VDOT
Virginia Department of Transportation

TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM

FY23/24 Application Update

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January 11, 2022

Program Overview

- Available funding includes Transportation Alternatives (TA), Safe Routes to Schools (SRTS)*, and a Recreational Trail Programs mandatory set-aside (provided to Dept of Conservation & Recreation)
- 10 eligibility categories
- Legislation provides that 50% of funds are distributed based on population and 50% can be used anywhere in state
  - Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) in Transportation Management Areas (TMAs) make selections (>200,000 population)
  - District CTB members make selections with $9M/yr statewide funding
  - CTB At-Large /Secretary make selections with funding based on population areas under 200,000 and any statewide amount over $9M/yr

Eligible Categories

1. On-Road and off-road Bike/Ped facilities
2. Infrastructure projects that provide safe routes for non-drivers
3. Conversion of abandoned railway corridors into trails
4. Construction of turn-outs, overlooks, and viewing areas
5. Inventory, control, and removal of outdoor advertising
6. Rehabilitation of historic transportation facilities
7. Vegetation management practices in transportation rights-of-way
8. Archaeological activities related to impacts from implementation of a transportation project
9. Environmental mitigation of water pollution related to highway construction
10. Environmental mitigation focused on wildlife protection or habitat connectivity

Safe Routes To School
Non-Infrastructure Program

- **SAFETEA-LU Funding has Sustained Program until Funding Exhausted**
- **Current Evaluation of Future Options for Program:**
  - **Grant program stays with Transportation Alternatives Program**
  - **Additional funds could be dedicated to support non-infrastructure program**

FY23/24 Application Summary

- **October 1, 2021 deadline**
- **Applications submitted through SMART Portal for two-year cycle**
- **126 Applications requesting ~ *$120M***
- **Anticipated allocations FY23/24 ~ $ 44M after Rec Trails (distribution; Pre-IIJA)**

Tentative Allocation Distribution (2 Year – Pre-IIJA)	
MPO/TMA Areas	*$ ~13.3M*
District Members	*$* 18M *($2M per District)*
At-Large Members/Secretary	*$ ~12.7M*

*** Potential for additional IIJA allocations to be provided for Trails program**

TA FY23/24 Application Insights

PRE-APPLICATION INSIGHTS

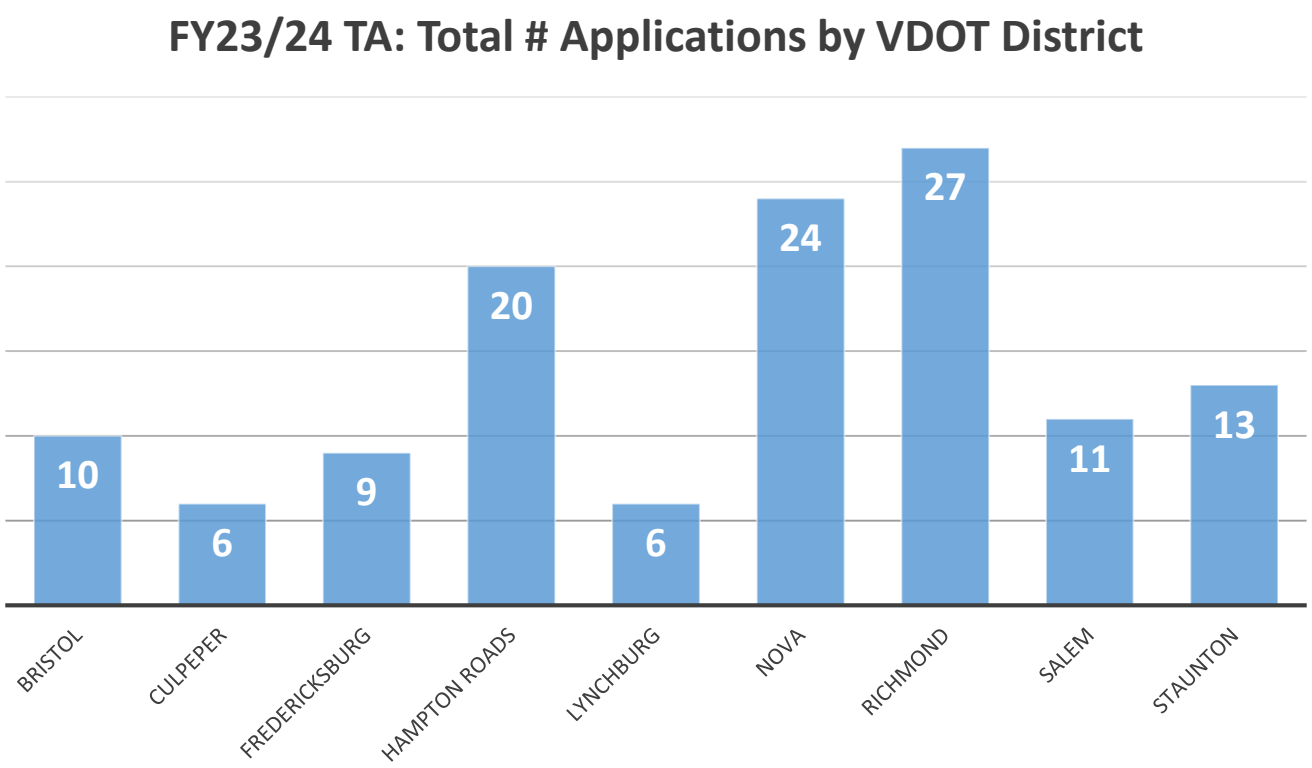
- 179 Total Pre-Applications
- 15 Screen-out Decisions
- 45 Conditional Screen-In Decisions

