Sub-State Planning Districts that are also qualified as Regional Transportation Planning Organizations (RTPOs) have agreed to assist and partner with other SSPDs currently without RTPO staffing. This process ensures that all sub-state planning districts are represented by Transportation Planning expertise. A boundary map is attached.

The Department will accept ranked listings, by Sub-state Planning District, of recommended TAP projects from each RTPO for consideration by the Department for award of available TAP funding.

Selection Criteria Development: Complete by – January 1, 2016

THE DEPARTMENT will establish the following TAP Recommending Agencies, representing the entire state, comprised of the Regional Transportation Planning Organizations in the TAP project application review, ranking and recommendation to THE DEPARTMENT:

Southwest Oklahoma Regional Transportation Organization
Northern Oklahoma Regional Transportation Organization
Central Oklahoma Regional Transportation Organization
Association of Central Oklahoma Governments
Indian Nations Council of Governments

THE DEPARTMENT will provide general TAP selection criteria to each Recommending Agency. The criteria can be modified by the Recommending Agency, with approval by THE DEPARTMENT, if the Recommending Agencies' Transportation Technical Committee (TTC) and Transportation Policy Board (TPB) conclude the criteria is not suitable to their regional goals. The selection criteria must be approved by each TPB prior to **January 1st, 2016**.

The project selection criteria will be the ranking guideline for use by each Recommending Agencies' TTC and TPB to determine final project score (if applicable) and ranking.

General Criteria provided to Recommending Agencies:

**Transportation Alternatives Program
Project Selection Criteria**

1. Improve Safety

- a. Does the location provide safe routes for non-drivers, i.e. bicyclists, children, older adults, and individuals with disabilities?
- b. Does the proposed project provide safety related infrastructure, i.e. lighting, crosswalks, and signals?
- c. Does the proposed project area have a history of high collisions?

2. Improve Connectivity

- a. Does the proposed project expand or connect directly to existing bicycle, pedestrian or transit facilities?
- b. Does the proposed project improve the connectivity between community and tribal/federal owned lands?
- c. Does the proposed project expand or connect directly to a school?

3. Community Improvement

- a. Does the proposed project have the support of the public with documentation of public meetings, and/or letters of support from community organizations?
- b. Does the proposed project support a partnership at a local level, or is it a part of an existing plan?
- c. Does the applicant have the ability to maintain the proposed project and a clear plan to do so?
- d. Does this project enhance cultural education for the community?

4. Funding

- a. Does the applicant have the minimum 20% match readily available to fund the proposed project?
- b. Does the applicant show proof of commitment to provide funding above the minimum 20% match readily available to fund the proposed project?
- c. Does the project includes a detailed, complete and realistic cost estimate?

5. Environmental

- a. Does this project involve abatement processes?
- b. Does this project address environmental mitigation?

Maximum Federal TAP Funds = \$700,000 (Minimum 20% local Cash match)

Preliminary Call for Projects: Opens January 1, 2016

*Estimated preliminary application period will be **January 1st, thru February 29th, 2016***

THE DEPARTMENTS TAP call for projects announcement will be made available through the 11 COGs in Oklahoma (Linked Below)

Oklahoma Economic Development Authority (OEDA)

Northern Oklahoma Development Authority (NODA)

Grand Gateway Economic Development Association (GGEDA)

South Western Oklahoma Development Authority (SWODA)

Association of South Central Oklahoma (ASCOG)

Southern Oklahoma Development Association (SODA)

Central Oklahoma Economic Development District (COEDD)

Eastern Oklahoma Development District (EODD)

Kiamichi Economic Development District of Oklahoma (KEDDO)

Association of Central Oklahoma Governments (ACOG)

Indian Nations Council of Governments (INCOG)

Included with the call for projects announcement will be:

- THE DEPARTMENT's online application link
- THE DEPARTMENT's pre-qualified engineering firm selection letter and listing
- TAP Project Selection Criteria as approved per region
- TAP Program guidance

THE DEPARTMENT Preliminary Application Review: Begins January 1st, 2016

*Estimated application review period will be **January 1st, 2016 thru February 29th, 2016 (as preliminary applications received)***

THE DEPARTMENT will perform onsite reviews as needed for all project applications received and submit comments to each project sponsor for consideration in finalizing their applications.

Final Application Submittal: Estimated March 1, 2016

*Estimated final application period will be **March 1, 2016 thru March 31, 2016***

Each project sponsor will have 30 days to resubmit project applications based on the comments received from THE DEPARTMENT's Preliminary Application review.

Recommending Agency Project Application Review, Score & Ranking: Estimated April 1, 2016

*Estimated Recommending Agency review period will be **April 1, 2016 thru May 31, 2016***

THE DEPARTMENT will compile applications by (5) five pre-selected regions and send applications to the Recommending Agencies as follows:

ASCOG & SODA & SWODA -> **SORTPO**

OEDA & GGEDA & NODA -> **NORTPO**

EODD & KEDDO & COEDD -> **CORTPO**

INCOG - (excluding areas within the Urbanized Area boundary)

ACOG - (excluding areas within the Urbanized Area boundary)

THE DEPARTMENT will attend each Recommending Agency's Transportation Technical Committee (TTC) meeting in April 2016 to discuss project applications and provide insight into the TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM GUIDANCE.

Each Recommending Agency's TTC will score (if applicable) and rank applications based upon the selection criteria established earlier in the process. The TTC will recommend approval of its regional application rankings to the Recommending Agency's Transportation Policy Board (TPB). Once approved by the TPB, SWODA, NODA, COEDD, INCOG, and ACOG will submit their

final ranked project recommendations to THE DEPARTMENT for review and consideration, ranked by Sub-state Planning District.

Final DEPARTMENT Review: Estimated June 1, 2016

Estimated Final DEPARTMENT review period will be June 1, 2016 thru June 30, 2016

A final review committee, selected by THE DEPARTMENT, will determine final score and ranking for all projects across each region. THE DEPARTMENT will not consider raw scores as determined by each Recommending Agency but rely solely on overall ranking. It will be the intent of THE DEPARTMENT to award at least one project per COG region, given that an eligible TAP project application was submitted within each Sub State Planning District.

Final TAP grant determinations will be presented by the Department to the Oklahoma Association of Regional Councils (OARC) at the **July 2016** Executive Directors meeting at ACOG, after approval by the Department's Transportation Commission.