



**VENTURA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**  
Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (TTAC)  
751 East Daily Drive #420  
Camarillo, CA 93010  
Wednesday, August 17, 2022  
1:30 p.m.

**NOTE: This meeting will be held in-person at the VCTC offices in Camarillo.**

## **AGENDA**

- ITEM 1 CALL TO ORDER**
- ITEM 2 INTRODUCTIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**
- ITEM 3 PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- ITEM 4 AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS**
- ITEM 5 APPROVAL OF MINUTES**  
***Recommended Action:***
  - *Waive the reading and approve the minutes of the June meeting.***Responsible Staff: Jeni Eddington**
- ITEM 6 CALTRANS LOCAL ASSISTANCE VERBAL UPDATE**  
***Recommended Action:***
  - *Receive and file.***Responsible Staff: Robert Wong, Caltrans**
- ITEM 7 ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM (ATP) CYCLE 6 REGIONAL PRIORITIZATION METHODOLOGY**  
***Recommended Action:***
  - *Approve a methodology to prioritize local projects for funding under the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Component of the ATP Cycle 6 Call for Projects (Attachment 1).***Responsible Staff: Heather Miller**

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Government Code Section 54954.2, if special assistance is needed to participate in a Commission meeting, please contact the Administrative Assistant at (805) 642-1591 ext. 111 or via email at [jeddington@goventura.org](mailto:jeddington@goventura.org). Notification of at least 48 hours prior to the meeting time will assist staff in assuring reasonable arrangements can be made to provide accessibility to the meeting.

**ITEM 8 ALLOCATION OF TRANSPORTATION DEVELOPMENT ACT (TDA) FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2022/23 ARTICLE 3 BIKE PATH MAINTENANCE FUNDS**

***Recommended Action:***

- *Approve the allocation of Fiscal Year 2022/2023 Transportation Development Act (TDA) Article 3 Bike Path Maintenance Funds totaling \$240,279 as shown in the attached Table.*

**Responsible Staff: Geiska Velasquez**

**ITEM 9 CONGESTION MITIGATION AND AIR QUALITY (CMAQ) PROGRAM APPORTIONMENT LOAN TO SACRAMENTO AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (SACOG)**

***Recommended Action:***

- *Review and file.*

**Responsible Staff: Peter De Haan**

**ITEM 10 BRIDGE INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM / RECONNECTING COMMUNITIES PROGRAM**

***Recommended Action:***

- *Review and file.*

**Responsible Staff: Peter De Haan**

**ITEM 11 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- Periodic Highway Construction Updates
- Regional Transportation Funding & Planning
- Metrolink SCORE Project (Simi Double-Track Project)

**ITEM 12 ADJOURNMENT**

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Government Code Section 54954.2, if special assistance is needed to participate in a Commission meeting, please contact the Administrative Assistant at (805) 642-1591 ext. 111 or via email at [jeddington@goventura.org](mailto:jeddington@goventura.org). Notification of at least 48 hours prior to the meeting time will assist staff in assuring reasonable arrangements can be made to provide accessibility to the meeting.



**VENTURA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION  
TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TTAC)**

**Wednesday, June 15, 2022  
1:30 PM via ZOOM Webinar**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Nader Heydari, City of Thousand Oaks (Chair)  
Chris Kurgan, County of Ventura (Vice Chair)  
James Campero, City of Camarillo  
Alma Quezada, City of Ojai  
Debbie O'Leary, City of Oxnard  
Miguel Guillen, City of Santa Paula  
Jeff Hereford, City of Ventura  
Letitia Austin, Port of Hueneme

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** City of Fillmore  
City of Moorpark  
City of Port Hueneme  
City of Simi Valley  
Port of Hueneme

**EX OFFICIO:** Robert Wong, Caltrans  
Martin Rodriguez, Gold Coast Transit District

**VCTC STAFF PRESENT:** Heather Miller, Program Manager  
Geiska Velasquez, Program Analyst  
Amanda Fagan, Transportation Planning Director  
Drew Kent, Transportation Analyst