FULL APPLICATION INSIGHTS

- 133 Full Applications Submitted
- $214M in total project cost
- $120M in total TA requests
- 5 Additional Screen-out Decisions due to ineligibility
- 2 Applications Withdrawn by Applicant
- 126 Applications Eligible for funding consideration

TA FY23/24 Application Insights

- 126 Applications
- 5 Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Non-Infrastructure Applications
- Total TA Requested Funding: **$119,810,277**
- Total Required Local Match: $29,952,534
- Total Non-TA/Other Funds: $54,270,234
- Total Project Cost: $214,175,926

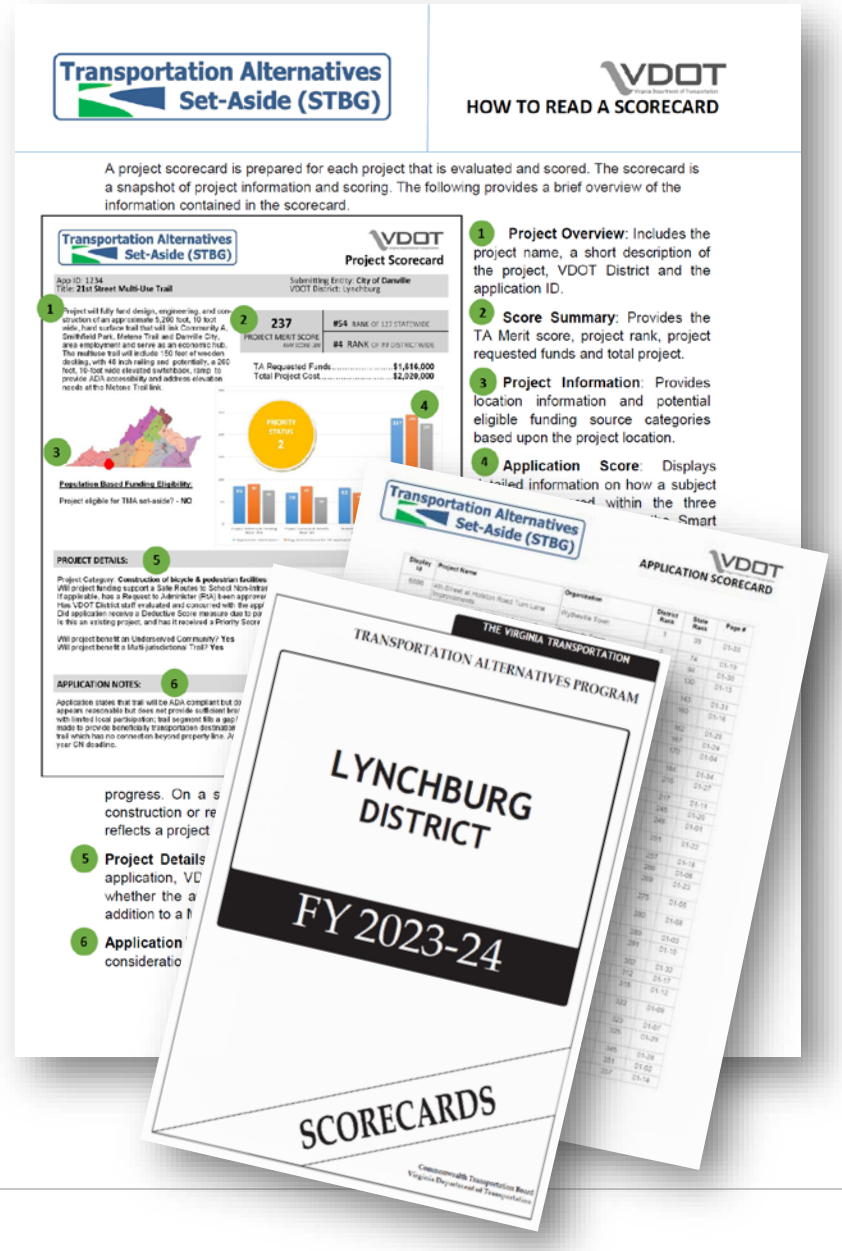


Application Submittal Package

- FY23/24 Application Scorecards
- Current CTB TAP Selection Policy
