

## Memorandum

**To:** [Distribution List]

From: Robert Keeth, Senior Planner

**Date:** January 16, 2015

Subject: River to Sea TPO's Annual Call for Projects

# \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* FOR YOUR IMMEDIATE ATTENTION \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* Announcing River to Sea TPO's Annual CALL FOR PROJECTS

The River to Sea Transportation Planning Organization (R2CTPO) is now accepting applications for projects to be added to our List of Priority Projects. These applications will be used by the R2CTPO to qualify and prioritize proposed transportation-related projects for feasibility study and/or implementation using federal and state transportation funding.

The deadline for submitting project applications is 5:00 p.m. on Friday, April 3, 2015.

Any previously submitted project application which was ranked, but has not yet undergone a feasibility study, will remain on the List of Priority Projects <u>only if the project's sponsor submits a letter indicating its continuing support for the project. This letter must be received by the R2CTPO on or before 5:00 p.m. on Friday, April 3, 2015.</u>

The R2CTPO has nine categories of Priority Projects, which are:

- Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) Roadway Projects
- Regionally Significant Non-SIS Roadway Projects
- Major Bridge Replacement Projects
- Public Transit Projects
- Traffic Operations and Safety Projects
- Bicycle/Pedestrian Projects
- Transportation Alternatives Projects
- Regional Trail Projects
- Transportation Planning Studies

Only applications for transportation-related projects in the following Priority Project categories will be considered at this time:

- Traffic Operations and Safety Projects
- Bicycle/Pedestrian Projects
- Transportation Alternatives Projects
- Regional Trail Projects

### Traffic Operations and Safety Projects and Bicycle/Pedestrian Projects

All SU-funded projects require a 90/10 (SU/local) match for the feasibility study and project implementation.

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The process for reviewing and ranking Traffic Operations and Safety projects and Bicycle/Pedestrian projects is as follows:

- For each proposed project, the applicant (project sponsor) will submit a completed R2CTPO Traffic
  Operations and Safety Project Funding Application or Bicycle/Pedestrian Project Funding Application.
  The application will indicate whether the applicant is requesting a feasibility study or project
  implementation. R2CTPO will accept an application for project implementation (design, right-of-way,
  construction) only if the proposed project has undergone a feasibility study or if a feasibility study will
  not be required.
- 2. R2CTPO staff will screen applications to ensure that they are complete and include only eligible improvements/activities.
- 3. Project applications for <u>feasibility studies</u>:
  - a. Applicant (project sponsor) will submit an official letter to the R2CTPO certifying that the project is supported by the applicant and agreeing to pay its required local share (10%) of the cost for a required feasibility study.
  - b. Traffic Operations and Safety projects will be preliminarily ranked by the TIP Subcommittee; Bicycle/Pedestrian project applications will be preliminarily ranked by the BPAC Project Review Subcommittee. The R2CTPO Board will approve a final ranking of all projects.
  - c. R2CTPO's consultant will perform a feasibility study on each proposed project in ranked order as funding becomes available. R2CTPO will pay 90% of the study cost; the applicant will be responsible for the remaining 10%.
- 4. Projects applications for <u>project implementation</u> (feasibility study has been completed or is not required):
  - a. Applicant (project sponsor) will submit an application for project implementation and an official letter agreeing to pay the required local match for SU funds programmed on the project, and agreeing to pay for any cost overruns.
  - b. Traffic Operations and Safety project applications will be preliminarily ranked by the TIP Subcommittee; Bicycle/Pedestrian project applications will be preliminarily ranked by the BPAC Project Review Subcommittee. The R2CTPO Board will approve a final ranking of all projects.
  - c. R2CTPO will coordinate with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to program the projects in FDOT's Work Program and the R2CTPO's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) in the order of priority set by the R2CTPO Board.

#### **Transportation Alternatives Projects**

Transportation Alternatives projects require an 80/20 (TALU/local) match. No more than \$500,000 will be awarded to any single project in any single application cycle. Please refer to the following R2CTPO website for details on eligible projects for Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) funds:

http://www.r2ctpo.org/newsroom/2015-river-to-sea-tpo-call-for-projects/

Additional guidance may be found on the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) website at:

http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/map21/guidance/guidetap.cfm

The process for reviewing and ranking Transportation Alternatives projects is as follows:

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- 1. For each project, the applicant will submit a completed R2CTPO Transportation Alternatives Project Application. Information included in the application form, as well as the oral presentation, will be used to help in the ranking of these projects.
- 2. Applicant (project sponsor) will submit an official letter to the R2CTPO certifying that the project is supported by the applicant.
- 3. R2CTPO staff will screen applications to ensure that they are complete and include only eligible improvements/activities.
- 4. FDOT Special Projects Coordinator will review project proposals and determine whether the projects are eligible and feasible.
- 5. Transportation Alternatives projects will be preliminarily ranked by TIP Subcommittee. The R2CTPO Board will approve a final project ranking.
- 6. R2CTPO will coordinate with FDOT to program the project in the FDOT's Work Program and the R2CTPO's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

## **Regional Trail Projects**

The Regional Trail Projects Priority List was established to identify and prioritize projects that will contribute to the completion or enhancement of certain regional, multi-use trails officially recognized by the Florida Office of Greenways and Trails and the Central Florida MPO Alliance (CFMPOA).

Projects on the Regional Trails List will not be a subject to a prescribed funding limit or cap.

For a project to be considered, the project's sponsor must submit a completed R2CTPO Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Project Application. <u>The project application must indicate that the project is being offered for consideration as a Regional Trail Project.</u>

Only those projects which contribute directly to the completion or enhancement of the following trail systems will be eligible for inclusion on the R2CTPO's Regional Trail Projects List:

- 1. the Priority and Opportunity Land Trail of the Florida Greenways and Trails Systems (FGTS) Plan;
- 2. trails/connections along SR 40;
- 3. a northern extension of the Coast to Coast Trail to New Smyrna Beach;
- 4. the East Coast Greenway (both alternate and coastal routes); and
- 5. the St. Johns River to Sea Loop Trail.

To help with the application process, the following items are available for download from the R2CTPO's website (http://www.r2ctpo.org/newsroom/2015-river-to-sea-tpo-call-for-projects/):

- 1. Schedule for the 2015 Priority Project Process
- 2. Priority Process Workshop Notice
- 3. Last year's Priority List of Traffic Operations and Safety Projects
- 4. Last year's Priority List of Bicycle/Pedestrian Projects
- 5. Last year's Priority List of Transportation Alternatives Projects
- 6. R2CTPO's Priority Project Application for Traffic Operations and Safety Projects
- 7. R2CTPO's Priority Project Application for Bicycle/Pedestrian
- 8. R2CTPO's Priority Project Application for Transportation Alternatives Projects

For questions regarding Traffic Operations and Safety Projects or Transportation Alternatives Projects, contact Robert Keeth, (386) 226-0422, extension 20424.

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For questions regarding Bicycle/Pedestrian Projects, contact Stephan Harris, (386) 226-0422, extension 20428.

The deadline for submittal of all project funding applications is 5:00 p.m. on Friday, April 3, 2015. Applications submitted after the deadline will not be accepted.