**ITEM 1 CALL TO ORDER**  
Chair Heydari called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m. via ZOOM.

**ITEM 2 INTRODUCTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** - None.

**ITEM 3 PUBLIC COMMENTS** - None.

**ITEM 4 AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS** - None.

**ITEM 5 APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**ACTION:**

**Guillen moved, seconded by O'Leary, that the committee approve the May 18, 2022 meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously.**

**ITEM 6 CALTRANS LOCAL ASSISTANCE UPDATE**  
Robert Wong updated the committee on near-future meetings, trainings, and workshops.

**ITEM 7 SCAG DEMOGRAPHIC AND ECONOMIC FORECAST FOR VENTURA COUNTY**  
The committee received a presentation on the updated demographic and economic forecast for Ventura County, which indicates little population growth before 2050.

**ITEM 8 APPROVE COMBINED CALL-FOR-PROJECTS FOR CONGESTION MITIGATION AND AIR QUALITY (CMAQ) FUNDS, TRANSPORTATION DEVELOPMENT ACT (TDA) ARTICLE 3 BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN FUNDS, AND SENATE BILL (SB) 1 STATE OF GOOD REPAIR (SGR) FUNDS**

**ACTION:**

**Kurgan moved, seconded by Campero, that the committee approve the:**

- **Guidelines in Attachment A and application in Attachment B for a new call for projects to program funds available during the period of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), including CMAQ, TDA Article 3 Bicycle & Pedestrian, and SB 1 SGR funds.**
- **Call for Projects Schedule contained in the agenda item.**
- **Off-the-top funding of \$443,000 for Regional Ridesharing (to come from the non-Transit share) for each of four years (FY 23/24 – 26/27), and \$636,000 for Transit Outreach (to come from the Transit share) for each of the same four years.**
- **Policy for Shelf List (included in Guidelines in Attachment A).**

**The motion passed unanimously.**

**ITEM 9 NEW CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION (CTC) POLICY ON ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM (ATP) USER COUNTS**

The committee received an update on the new CTC policy on ATP user counts.

**ITEM 10 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – For Discussion**

- Periodic Highway Construction Updates
- Regional Transportation Funding & Planning
- Metrolink SCORE Project (Simi Double-Track Project)

**ITEM 11 ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Heydari adjourned the meeting at 2:55 p.m.



ITEM 7

**AUGUST 22, 2022**

**MEMO TO: TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TTAC)**  
**FROM: HEATHER MILLER, PROGRAM MANAGER**  
**SUBJECT: ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM (ATP) CYCLE 6 REGIONAL  
PRIORITIZATION METHODOLOGY**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

- Approve a methodology to prioritize local projects for funding under the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Component of the ATP Cycle 6 Call for Projects (Attachment 1).

**BACKGROUND**

The Active Transportation Program (ATP) is a competitive statewide program funding projects that increase and promote the use of active modes of transportation such as biking and walking. The California Transportation Commission (CTC) adopted the 2023 ATP Guidelines in March 2022, at the same time announcing the Cycle 6 Call for Projects with applications due June 15, 2022. The CTC received 434 project submittals statewide requesting a total of \$3.1 billion in ATP funds with total project costs exceeding \$4 billion. While the number of applications submitted to the State were fewer compared to Cycle 5, the amount of requested ATP funds increased from \$2.3 billion to \$3.1 billion.

The announced funding for Cycle 6 was approximately \$650 million comprised of Federal, State SB1, and State Highway Account (SHA) funds. This was a 50% increase from Cycle 5 mostly due to the passage of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) in 2021 which provided increased federal funding. Even with the increase, the available funding would hardly meet the expected demand. Since its inception, the Active Transportation Program has been an oversubscribed program with each cycle receiving funding requests from agencies statewide far exceeding the available funding. Cycle 5 received funding requests 5 times the available funding. Commissioners therefore directed CTC staff to explore opportunities to augment the program's funding both immediately and long-term. As a result, in October 2021 CTC staff requested a one-time augmentation of \$2 billion from the State's General Fund surplus. Approval stalled in the legislature, but efforts finally bore fruit when in July 2022 both the State Legislature and the Governor's Office approved a one-time use of \$1.05 billion in General Funds to augment the Active Transportation Program for a total of \$1.65 billion in available ATP funds.

