
STAFF REPORT

Date: April 19, 2023

To: TMPO Governing Board

From: TRPA Staff

Subject: 2023 Regional Grant Program Briefing and Adoption of the Active Transportation Program Metropolitan Planning Organization Program of Projects

Summary and Staff Recommendation:

Staff will give a presentation on the Regional Grant Program and recommends adoption of the attached resolution approving the 2023 Active Transportation Program Metropolitan Planning Organization Program of Projects.

Required Motions:

In order to adopt the proposed resolution, the Board must make the following motion, based on the staff report:

- 1) A motion to adopt the attached resolution (Attachment A) adoption of the 2023 Active Transportation Program Metropolitan Planning Organization Program of Projects

In order for the motion to pass, an affirmative vote of any eight Board members is required.

Project Description/Background:

The Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA), in its capacity as the Tahoe Metropolitan Planning Organization (TMPO) is responsible for allocating and tracking various federal and state funding programs. The Linking Tahoe: Regional Grant Program allocates funds to transportation projects that support regional transportation goals through a competitive process. The program seeks to leverage funding sources, when possible, to increase success and effectiveness of project implementation.

The Regional Grant Program (RGP) supports the implementation of the 2020 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) goals, policies, vehicle miles traveled threshold standard, and advances the implementation of regional and local priorities. The focus of the program is to create additional transportation options and an enhanced transportation system to provide safe, multi-modal improvements that also provide social and environmental benefits.

The call for projects uses an enhanced performance-based evaluation system. The application includes a performance assessment evaluating how the proposed project meets the overall Regional Plan goals and policies and those identified as priorities in the Regional Transportation Plan.

The RGP has an estimated budget of \$14,941,474 that is competitively available to project sponsors spread over federal fiscal years 2024 through 2027. The call included the following five funding sources.

FUNDING SOURCES	
Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program	\$2,970,460
Carbon Reduction Program *	\$1,335,792
Surface Transportation Block Grant	\$7,467,392
Nevada Transportation Alternatives Program	\$266,830
Active Transportation Program/Metropolitan Planning Organization	\$2,901,000
<i>*new source to the RGP</i>	\$14,941,474

TRPA received fourteen project applications totaling \$38,702,028 in RGP funding requests. The project applications were evaluated by an internal cross department staff review team that scored the projects based on the screening and defined criteria established in the 2023 RGP Guidelines. The Team recommended seven projects for a total of \$11,172,758 in California funding, with oversight from TRPA leadership. The Nevada funding has not been recommended at this time and is seeking additional project requests. The following table includes the project recommendations.

Projects	Recommended Funding
Kings Beach Western Approach	\$1,500,000
<i>Apache Avenue Pedestrian Safety and Connectivity*</i>	\$1,701,000
Pioneer Trail/ U.S. Highway 50 Intersection Safety Improvement	\$3,675,000
<i>Pioneer Trail Pedestrian Improvement Project Phase II *</i>	\$1,200,000
Microtransit EV Charging Base Station	\$269,956
North Tahoe Shared-Use Trail	\$1,826,802
Free-to-User Transit Program	\$1,000,000
<i>*ATP MPO funding recommendations</i>	\$11,172,758

On February 23, 2023, TRPA released the recommendations for the 2023 Regional Grant Program via the TRPA website (<https://www.trpa.gov/transportation/funding/regional-grant-program/>) and an email blast. On March 9, 2023, the project recommendations were discussed at the Tahoe Transportation Implementation Committee (TTIC) meeting. The committee had consensus on the recommendations and no significant comments were received.

The recommendations above will be programmed in the Federal Transportation Improvement Program through subsequent actions. For the Active Transportation Program (ATP) Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) funding there is a requirement for a board resolution (Attachment A) with the recommended projects.

ATP encourages increased use of active modes of transportation, such as biking and walking. Senate Bill 99 (Chapter 359, Statutes of 2013) and Assembly Bill 101 (Chapter 354, Statutes of 2013) created the ATP, and Senate Bill 1 (SB1) (Chapter 2031, statutes of 2017) directs additional funding from the Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Account to the ATP. The ATP MPO apportionment allocated to regions is funded through various federal and state funds appropriated in the annual Budget Act. The Tahoe Region's ATP MPO fund estimate is \$2,901,000 for the 4-year cycle 2023-2024 through 2026-2027. Funds must be awarded and programmed based on a competitive process in accordance with the published California Transportation Commission ATP guidelines.

