



Serving local governments in Muscatine and Scott Counties, Iowa;
Henry, Mercer, and Rock Island Counties, Illinois

MEMORANDUM

TO: Iowa Region 9 Transportation Technical Committee Members and Other Iowa Communities in Region 9
FROM: Gena McCullough, AICP, Deputy Director
DATE: December 18, 2024
RE: Request for Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Candidate Projects for Iowa Region 9 Evaluation Process

A call for projects is being issued for Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) funds within the Iowa Region 9 Transportation Planning Area. This geographic area includes projects located in rural Scott County, Iowa (outside the metropolitan area) and all cities/county in Muscatine County, Iowa.

The deadline for submitting Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) projects will be the end of the business day, **4:30 p.m., on Monday, March 3, 2025.**

Eligibility. TAP projects must be sponsored by state or local governments, transit systems, or non-profit organizations as designated by the U.S. DOT. TAP projects can include multi-purpose trails and pedestrian improvements, among other eligible activities. Refer to the TAP manual enclosed or at the following link:

<https://bistateonline.org/transportation-and-mobility/iowa-region-9-area/tip-and-funding-projects-region-9>

Funding Available. The following table indicates the cumulative funding balances available by fiscal year through FFY 2029 for TAP. The balances are based on estimated annual targets and prior programmed projects utilizing these funding sources. Iowa Region 9 is required to fiscally constrain programmed funding by fiscal year. These are estimates of the funding available and contingent on the current transportation act (IIJA), or similar funding source in a subsequent act as well as funding appropriation levels, and subject to modifications with the reauthorization of the transportation act, known as the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), which is authorized through 2026.

Beyond FFY 2025, funding levels are assumed at the current levels based on an expectation by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) that programming should reflect anticipated projects within a four-year Transportation Improvement Program. Currently there is an estimated \$880,773 in TAP funds available for programming through FFY 2029.

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Region 9 Federal Aid- Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)

| Fiscal Year | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | 2029 |
|---------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| TAP Target | \$197,015 | \$204,000 | \$210,000 | \$210,000 | \$210,000 |
| Total Available for Programming | \$74,184 | \$46,773 | \$250,773 | \$460,773 | \$670,773 |
| Total TAP Programmed | -\$224,426 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| TAP Balance | \$46,773 | \$250,773 | \$460,773 | \$670,773 | \$880,773 |

Matching Funds and Cost Estimates. No less than 20% matching funds are required for the project. Projects must have a total project cost no less than \$125,000, as the federal-aid process requires considerable administration on the part of the project sponsor. TAP applications will require a programmatic risk assessment, provided in the Appendix of the TAP manual. Project costs should be estimated in Year of Expenditure (YOE) Dollars in the anticipated program year. Please note the estimated YOE percentage used with your cost estimate.

Evaluation Process. This is a locally administered application process. Applications are expected to be concise and easily reviewed to be kept as simple as possible while still meeting federal and state requirements. The application for TAP funds, which can be found in the Appendix of the TAP Manual, is being sent to eligible jurisdictions in Region 9. The application is also located on the website link noted above, found in the Appendix.

The Region 9 Transportation Technical Committee ranks candidate projects and recommends programming to the Region 9 Transportation Policy Committee. Recommendations and selection of a project(s) will occur at Technical and Policy Committee meetings in Spring 2025. Notice of these meetings will each be sent no less than 48 hours, but typically at least one week prior to the meeting date.

Project submittals may be faxed to (309)793-6305; mailed to Bi-State Regional Commission at 1504 Third Avenue, Rock Island, IL 61201; or e-mailed to zsutton@bistateonline.org. If you have any questions regarding this notice or require an electronic copy of the applications, please contact me or Zach Sutton at (309) 793-6300 or by e-mail at gmccullough@bistateonline.org or zsutton@bistateonline.org, or refer to the website link provided.

Staff encourages other persons copied on this notice to work with their respective local governments on potential candidate projects based on local plans and implementation strategies.

Enclosures: Region 9 TAP Manual with Application

cc: Transportation Policy and Technical Committees
Regional Transportation Advisory Group (Region 9 and Combined Interests)
Muscatine County and Rural Scott County (Outside of MPO) Mayors & Clerks