The original augmentation request proposed dedicating these additional funds to Cycle 5 ATP projects that missed the funding cut off but ranked relatively high. However, since a considerable amount of time has passed since the original proposal, CTC staff is now recommending applying all augmentation funds to Cycle 6. In the years since Cycle 5, costs for projects have significantly increased, which would make funding those projects now difficult without revised scopes. Additionally, most applications that would have benefited from the Cycle 5 augmentation reapplied this cycle (with revised scopes) and would most likely receive funding in Cycle 6 with the additional funds. CTC staff held a meeting on July 14 to provide stakeholders an opportunity to share thoughts on the recommendation. At this meeting, CTC staff also

presented a thorough analysis of the repercussions of the action with a review of each project that was likely to receive funding in Cycle 5 with the proposed augmentation funds. In conclusion, CTC found that either these projects were re-submitted in Cycle 6, found alternative funding sources since, or were no longer identified as a priority for their respective region. With stakeholder agreement, CTC staff will therefore recommend to the Commission at the August meeting that the full augmentation go to Cycle 6.

Altogether, the augmentation will provide a total of \$1.65 billion in funding to program for projects in fiscal years 2023/24, 2024/25, 2025/26 and 2026/27. The augmentation will yield an estimated \$14 million in additional ATP funds for Ventura County added to the \$6 million original estimate, for an estimated \$20 million in total available funds for the MPO Regional Selection Component of the program. Ventura County overall submitted seven (7) project applications to the State totaling over \$40 million in requested ATP funds with total project costs of nearly \$42 million. The number of applications matched the number of applications submitted in Cycle 5 and the amount of ATP funds requested were almost equal. Statewide selections are expected to be announced in October 2022, at which point projects not selected at the statewide level are considered for funding at the regional level.

## **DISCUSSION**

**ATP Funding breakdown and how projects are selected:** Caltrans and the CTC review all ATP project applications and scores are assigned to each application based on the adopted CTC Scoring Criteria. Applications can receive a maximum of 100 points. Approximately sixty percent (60%) of the total funding awards will be recommended by CTC through the Statewide Program (50%) and Small Urban/Rural Program components (10%), while forty percent (40%) of the total funding awards will be recommended by regional MPOs.

**Statewide Competitive Program:** Once the applications are scored by Caltrans and the CTC, the projects are ranked. Those projects with the highest ranking will receive funding through the statewide competitive program. The CTC staff recommendation for Statewide, Small Urban & Rural components, and Quick-Build Pilot Program are expected to be posted in October 2022 with CTC adoption anticipated in December 2022.

**Regional Program:** If projects do not score high enough to be funded under the Statewide Program, they are reconsidered for funding through the MPO (SCAG) regional project selection process. As in past years SCAG develops Regional Guidelines for distribution of the region's ATP share. VCTC plays a role in project selection at the regional level for Ventura County's share (based on population.)

### **VCTC's role in the regional project selection process:**

- The SCAG guidelines allow VCTC to develop a methodology to prioritize local projects for funding that flows through SCAG. As a means of prioritizing projects, counties can add up to twenty (20) points to supplement the CTC scores.
- The Commission is required to adopt the final recommended list of projects for the County, which is submitted to SCAG for funding; and
- VCTC also adopts a prioritized list of contingency projects should Cycle 6 funds be made available through project cancellations or cost savings (subject to CTC approval).

