



Pima Association of Governments

177 N. Church Ave., Transamerica Building
5th Floor Main Conference Room, Suite 501

Transportation Planning Committee

Wednesday, January 4, 2012

Agenda Packet Memo

Transportation Enhancements Round 19

Background:

The Transportation Enhancement (TE) program is funded through a 10 percent set aside from Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds. The funding cycle is annual and conducted through a local project application process, with final review and recommendation of projects to be funded from the Statewide Transportation Enhancement Review Committee (TERC). This program was developed to enhance surface transportation activities by developing projects that go above and beyond what transportation departments typically do. This program has 12 eligible categories for funding that include alternative mode enhancements, historic preservation, landscaping and other beautification activities.

Each year PAG releases a one-page pre-application form that outlines the project and the pre-application is now available on our website. The deadline for Round 19 pre-application is Thursday, March 1st, 2012. Pre-applications are screened in early March by the Transportation Enhancement Task Force (TETF) for eligibility. Full project applications are made available on the ADOT website and must be returned to PAG for review and ranking by the PAG TETF on May 4. TETF will review and rank the project applications in late May. Rankings are important as the region can only submit a certain number of applications, based on the total funding available statewide. Applicants revise their applications to address comments/concerns raised by the TETF and must return final applications to PAG by July 5 for submittal to ADOT. ADOT's Transportation Enhancement Review Committee (TERC) meets in early October to make project funding recommendations to the Arizona State Transportation Board, who makes funding determinations at its October or December meeting.

Discussion Points:

There have been some changes to the TE process and some information you should be familiar with:

- ADOT has moved their due date a month earlier than prior years; therefore, the PAG process has been adjusted accordingly.
- Scenic easements are once again an eligible category. Funding in this category supports the acquisition of property to protect scenic views or historic sites associated

with surface transportation. The properties acquired should possess significant aesthetic, natural, visual, or open space values. Historic properties must be eligible or listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

- The full ADOT application is now an online grant application. The new application is already available on the ADOT website; however, keep in mind you need to pass the pre-application stage in order to submit a full application.
- As in previous rounds, projects that meet RTA requirements and goals may be eligible for RTA match funding (the minimum 5.7% only); however, this is subject to RTA board approval and there is no guarantee a particular project will receive matching funds.
- ADOT has returned to a one-year grant cycle.

Recommendation:

This is an information item.

REMINDER: Deadline for Round 19 pre-application submittal to PAG is March 1st, 2012