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**TO:** Iowa Quad Cities Transportation Technical Committee Members and Other Communities in the Iowa Quad Cities Metropolitan Planning Area

**FROM:** Gena McCullough, AICP, Deputy Director

**DATE:** August 25, 2023

**RE:** **Request for Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TASA) Program Candidate Projects for Evaluation Process in Iowa Quad Cities Metropolitan Planning Area**

A Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TASA) Program, solicitation is being initiated to program the Iowa Quad Cities TASA targeted funds through Fiscal Year (FY) 2027. **In the Iowa Quad Cities, the estimated funds to be programmed are \$1,706,987.** Annual funding targets for the Iowa Quad Cities are estimated at approximately \$475,000 based on the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) dollars.

Bi-State staff encourages other persons receiving a copy of this notice to work with their respective local governments on potential candidate projects. Noted below are details on funding availability, project eligibility and sponsors, costs and match, process, and the deadline.

**Funding Availability**

Estimated funds to be programmed are based on the remaining balance to the Iowa Quad Cities in TASA monies, estimated target funds, minus all previously programmed funds. Funding levels may be subject to availability through federal appropriations 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 2026, 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.

**Project Eligibility and Project Sponsor**

A candidate project submittal form is enclosed and may be copied for multiple submissions. Eligible projects must be consistent with the *Connect QC 2050: Quad Cities Long Range Transportation Plan*. The plan is available online: <https://bistateonline.org/transportation-and-mobility/quad-cities-metro-planning/lrtp-and-pms>. Other eligibility requirements are in the TASA Manual accompanying this memo. Projects must be sponsored by local governments or transit systems, as designated by the Iowa DOT. Eligible projects include trail



facilities; safety features and infrastructure for bicyclists and pedestrians; turnouts, overlooks, and scenic viewing areas; historic transportation facility preservation; and certain archeological and stormwater management tied to highway construction. Priority will be given to pedestrian, trails, and bicycle grouping of projects.

### **Project Cost Estimates, Matching Funds, and Minimum Project Cost**

Project costs should be estimated in Year of Expenditure Dollars (CY2027) with an estimated construction year and a rate of inflation used by the applicant jurisdiction to estimate Year of Expenditure. Please note the anticipated letting year in your application. The manual is posted online at <https://bistateonline.org/transportation-and-mobility/quad-cities-metro-planning/tip-and-funding-projects-quad-cities-mpo>. This memo supersedes any due dates and funding levels. The manual is for illustration of the process and criteria.

The TASA funds are required to be matched with at least 20 percent and not more than 50 percent non-federal funds. 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.

### **Process**

The Quad Cities MPO Transportation Technical Committee ranks candidate projects and recommends programming to the Transportation Policy Committee in accordance with the manual noted above. Recommendations and selection of a project(s) will occur at Technical and Policy Committee meetings in January or February 2024, respectively. Notice of these meetings will each be sent at least one week prior to the meeting date.

### **Deadline**

**Candidate project submittals are requested by Friday, October 20, 2023 at 4:30 p.m. No projects will be accepted after this date.** Project submittals may be delivered, mailed to our office, or e-mailed to [bschmid@bistateonline.org](mailto:bschmid@bistateonline.org). An electronic version of the submittal form is available upon request. If you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact Bi-State at (309)793-6300, extension 1146 or by e-mail at [gmcullough@bistateonline.org](mailto:gmcullough@bistateonline.org) or contact Bryan Schmid at extension 1123 or [bschmid@bistateonline.org](mailto:bschmid@bistateonline.org).

Enclosures: TASA Evaluation Manual  
Application Form

cc: Transportation Policy Committee  
Regional Transportation Advisory Group (Urban and Combined Interests)