### **Recommended 20 Point Criteria:**

Among the goals approved at the VCTC's recent goal-setting session were both making it a priority to build new bike lanes countywide and implementing strategies to promote transit ridership. Encouraging multi-modal transportation options is a key goal of the region. As such, for Cycle 6, VCTC staff proposes removing three (3) points from the project readiness category and awarding three (3) points to projects demonstrating enhanced access to transit stops. It is recommended then that a maximum of 20 points be awarded to the CTC Cycle 6 project scores based on the following methodology:

- **For Construction Projects:**

Up to 12 points will be awarded for project readiness:

- a. Four (4) points will be awarded if the project is identified in an approved, adopted Bicycle, Pedestrian or Active Transportation Plan listed in Attachment 1, OR
- b. Eight (8) points will be awarded if the project is identified in a plan listed in Attachment 1, and the conceptual design has been completed, OR
- c. Twelve (12) points will be awarded if the project is identified in a plan listed in Attachment 1, and the Conceptual design has been completed, and the ATP Cycle 6 application shows the preconstruction phases fully funded by the Local Agency.

AND

Up to three (3) points will be awarded for a project demonstrating enhanced access to transit stops.

- **For Planning Projects:** Fifteen (15) points will be awarded if the project is to prepare a Citywide, Areawide or Corridor Specific Active Transportation Plan,

AND

- **Five (5) points for Any Project with a Safe Routes to Schools Component:** Projects will be awarded 5 points if the Safe Routes to Schools box is checked in the Cycle 6 Application.

**ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM (ATP) CYCLE 6  
LOCAL PRIORITIZATION METHODOLOGY**

A maximum of 20 points will be added to the CTC Score based on the following methodology:

1. **For Construction Projects** -- Up to twelve (12) points will be awarded for project readiness:
  - a. Four (4) Points will be awarded if a Project is identified in an adopted Plan below:
    - City of Camarillo Bikeway Master Plan (2017)
    - City of Moorpark Bicycle Transportation Plan (2008)
    - Moorpark College Facilities Master Plan (2015)
    - Ojai Complete Streets Master Plan (2017)
    - City of Oxnard Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan (2011)
    - Oxnard Corridor Transportation Improvement Plan – A Livable Oxnard (2016)
    - Santa Clara River Trail Master Plan (2011)
    - Simi Valley Bicycle Master Plan (2009)
    - Simi Valley Green Community Action Plan (2010)
    - City of Thousand Oaks Active Transportation Plan (2019)
    - Thousand Oaks Boulevard Specific Plan (2012)
    - City of Ventura Bicycle Master Plan (2011)
    - County of Ventura Transportation Strategic Master Plan (2012)
    - Safe Routes to Schools Master Plan 12/11/2018
    - Prioritized List for Construction of Pedestrian Facilities (2020)
    - Ventura County Prioritized List for Construction of Category B Bike Lanes (2017)
    - VCTC Bicycle Wayfinding Plan (2017), OR
  - b. Eight (8) Points will be awarded if a project is identified in a plan listed above and the conceptual design has been completed, OR
  - c. Twelve (12) Points will be awarded if the project is identified in a plan listed above and the conceptual design has been completed and the ATP Cycle 6 application shows the preconstruction phases fully funded by the Local Agency

AND

Up to three (3) points will be awarded for a project demonstrating enhanced access to transit stops.

2. **For Planning Projects**: Fifteen (15) points will be awarded if the project is to prepare a Citywide, Areawide or Corridor Specific Active Transportation Plan,

AND

3. **For Any Project with a Safe Routes to Schools Component**: Projects will be awarded five (5) points if the Safe Routes to Schools box is checked in the Cycle 6 Application.





Item 8

August 17, 2022

**MEMO TO: TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**FROM: GEISKA VELASQUEZ, PROGRAM ANALYST**

**SUBJECT: ALLOCATION OF TRANSPORTATION DEVELOPMENT ACT (TDA) FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2022/23 ARTICLE 3 BIKE PATH MAINTENANCE FUNDS**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

- Approve the allocation of Fiscal Year 2022/2023 Transportation Development Act (TDA) Article 3 Bike Path Maintenance Funds totaling \$240,279 as shown in the attached Table.

