Transportation Policy Committee

November 17, 2026



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"Don't crowd the plow" is a critical winter driving safety campaign reminding motorists to give snow removal vehicles plenty of space to operate.

Key Safety Rules

- **Stay Back:** Maintain a safe distance (typically 200 feet or several car lengths depending on local laws, or at least 10 car lengths behind heavy snow clouds).
- **Never Pass on the Right:** Plows push snow to the right shoulder and often use a side wing (6 to 8 feet wide) that is hard to see.
- **Beware of Blind Spots:** If you cannot see the driver's mirrors, the driver cannot see you (especially directly behind and to the left of the truck).
- **Watch for Debris and Salt:** Tailgating exposes your windshield to flying salt, sand, and deicing materials.

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- **Expect Erratic Movements:** Plows cross center lines, stop frequently, and can shift sideways unexpectedly when hitting snowdrifts.
- **Remember the Safest Road:** The road behind the plow is always cleaner and safer than the road ahead of it; be patient and let them work.

Transportation Policy Committee
November 17, 2026, 8:30 a.m.
1314 Avenue K, City Council Chambers
Lubbock, Texas 79401

1. **Call to Order of the Transportation Advisory Committee**

2. **Acknowledgment of Quorum**

3. **Safety Procedures**

4. **Public Comment and Acknowledgment of Guests**

   Members of the public may comment on items listed on the agenda. Comments are limited to three minutes per speaker. The Committee may not deliberate or take action on a matter that is not included on the posted agenda except as permitted by law.

5. **Consider Approval of the October 20, 2026, Transportation Policy Committee Meeting Minutes.**

   Action Required: Consider and take appropriate action

   Staff Recommendation: Approve.

6. **Fiscal Year 2026 Annual Performance and Expenditure Report (APER) Update**

   Discussion: The Annual Performance and Expenditure Report documents LMPO's progress and expenditures for the transportation planning activities included in the Fiscal Year 2026 Unified Planning Work Program.

   Under 23 CFR § 420.117, TxDOT must monitor transportation planning activities performed by subrecipients of Federal Highway Administration planning funds and submit annual performance and expenditure reports that include information provided by each subrecipient. The reports compare actual performance with established goals, describe progress in meeting work schedules, compare approved budgets with actual expenditures, identify cost overruns or underruns, and document approved work program revisions. Consistent with this federal reporting requirement, 43 TAC § 16.52(a)(5) requires each Texas MPO to prepare and submit an annual performance and expenditure report to TxDOT.

   Staff will present the status of the Fiscal Year 2026 report, including progress under each UPWP task, preliminary expenditures, identified budget variances, approved UPWP revisions, and the remaining information required before submission to TxDOT.

   Action Requested: Consider and take appropriate action

   Staff Recommendation: None

7. **Fiscal Year 2026 Annual Listing of Projects (ALOP) Update**

   Discussion: Under 23 CFR § 450.334, TxDOT, the applicable public transportation operators, and LMPO must cooperatively develop an annual listing of projects for which

funds under Title 23 of the United States Code or Chapter 53 of Title 49 were obligated during the preceding program year. The listing must be completed no later than 90 calendar days after the end of the program year.

The listing must include federally funded projects that were authorized or revised to increase federal obligations during Fiscal Year 2026. For each project, it must identify the federal funding requested in the Transportation Improvement Program, the amount obligated during the year, and the federal funding remaining and available for subsequent years. The completed listing must be published or otherwise made publicly available in accordance with LMPO's public participation procedures.

Staff will present the draft Fiscal Year 2026 Annual Listing of Obligated Projects, the status of coordination with TxDOT and the applicable public transportation operator, and any project or financial information that remains to be verified before publication**.**

Action Requested: Consider and take appropriate action

Staff Recommendation: None

8. Fiscal Agent, TxDOT and Lubbock MPO Memorandum of Understanding

Discussion: Staff will update the Transportation Policy Committee (TPC) on the status of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) among the City of Lubbock, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), and the Lubbock Metropolitan Planning Organization (LMPO) regarding the City's continued service as the LMPO's fiscal agent. The update will summarize coordination among the three parties, review the roles and responsibilities outlined in the MOU, and identify any outstanding items and anticipated next steps for finalizing the agreement.