This cycle, TRPA incorporated the ATP MPO funding into the Regional Grant Program competitive selection process. TMPO developed program guidelines for the funding distribution process that are consistent with and complement the California Transportation Commission's 2023 ATP Guidelines and are also consistent with and contained in the 2023 Regional Grant Program Guidelines. The guidelines and criteria were adopted by the TMPO Governing Board on May 25, 2022 and approved by the California Transportation Commission on June 29, 2022 for use in the competitive selection of the ATP MPO Component.

Two out of the seven projects recommended for the Regional Grant Program funds were selected for ATP MPO funds based on the 2023 RGP and ATP Guideline criteria and consistency with the Regional Transportation Plan. Below are the two projects recommended for the funding.

- Pioneer Trail Pedestrian Improvement Project Phase II (\$1,200,000)
- Apache Avenue Pedestrian Safety and Connectivity Project (\$1,701,000)

Upon adoption, the ATP MPO program of projects will be submitted to the California Transportation Commission for final approval scheduled at the June 2023 meeting.

Contact Information:

For questions regarding this agenda item, please contact Judy Weber, Associate Transportation Planner, at (775) 589-5203 or jweber@trpa.gov.

Attachments:

- A. TMPO Resolution No. 2023 __
- B. ATP MPO Program of Projects

Attachment A

TMPO Resolution No. 2023 __

TAHOE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
TMPO RESOLUTION NO. 2023 –

ADOPTION OF THE 2023 ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION PROGRAM OF PROJECTS

WHEREAS, the Tahoe Metropolitan Planning Organization (TMPO) is the designated metropolitan planning organization for the Lake Tahoe Region as defined by the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century; and

WHEREAS, the TMPO, is required to prepare and adopt a Transportation Improvement Program which includes federal funds; and

WHEREAS, the TMPO is responsible for allocating state and federal funding through the Federal Highway Administration available to the Lake Tahoe Region; and

WHEREAS, the California State Legislature passed into law Senate Bill 99 (Chapter 359, Statutes 2013) and Assembly Bill 101 (Chapter 354, Statutes 2013), establishing the Active Transportation Program; and

WHEREAS, the Active Transportation Program (ATP) Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) fund estimate is \$2,901,000 for the 4-year cycle 2023-2024 through 2026-2027 for the Tahoe Region; and

WHEREAS, the TMPO elected to administer the ATP MPO component through the competitive Regional Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, the TMPO has developed program guidelines for the ATP MPO funding distribution process that are consistent with and complement the California Transportation Commission's (Commission) 2023 ATP Guidelines; and

WHEREAS, the 2023 ATP MPO guidelines and criteria were adopted by the TMPO Governing Board on May 25, 2022 and approved by the Commission on June 29, 2022 to be used for the competitive selection of the ATP MPO programming; and

WHEREAS, the Pioneer Trail Pedestrian Improvement Project Phase II and Apache Avenue Pedestrian Safety and Connectivity Project were recommended for ATP MPO funding based on the 2023 ATP MPO guideline criteria and consistency with the Regional Transportation Plan; and

WHEREAS, TMPO has prepared the 2023 ATP MPO Program of Projects and will submit the adopted project recommendations to the California Transportation Commission for approval at the June 2023 meeting; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Governing Board of the Tahoe Metropolitan Planning Organization adopts this resolution approving the 2023 ATP MPO Program of Projects for Pioneer Trail Pedestrian Improvement Project Phase II and Apache Avenue Pedestrian Safety and Connectivity Project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that TMPO staff is hereby directed and authorized to work with the Commission, Caltrans, and the Federal Highway Administration, and the Federal Transit Administration to make technical changes or corrections as needed to the format and organization of the grant application to obtain its approval by these agencies.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Governing Board of the Tahoe Metropolitan Planning Organization this Wednesday, April 26, 2023 by the following vote:

Ayes:

Nays:

Absent:

Cindy Gustafson, Chair
Tahoe Metropolitan Planning Organization
Governing Board

Attachment B

ATP MPO Program of Projects