**BACKGROUND:**

In accordance with California PUC Section 99233.3, up to two percent (2%) of Transportation Development Act (TDA) Local Transportation Funds can be set aside by VCTC for planning, construction and/or maintenance of bicycle and pedestrian facilities, with the program policies adopted by VCTC. Additionally, in Ventura County 25% of the TDA Article 3 funds are set aside for bike path maintenance distributed proportionally according to amount of Class I pathways within each jurisdiction. The FY 2022/23 Article 3 apportionment for Ventura County is \$961,115, with \$240,279 of that amount available for this cycle's (FY22/23) maintenance allocation. The remainder of the Article 3 funding is allocated on a competitive basis for projects that foster an increase in bicycling and walking and provide improved connectivity. A call for projects was released for the competitive portion on July 8, 2022, with the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) and State of Good Repair (SGR) programming with applications due to VCTC by September 23, 2022.

**DISCUSSION:**

This year there is an estimated \$240,279 (25%) of FY 2022/23 Article 3 funds available for distribution to local jurisdictions for Class I Bike Path maintenance. Agencies were asked to review and update the mileage information for their jurisdictions. Attachment A is a table that provides a breakdown of current Class I Bicycle Path mileage reported by each jurisdiction and their recommended proportional share of the FY 2022/23 TDA Article 3 maintenance funds.

The \$240,279 in available funding this year is 44% more than the amount available from last cycle due to increased economic recovery. TDA revenue in Ventura County is sales tax revenue equal to ¼% of taxable sales (out of a state sales tax of 7¼%). Last year's (FY 21/22) funding was an increase of 33% over the previous cycle, so the current funding cycle reflects a "back to normal" level of funding.

ATTACHMENT A

| <b>FY 2022-2023 TDA Article 3 Maintenance Funding</b> |                                 |                                       |                |
|---|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>City</b>   | <b>Existing Class I Mileage</b> | <b>Class I Maintenance Allocation</b> | <b>% Share</b> |
| Camarillo   | 4.4                             | \$11,957                              | 4.98%          |
| Fillmore  | 5.62                            | \$15,272                              | 6.36%          |
| Moorpark  | 2.4                             | \$6,522                               | 2.71%          |
| Ojai  | 0.4                             | \$1,087                               | 0.45%          |
| Oxnard  | 4.74                            | \$12,881                              | 5.36%          |
| Port Hueneme  | 5.71                            | \$15,517                              | 6.46%          |
| San Buenaventura                                      | 32.82                           | \$89,187                              | 37.12%         |
| Santa Paula   | 1.8                             | \$4,891                               | 2.04%          |
| Simi Valley   | 13.6                            | \$36,957                              | 15.38%         |
| Thousand Oaks   | 3.13                            | \$8,506                               | 3.54%          |
| Ventura County  | 13.8                            | \$37,501                              | 15.61%         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>88.42</b>                    | <b>\$240,278</b>                      | <b>100%</b>    |



August 17, 2022

**MEMO TO: TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
TRANSIT OPERATORS COMMITTEE**

**FROM: PETER DE HAAN, PROGRAMMING DIRECTOR**

**SUBJECT: CONGESTION MITIGATION AND AIR QUALITY (CMAQ) PROGRAM  
APPORTIONMENT LOAN TO SACRAMENTO AREA COUNCIL OF  
GOVERNMENTS (SACOG)**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

- Receive and file.

**BACKGROUND:**

Under federal law, Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) program funds apportioned to California lapse if they are not used within three years. By state law, California distributes its CMAQ apportionment to counties by formula. State law also applies the three-year lapse rule to the CMAQ apportionments of each county.