Action Requested: Consider and take appropriate action

Staff Recommendation: Approve.

9. Transportation Alternative Program (TAP)

Discussion: Staff will provide an overview of TxDOT's anticipated 2027 Transportation Alternatives Program call for projects. The report will address the purpose of the program, eligible project sponsors and activities, anticipated application requirements and schedule, and potential opportunities for bicycle and pedestrian improvements within the Lubbock Metropolitan Planning Area.
This item is informational. Any future LMPO project selection, funding commitment, or policy action associated with the program will be presented as a separately posted action item.

Action Requested: Consider and take appropriate action

Staff Recommendation: None.

10. Reports

a. Public Involvement Activity Results
b. Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) Election Results
c. 2027-2028 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Amendment

11. Adjournment

NOTICE TO BENEFICIARIES OF PROTECTION UNDER TITLE VI

If you require language assistance with any part of this Transportation Policy Committee Meeting Agenda, please contact LEP Liaison:

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Title VI and Related Statutes
Nondiscrimination Statement

The Lubbock Metropolitan Planning Organization, as a recipient of Federal financial assistance and under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes, ensures that no person shall on the grounds of race, religion (where the primary objective of the financial assistance is to provide employment per 42 U.S.C. § 2000d-3), color, national origin, sex, age or disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any Department programs or activities.

Titulo VI ye Estatutos Relacionados
Declaración de No discriminación

La Organización de Planificación Metropolitana Lubbock, como recipient de Asistencia Financiera Federal y según el Acta de Derechos Civiles Titulo VI del 1964 y estatutos relacionados, asegura que ninguna persona sera excluida a causa de raza, religión (donde el objective principal es asistencia financier para proveer empleo según 42 U.S.C. § 2000d-3), color, origen nacional, sexo, edad o incapacidad de participación en, o negados los beneficios de, o de otra manera sea sujeto a discriminación en cualquiera de los programas o actividades del Departamento.

Executive Session Disclosure Statement: The Lubbock Metropolitan Planning Organization Transportation Policy Committee reserves the right to adjourn into executive session at any time during the course of the meeting to discuss any item listed on this agenda as authorized by Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code, including but not limited to §551.071 (Consultation with Attorney), §551.072 (Deliberations regarding Real Property), §551.074 (Personnel Matters), §551.076 (Deliberations regarding Security Devices)."

The above referenced NOTICE OF MEETING was posted on the bulletin board outside the South entrance of City Hall, 1314 Avenue K, Lubbock, Texas, on the 10th day of October 2026 at 4:30 p.m. by:

Ayla Ryan, Senior Planner

AGENDA ITEM 1

Call to order of the Transportation Policy Committee.

AGENDA ITEM 2

Acknowledgement of the Quorum of the Transportation Policy Committee by the Chair.

AGENDA ITEM 3

Safety Procedures.

Discussion: None

Staff Recommendation: Review

Safety Procedures
1314 Avenue K, City Council Chambers
Lubbock Texas 79401

In the event of an emergency, serious illness or accident to an employee or visitor while in this meeting:

1. Call 911.
2. City safety protocol determines that the most senior city employee in attendance is in charge to control panic, meet emergency personnel and direct them to the site.
3. DO NOT MOVE the injured person unless they are in IMMEDIATE DANGER. Wait for emergency personnel.

Tornado or Inclement Weather

When a tornado warning has been issued by the National Weather Service, designated building contacts will notify the meeting to take cover. In addition, most cell phones are equipped with 911/Alert software that will alert you to take cover.

1. Do not leave the building and stay away from window and doors
2. Exit Council Chambers and use the stairwell by the elevators to go to the basement. Emergency personnel will direct you to areas of the basement, and sit/crouch down on floor and remain calm.
3. Remain there until the all clear signal has been given by emergency personnel.