- List of Current Active Projects by District
- Safe Routes to School Information
- Central Office Local Assistance Division Staff Contact List

Scorecard Review

- Packet includes a instructional overview of how to review a scorecard
- Table of Contents which also summarizes District and Statewide Ranks of the Merit Scores
- Scorecards organized by VDOT District
- Individual scorecards for all TA Infrastructure and SRTS Non-Infrastructure Applications



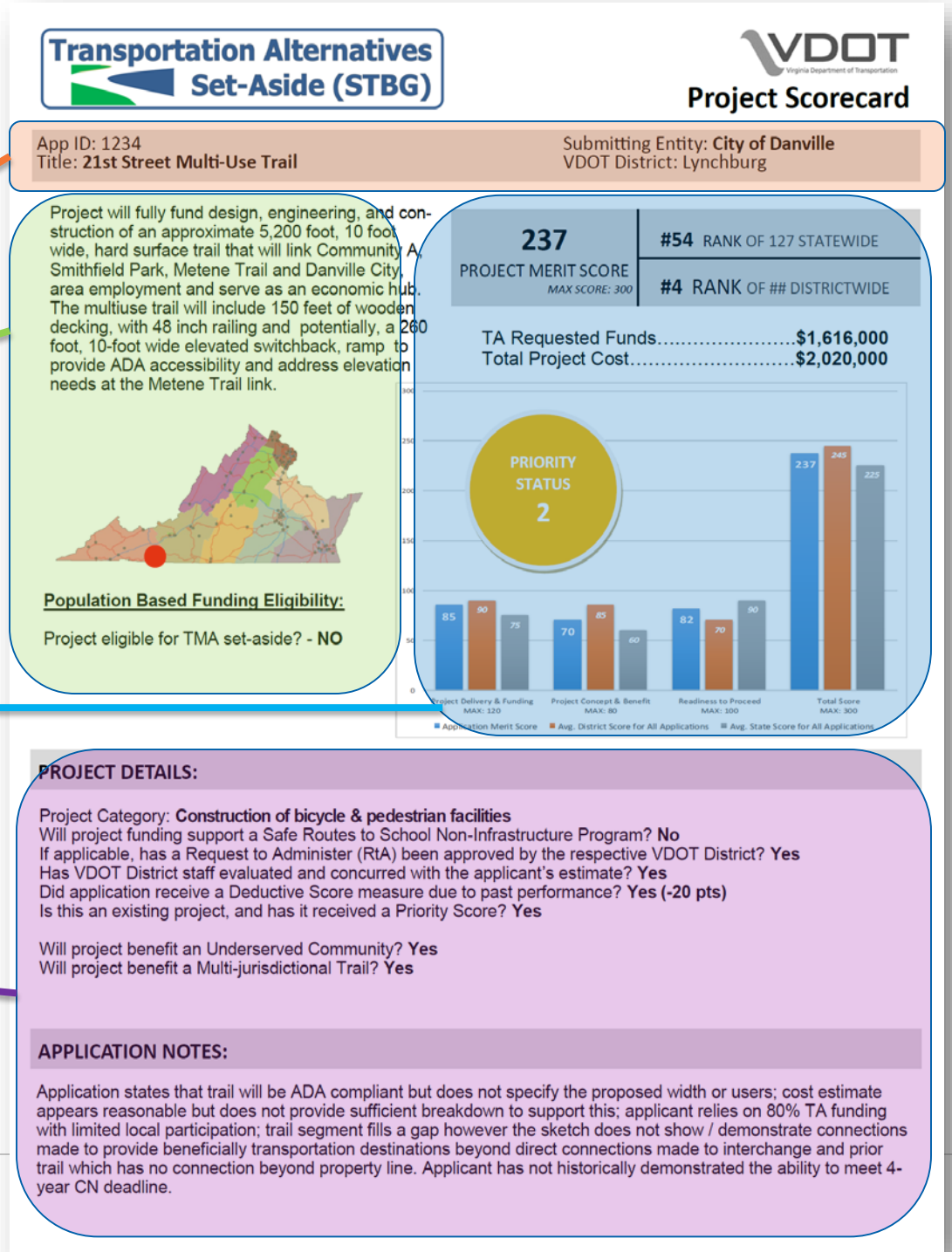
Scorecard Overview

Application ID, Project Title, Applicant

Project Description and Location

Project Merit Score (and Priority if existing project), Score Rank by District and Statewide, Cost Details