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) authorized the continuation of the CMAQ program for five years from FY 2021/22 through FY 2026/27. Subsequent to passage of IIJA, VCTC completed an expedited programming of CMAQ funds, selecting projects to utilize virtually all of the newly-authorized CMAQ funds for FY 2021/22. However, a significant amount of CMAQ from FY 2021/22 and earlier has not yet been obligated in grants, and since the oldest funds are obligated first, Ventura County has yet to use any of the FY 2021/22 CMAQ funds, and it appears only a small amount of those funds will be obligated prior to the September 30<sup>th</sup> close of the federal fiscal year. Since these funds are not yet scheduled to lapse, they can generally be carried over to next year, although that ability to carryover funds is subject to the risk of changes made through the federal budget process.

Although the Ventura County funds are not in known danger of lapsing, on a statewide basis there is a benefit to California drawing down as much funding as possible each fiscal year, since the state is then able to collect additional redistributions of appropriated

funds from other states that could not use their share. In early August SACOG approached VCTC due to having a CMAQ project ready to use an additional \$4 million beyond its apportionment balance, and proposed that VCTC loan the \$4 million, with repayment to occur after October 1<sup>st</sup>, the beginning of federal FY 2022/23. Such a loan will allow SACOG to move forward now with an eligible project rather than deferring it to the next fiscal year.

## **DISCUSSION**

It is in VCTC's best interest that California as a whole receives the maximum available federal funding. Since VCTC will not need the requested \$4 million in FY 2021/22, staff worked with SACOG and Caltrans to set up the loan. Due to the tight federal timeframe to obligate funds prior to the fiscal year end, it was necessary for the VCTC Executive Director to approve the loan without waiting for the next Commission meeting. Staff will bring an item to the September 2<sup>nd</sup> Commission meeting recommending a ratification of this loan.

Although the passage of the IIJA and the resulting ability to better program future years will likely result in VCTC having lower CMAQ balances in the future, one advantage to VCTC of entering into this loan is that the FY 21/22 funds to be loaned will be repaid with FY 22/23 funds, meaning that the lapse date will be "reset" one year later. Also, there have been years past when the federal budget adoption, without warning, rescinds apportionment balances, which resulted in rescinded VCTC apportionments, so by reducing the end of fiscal year apportionment by \$4 million VCTC has reduced the amount that could be taken away by any such federal budgeting decision.



August 17, 2022

**MEMO TO: TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**FROM: PETER DE HAAN, PROGRAMMING DIRECTOR**  
**SUBJECT: BRIDGE INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM / RECONNECTING COMMUNITIES PROGRAM**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

- Receive and file.

**BACKGROUND:**

**Bridge Investment Program**

As the Committee has previously discussed, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), passed in November 2021, authorizes a significant increase in transportation spending over the next five years. One of the new programs created by IIJA is the Bridge Investment Program, a competitive grant program authorized at \$12.5 billion over five years, to provide funding for major bridge repair, rehabilitation, and replacement projects beyond the size of what can be funded from ongoing revenues. On June 15<sup>th</sup>, the Federal Highway Administration released the Notice of Funding Opportunity for the first year's worth of this program. This notice is posted at <https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/bridge/bip/index.cfm>.

There are three categories of projects that will be considered: planning projects for preliminary work on projects that later will be eligible for construction funds, smaller construction projects of less than \$100 million, and large construction projects worth more than \$100 million. There is a 50% match required for large bridge projects and 20% required for planning and smaller bridge projects. The planning grant deadline has already passed, while the large bridge deadline is August 9<sup>th</sup>, and the smaller bridge deadline is September 8<sup>th</sup>. Applications can be submitted by states and by local government agencies.

**Reconnecting Communities Program**

The IIJA also authorized \$1 billion over 5 years for the Reconnecting Communities Program, a new program to reconnect communities cut off by transportation infrastructure. The Notice of Funding Availability has been posted at <https://www.transportation.gov/grants/reconnecting-communities>, with \$195 million available for the first year, of which \$50 million is for planning grants and \$145 million for construction. Planning grants require a 20% match and construction grants require 50%. The minimum construction grant award is \$5 million. The application deadline is October 13<sup>th</sup>. Eligible applicants can be state or local governments.