Fire

If you hear the fire alarm: Evacuate immediately by exiting the Council Chambers, south facing doors, or the south facing door in the Council Conference room. Continue to the main Citizen Towers doors facing south or east and meet in the parking lots across the streets. The last person to exit the room should shut the door if there is no danger to that person.

If you discover the fire in the building try to isolate the fire by shutting the doors and pulling the fire alarm nearest you. Exit the building.

Gas Leak, Odor, Toxic Fume

Exit the building following the guidelines set for fire. DO NOT pull fire alarm or use your phone as it may trigger an explosion. Call 911 outside.

Workplace Violence, Terrorism Incident

1. Remain calm, call 911.
2. The main doors of the Citizen Tower will lock. Lock all doors to the Council Chambers, if possible.
3. Those present will exit the room as instructed by the senior city employee and will be directed where to go for safety.
4. When emergency personnel arrive **DO EXACTLY AS THEY DIRECT YOU TO** in order to alleviate as much confusion as possible.

AGENDA ITEM 4

Public Comment Period/Acknowledgement of Guests of the Transportation Policy Committee.

DISCUSSION: Opportunity for the public to comment on transportation planning activities.

ACTION REQUIRED: None

Agenda item 5

Approval of the October 20, 2026 Transportation Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

Discussion:

Review and approve the Transportation Policy Committee meeting minutes dated October 20, 2026.

Action Required:

Consider approval.

Staff Recommendation:

Approve.

Minutes of the
Transportation Policy Committee
Lubbock Metropolitan Planning Organization
October 20, 2026

The meeting of the Transportation Policy Committee of the Lubbock Metropolitan Planning Organization was held at the Lubbock City Hall located at 1314 Avenue K, Lubbock TX 79401, City Council Chambers at 8:30 a.m. on October 20, 2026.

Required notices were given to the members of the Policy Committee and the public. The following Transportation Policy Committee members were present:

TPC Members:

Curtis Parrish, Chair, Judge, Lubbock County
Dr. Jennifer Wilson, Vice-Chair, Councilwoman, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Lubbock
Chris Mandrell, General Manager, Citibus
Charlotte McDonald, Councilwoman, City of Wolfforth
Mark McBrayer, Mayor, City of Lubbock
Jarrett Atkinson, City Manager, City of Lubbock
Kylan Francis, District Engineer, TxDOT, Lubbock District
Mike Dalby, Commissioner, Lubbock County

Staff/Guests:

Martin Lucero, Lubbock MPO, Executive Director
Ayla Ryan, Lubbock MPO, Senior Planner
Steven Sims, Lubbock MPO, Assistant Director
Mallory Garcia, Lubbock MPO, PT Planner
Kaitlin Matheus, GIS Database Admin.
Matt Murrey, Underwood Law Firm
Eric Rejino, Assistant City Manager, City of Lubbock
John Turpin, PE, Division Director of Engineering/City Engineer
Randy Criswell, City Manager, City of Wolfforth, Chair of Transportation Advisory Committee
Chelsea Baldivia, SPAG
David Bragg, TAC Chair, Division Director of Public Works, City of Lubbock
Shelley Harris, Director of Planning and Development TxDOT, Lubbock District

Call to Order:

Chair Judge Curtis Parrish called the Transportation Policy Committee meeting to order at 8:32 a.m.

The Committee moved to the next item.

Acknowledgement of the Quorum of the Transportation Policy Committee by the Chair.

Chair Judge Curtis Parrish acknowledged a quorum.

The Committee moved to the next item.

Safety Procedures:

Safety procedures were reviewed.

The Committee moved to the next item.

Public comment period/Acknowledgement of Guests of the Transportation Policy Committee:

Chair Judge Curtis Parrish welcomed guests in attendance.

There was no public comment.

The Committee moved to the next item.

Approval of September 22, 2026, meeting minutes of the Transportation Policy Committee.

Chair Curtis Parrish asked the Policy Committee if there were any corrections or comments regarding the meeting minutes of September 22, 2026. There were none.

Mike Dalby made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of September 22, 2026. Dr. Jennifer Wilson seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

The Committee moved to the next item.