Additional Project Details and Notes to aid your evaluation



Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (STBG)

VDOT Virginia Department of Transportation

Project Scorecard

App ID: 1234
Title: **21st Street Multi-Use Trail**

Submitting Entity: **City of Danville**
VDOT District: Lynchburg

Project will fully fund design, engineering, and construction of an approximate 5,200 foot, 10 foot wide, hard surface trail that will link Community A, Smithfield Park, Metene Trail and Danville City, area employment and serve as an economic hub. The multiuse trail will include 150 feet of wooden decking, with 48 inch railing and potentially, a 260 foot, 10-foot wide elevated switchback, ramp to provide ADA accessibility and address elevation needs at the Metene Trail link.

Population Based Funding Eligibility:

Project eligible for TMA set-aside? - **NO**

237 PROJECT MERIT SCORE *MAX SCORE: 300*

#54 RANK OF 127 STATEWIDE

#4 RANK OF ## DISTRICTWIDE

TA Requested Funds.....**$1,616,000**
Total Project Cost.....**$2,020,000**

PRIORITY STATUS 2

Project Delivery & Funding MAX: 120 — 85, 90, 75
Project Concept & Benefit MAX: 80 — 70, 85, 60
Readiness to Proceed MAX: 100 — 82, 70, 90
Total Score MAX: 300 — 237, 245, 225

Application Merit Score | Avg. District Score for All Applications | Avg. State Score for All Applications

PROJECT DETAILS:

Project Category: **Construction of bicycle & pedestrian facilities**
Will project funding support a Safe Routes to School Non-Infrastructure Program? **No**
If applicable, has a Request to Administer (RtA) been approved by the respective VDOT District? **Yes**
Has VDOT District staff evaluated and concurred with the applicant's estimate? **Yes**
Did application receive a Deductive Score measure due to past performance? **Yes (-20 pts)**
Is this an existing project, and has it received a Priority Score? **Yes**

Will project benefit an Underserved Community? **Yes**
Will project benefit a Multi-jurisdictional Trail? **Yes**

APPLICATION NOTES:

Application states that trail will be ADA compliant but does not specify the proposed width or users; cost estimate appears reasonable but does not provide sufficient breakdown to support this; applicant relies on 80% TA funding with limited local participation; trail segment fills a gap however the sketch does not show / demonstrate connections made to provide beneficially transportation destinations beyond direct connections made to interchange and prior trail which has no connection beyond property line. Applicant has not historically demonstrated the ability to meet 4-year CN deadline.

CTB Project Selection Policy

- **Selected projects will receive not less than 50% of the funds requested in the application**
- **If requested amount is $200,000 or less, the request will be fully funded if that amount completes a project**
- **Projects not under construction within four (4) years of the project's first allocations availability are subject to deallocation**

Project Scoring

Average Merit Score

- **All applications have a Merit Score based on:**
  - Project funding
  - Project concept and benefit
  - Project's readiness to proceed

Priority Status

- **Additional info to assess progress of *existing* projects**
  - Focus on projects that will use funds quickly
  - Projects reviewed based on several indicators
  - Ranking from 1 to 6

    1 - project ready for construction

    6 - initial stages of project development

SRTS Non-Infrastructure Scoring Criteria

- Community and school representation on the SRTS Program team
- Well-defined vision that addresses the goals of the program
- Well-defined activities that address the goals of program
- Knowledge of student travel
- Knowledge of key issues
- Ability to meet the required match
- # of Title One schools that will benefit from the award
- Percent of budget that will be spent on students rather than salary or administration
- Percent of award that will be spent on capital investment (bikes, helmets, etc.)

District Summaries

- Provides indication of current status (under construction, agreement pending, etc.) for all active projects
- Color Coded for status – Legend on last page of each District
- At-Large Members received all nine district summaries

Transportation Alternatives – Next Steps

December 2021	Validated/Scored Applications
January 11, 2022	Present TAP Update and Scores to CTB District Members/MPO for use in Selections
January 31, 2022	CTB District Member Selections to LAD / LAD Provides to MPOs
February 25, 2022	MPO Project Selections to LAD
March 15/16, 2022	CTB At-Large Member Selection Meeting
April – May 2022	SYIP Public Meetings
June 22, 2022	CTB Approval of Project Allocations