Election for the Transportation Policy Committee Chair and Vice Chair:

Chair Curtis Parrish stated that nominations were submitted in the September meeting and **nominations for Chair were Dr. Jennifer Wilson. Mike Dalby seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.**

Chair Curtis Parrish stated that nominations for Vice Chair were submitted in the September meeting and the Vice Chair nominations were Mike Dalby and Chris Mandrell**. Mike McBrayer made a motion to elect Mike Dalby as Vice Chair. Dr. Jennifer Wilson seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.**

Dr. Jennifer Wilson took over the remainer of the Policy Committee meeting.

The Committee moved to the next item.

Consider approval of the Calendar Year 2027 Transportation Policy Committee Meeting Schedule:

Martin Lucero stated that the TPC/TAC meeting calendar is set for the fiscal year October 2026 to September 2027, and the fiscal year has no conflicts in meeting schedules due to holidays/closures to consider alternative meeting dates.

There were no questions.

Curtis Parrish made a motion to approve the FY 2027 Meeting Calendar of the TAC/TPC. Charlotte McDonald seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

The Committee moved to the next item.

Consider approval of Roadway Functional Classification recommendations for submission to TxDOT:

Martin Lucero reported that the Functional Classification update was previously submitted to TxDOT for review and approval. Prior to that submission, the proposed roadway classifications had been provided to the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) for review, consideration, and approval. The classifications were based on adjustments required under applicable federal guidelines at that time.

Mr. Lucero explained that TxDOT subsequently placed Functional Classification updates on hold statewide in order to conduct a pilot program. As part of this effort, TxDOT retained contractors to review Functional Classifications throughout Texas.

Mr. Lucero stated that the Lubbock Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA) participated in the pilot program and was the first district to submit a proposed Functional Classification believed to be appropriate for the area. Following its review, TxDOT returned the submission with comments and proposed revisions, totaling nearly 300 changes.

Mr. Lucero noted that staff conducted a detailed review of the proposed changes, focusing particularly on approximately 40 roadway segments involving collector, local, and collector-status classifications. These proposed changes were reviewed with the TAC. TxDOT then evaluated the results of those reviews and provided additional comments for further consideration.

Martin Lucero explained that staff reviewed each project individually to determine whether they agreed or disagreed with TxDOT's proposed roadway classifications. Staff provided supporting justification to TxDOT, and TxDOT agreed with most of the recommendations.

Mr. Lucero stated that staff is confident in the requested classification changes and believes the recommendations are ready for TAC consideration. He noted that most roadways affected by

the changes remain within fundable classifications, meaning they continue to be eligible for federal funding even if their classification was adjusted upward or downward.

He also discussed the four roadways that received lower classifications, explaining that these changes will not affect projects included in the current TIP or the 10-Year Plan.

Additional discussion occurred regarding roadway classifications, the criteria used to assign classifications, and related traffic count data.

Charlotte McDonald made a motion to approval the functional classification recommendation and authorize the MPO to submit to TxDOT for their action. Mark McBrayer seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

The Committee moved to the next item.

Receive a report on the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) administrative modification for Loop 88, Segment 3D, CSJ 1502-01-032.

Martin Lucero stated that the MPO received a request from TxDOT to take action for an administrative amendment for LP 88/US84. He stated this is just a funding change request. He stated that TxDOT has removed the Cat 11 allocation and reduced Cat 1 funding from $153.28M to $140.0M.

Martin Lucero discussed the timeline.

No further discussion.

This was a report. No action needed.

The Committee moved to the next item.

Consider initiation of public review for proposed Amendments to the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and the FY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for CSJ 1344-02-027.

Martin Lucero explained that this action is necessary to amend both the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). He noted that the amendment was requested by TxDOT and includes approximately $40 million in additional funding.

Kylan Francis stated that the project is located on Slide Road, south of LP 88, and falls within the MPO planning boundaries. He explained that the amendment process is required in order to add the project to both the MTP and the TIP.

Jarrett Atkinson asked about the source of the additional funding. Mr. Francis responded that the funding is provided entirely by TxDOT through Category 1 Preventive Maintenance funds.

Mark McBrayer asked for clarification regarding the constrained and unconstrained project lists. Additional discussion followed concerning project funding, amendment requirements, and the distinction between constrained and unconstrained lists.

Chris Mandrell made a motion to approve the public involvement process and amendment process as needed. Charlotte McDonald seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

The Committee moved to the next item.

Reports:

Martin Lucero also announced the departure of Kaitlyn Matheus, noting that she and her family will be moving to Florida. He stated that the MPO expects to begin the recruitment process soon to fill the vacant GIS position.

Additionally, Martin Lucero announced that Option B, partnering with SPAG, was selected for the MPO lease arrangement. He explained that the MPO and SPAG are currently working together on the contract for consideration by the SPAG Board. Martin Lucero stated that the anticipated move-in date is January 1, 2027**.**

Brief discussion followed regarding the FY 2026 closeout, staffing transitions, and progress on the MPO's future office location and lease agreement with SPAG.

Chair Dr. Jennifer Wilson adjourned the meeting of the Transportation Policy Committee at 9:02 a.m.

Agenda Item 6

Fiscal Year 2026 Annual Performance and Expenditure Report (APER) Update

Background:
The Annual Performance and Expenditure Report documents the Lubbock MPO's progress in completing the activities identified in the approved Unified Planning Work Program. The report compares actual performance with established objectives and schedules, identifies approved UPWP revisions, and reconciles actual expenditures with the amounts budgeted for each task.

The APER allows TxDOT and FHWA to evaluate the MPO's performance and use of federal transportation planning funds during Fiscal Year 2026. It also identifies cost overruns or underruns, incomplete work, schedule changes, and other information needed to close the reporting year and support continued program oversight.

Regulatory Compliance:
Under **23 CFR § 420.117**, annual performance and expenditure reporting must address actual performance, progress in meeting schedules, expenditures compared with approved budgets, cost overruns or underruns, approved work program revisions, and other pertinent supporting information. Under **43 TAC § 16.52(a)(5)**, Texas MPOs must submit the annual report to TxDOT no later than December 15.

Timing and Next Steps:
Staff is reconciling final Fiscal Year 2026 expenditures and completing the report in coordination with TxDOT. Comments received from the Transportation Advisory Committee will be considered before the APER is finalized and submitted to TxDOT by December 15, 2026. The final report may subsequently be presented to the Transportation Policy Committee for information.

Discussion:
Staff will update the Committee on the status of the FY 2026 APER, including completion of UPWP activities, preliminary expenditure reconciliation, budget variances, approved UPWP revisions, and remaining items that must be resolved before submission.

Action Requested:
Consider and take appropriate action

Staff Recommendation: No action

Agenda Item 7

Fiscal Year 2026 Annual Listing of Projects (ALOP) Update

Background:
The Annual Listing of Obligated Projects identifies transportation projects within the metropolitan planning area for which federal funds under **Title 23** of the United States Code or Chapter 53 of Title 49 were obligated during the preceding program year. The listing must include investments in pedestrian walkways and bicycle transportation facilities.
LMPO develops the listing cooperatively with TxDOT and applicable public transportation providers. The report provides the public with a record of federal transportation investments and allows obligated amounts to be compared with the projects and funding identified in the Transportation Improvement Program.
A federal obligation represents a commitment of federal funds to a project. Project letting and obligation are separate actions. Letting information may be included for project tracking, but letting status does not determine whether a project must appear in the annual listing.

Regulatory Requirements:
Under **23 CFR § 450.334**, the Annual Listing of Obligated Projects must be developed and made publicly available within 90 calendar days after the end of the program year. The listing must be published in accordance with the public participation criteria applicable to the TIP. For the program year ending September 30, 2026, the publication deadline is December 29, 2026.

Timing and Next Steps:
Staff is coordinating with TxDOT and the applicable public transportation providers to compile and verify the federal obligation data. After the information has been reconciled, LMPO will publish the final listing on its website in accordance with the adopted Public Participation Plan.

Discussion:
Staff will present the draft FY 2026 Annual Listing of Obligated Projects. TAC members will be asked to provide missing projects, incorrect project information, or changes in project status, including whether listed projects have been obligated by November 17th. Letting status is provided for project tracking and does not determine whether a project must be included in the listing.

Action Requested: Consider and take appropriate action

Staff Recommendation: No Action

Agenda Item 8

Fiscal Agent Memorandum of Understanding Update

Background:

The Lubbock Metropolitan Planning Organization (LMPO) utilizes a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the City of Lubbock to define their respective fiscal, personnel, and administrative responsibilities. The agreement establishes how the City supports MPO operations and provides a framework for financial accountability, administrative coordination, and continuity of services.

Participating Entities

The fiscal agent MOU is between **LMPO,** acting through its **Transportation Policy Committee (TPC), TxDOT,** and the **City of Lubbock**. The agreement defines the responsibilities of each entity and the services the City provides in its capacity as fiscal agent.

Importance of the Fiscal Agent Agreement

The fiscal agent agreement establishes a clear understanding of how essential administrative functions are performed. These functions include financial accounting, payroll processing, human resources support, and other services identified in the agreement. Documenting these responsibilities supports consistent procedures, accurate financial records, and accountability for MPO expenditures.

The agreement also clarifies the relationship between the TPC's oversight responsibilities and the City's administrative duties. The TPC establishes MPO policy and provides organizational oversight, while the City performs the fiscal and administrative services assigned under the agreement. LMPO's published TPC responsibilities include establishing fiscal and personnel management agreements with the fiscal agent to identify their respective roles and responsibilities.

Maintaining an agreement that accurately reflects operational practices helps prevent uncertainty regarding financial procedures, personnel support, and responsibility for administrative decisions.

Frequency, Renewal, and Updates

The duration and renewal frequency of the fiscal agent MOU are governed by its terms. The proposed LMPO MOU terms currently state an eight (8) year contract period. The previously approved LMPO MOU language provides that the agreement automatically renews each year unless canceled in accordance with its provisions. The proposed MOU provided by TxDOT encourages stakeholders to utilize it and allows for a uniform agreement across the state. The current executed MOU, including any amendments or termination notices, should be reviewed to confirm its present status and applicable requirements.

Staff recommends reviewing the agreement annually and whenever significant changes occur to services, costs, personnel arrangements, or administrative responsibilities. This review would help ensure the agreement continues to reflect the services provided and the responsibilities of both parties.

Staff Recommendation

Staff will update the Transportation Policy Committee (TPC) on the status of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) among the City of Lubbock, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), and the Lubbock Metropolitan Planning Organization (LMPO) regarding the City's continued service as the LMPO's fiscal agent. The update will summarize coordination among the three parties, review the roles and responsibilities outlined in the MOU, and identify any outstanding items and anticipated next steps for finalizing the agreement.

Action Requested

Consider and take appropriate action

Discussion:

Staff will brief the Transportation Advisory Committee on the status of the statewide assessment, summarize the consultant's initial recommendations affecting roadways within the metropolitan planning area, and explain the remaining coordination and approval process.

A motion is requested at this meeting to advance the Functional Classification Recommendations to the Transportation Policy Committee for approval.

Action Requested: Motion to advance the Functional Classification Recommendations to the Transportation Policy Committee for consideration and approval.

Staff Recommendation: Approve

Agenda Item 9

Transportation Alternatives Program

Background:
The Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP), administered by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), provides federal funding opportunities to support transportation improvements that enhance pedestrian and bicycle accessibility, safety, mobility, and connectivity throughout the region. **Eligible projects may include sidewalks, shared-use paths, bicycle facilities, pedestrian infrastructure, and other improvements that promote alternative modes of transportation.** TxDOT has announced plans to open its 2027 Transportation Alternatives Call for Projects on January 8, 2027, providing an opportunity for eligible local governments and project sponsors to pursue federal assistance for qualifying improvements. MPO Staff will provide the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) with an overview of the program, anticipated application schedule, eligibility requirements, and potential opportunities for projects within the Lubbock Metropolitan Planning Area. Staff will also discuss the importance of coordination with TxDOT and local jurisdictions to identify projects that align with regional transportation priorities, improve multimodal connectivity, and support the goals and objectives established in the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP).

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) administers Transportation Alternatives (TA) funding to support locally sponsored bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure improvements throughout the state. In urbanized areas with populations exceeding 200,000, a portion of TA funding is allocated directly to Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) to administer in accordance with regional transportation needs and priorities. While TxDOT and MPOs maintain independent project selection processes for their respective funding allocations, additional opportunities for discretionary funding may be available through competitive programs administered by TxDOT. These funding opportunities provide local jurisdictions with additional resources to advance bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure projects that enhance safety, accessibility, and multimodal connectivity.

Discussion:
Staff will provide the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) with an informational overview of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP), including the program's purpose, eligible project activities, funding opportunities, and applicable requirements. The overview is intended to inform TAC members of the program's role in supporting bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure, improving transportation safety, and enhancing multimodal connectivity.

Attachments: Unique Aspects of Transportation Alternatives

Action Requested: Consider and take appropriate action

Staff Recommendation: No Action

ELEMENTS OF FUNDING
FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

Federal rules require MPOs and TxDOT to develop transparent evaluation processes to competitively select projects for Transportation Alternatives (TA) awards. These funds must be awarded only to projects which are:

1. Related to bicycle, pedestrian, and/or micromobility modes
2. Principally for transportation rather than recreation
3. Direct relationship to the surface transportation system
4. Creates benefit to the general public and is publicly accessible



TA funding requires a match from the local project sponsor, but the local match amount will depend on the program rules of the state or the MPO hosting the call for projects.

ELEMENTS OF FUNDING
REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM

TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES IS A REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM.

Once a project is authorized to proceed, the project sponsor will pay for all project expenses and then must request reimbursement from TxDOT, usually on a monthly basis. TxDOT will review all project expenses to confirm they are eligible, after which reimbursement will be issued to the project sponsor.



Any expenses incurred prior to the authorization to proceed, including grant writing, are not reimbursable expenses for the Transportation Alternatives program.

ELEMENTS OF FUNDING
TIME SENSITIVITY

TA funds will be returned to the federal government if they are not obligated for construction letting 3 years after the year they were authorized to the state. This means all TA projects must be let for construction within **3 YEARS** of award or risk losing funding.

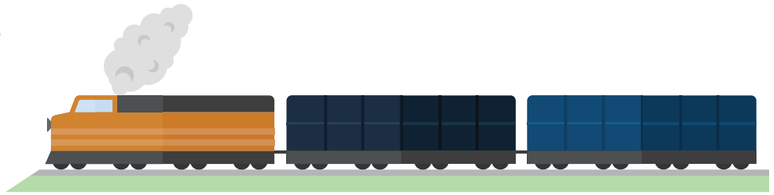
This timing constraint also affects projects that require coordination with outside agencies or require right-of-way (ROW) acquisition, discussed further in the Considerations section below.



ELEMENTS OF FUNDING
CONSIDERATIONS

Local governments interested in applying are encouraged to plan ahead for time-consuming tasks before submitting a project for funding consideration. Examples of such tasks include:

- *Railroad coordination if a project is within 100 ft. of railroad ROW*
- *Utility coordination*
- *Environmental issues*
- *Right-of-way acquisition*
- *Public involvement*



This unique quality of TA funding means bundling projects with other funding streams for larger roadway improvements projects can be challenging.

ELEMENTS OF FUNDING
WORKING WITH FEDERAL FUNDING

Projects are required to meet federal and state design standards and contracting regulations and requirements. All project sponsors awarded funding under the TA programs who propose to manage and perform any work on the project will be required to designate a "Responsible Person in Charge" (RPIC), a "Project Manager" (PM), and a "Qualified" person in accordance with TxDOT's Local Government Project Program (LGPP).



Refer to the TxDOT Local Government Projects Toolkit for requirements at the QR code below.

Agenda Item 10

Reports

a. Public Involvement Activity Results
b. Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) Election Results
c. 2027-2028 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Amendment