

**El Paso
Metropolitan Planning Organization**

TRANSPORTATION PROJECT ADVISORY COMMITTEE AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

December 4, 2024

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2:

1. Consider approval of amendments the RMS 2050 MTP, Amended RMS 2050 MTP, and RMS 2025-2028 TIP to program 2026-2028 Transportation Alternatives Set-aside (TASA) Program, as recommended by the TASA project call Ad Hoc Committee:
 - a. Program the *SunCycle Bike Share Fleet Enhancement (FY26, FY27, & FY28)* project with \$124,887 in fiscal years 2026, 2027, and 2028
 - b. Program the *Brown Street Shared Use Path* project with \$4,090,584.00 in FY 2027
 - c. Program the *Socorro Safe Routes to Schools* project with \$3,696,945 in FY 2028
 - d. Program the *Shadow Mountain Dr Shared Use Path* project with \$1,061,166 in FY 2028

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

Approval of amendments to the RMS 2050 MTP, Amended RMS 2050 MTP, and RMS 2025-2028 TIP to program 2026-2028 Transportation Alternatives Set-aside (TASA) Program, as recommended by the TASA project call Ad Hoc Committee:

- a. Program the *SunCycle Bike Share Fleet Enhancement (FY26, FY27, & FY28)* project with \$124,887 in fiscal years: 2026, 2027, and 2028
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- d. Program the *Shadow Mountain Dr Shared Use Path* project with \$1,061,166 in FY 2028

SUPPORT INFORMATION:

- Presentation
- TASA Application Scores
- TASA Ad Hoc Committee Recommendations
- TASA Project Call Announcement

DISCUSSION/OPTIONS:

The Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TASA) Program provides funding for projects and activities defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation, trails that serve a transportation purpose, and safe routes to school projects.

The MPO closed its most recent project call for the Texas TASA program on October 18, 2024. This call solicited applications for fiscal years 2026, 2027, and 2028. Seven applications were received from four entities, totaling approximately \$26M in requests. A TASA ad hoc committee was appointed at the November 6, 2024 TPAC meeting to review and rank the received applications, and to recommend how to program the \$9M in available funds. The ad hoc committee was comprised of TPAC members representing entities that did not submit projects for consideration. This item explains the ad hoc committee's recommendations and asks TPAC to consider providing a recommendation to the Transportation Policy Board.

TASA AD HOC COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

TPAC Presentation

12/4/2024

INTRODUCTION

The Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TA Set-Aside Program) was authorized under Section 1109 of the FAST Act and provides funding for programs and projects defined as transportation alternatives.

General types of projects eligible in the El Paso MPO Region include on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, and pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure associated with Safe Routes to School projects that will substantially improve safety and the ability for students to walk and bicycle to school.

INTRODUCTION

Project call covers three years: 2026, 2027 and 2028

Available funding: \$3M each year

~\$3.2M in 2026

~\$3M in 2027

-\$3M in 2028

HISTORY

Past recipients: City of El Paso, Horizon City, CRRMA, UTEP, Town of Anthony

7 final applications received from 4 applicants: City of El Paso (4), CRRMA, El Paso County, City of Socorro

SCORING CRITERIA

TOTAL POINTS: 100

- *Section 1: Regional Connectivity- 25 pts*
- Section 2: Mobility - 20 pts
- Section 3: Safety – 15 pts
- Section 4: Reducing Barriers – 10 pts
- Section 5: Congestion Reduction– 10 pts
- Section 6: Destination Density– 5 pts
- Section 7: Air Quality Benefits– 5 pts
- Section 8: Equity– 5 pts
- Section 9: Local Connectivity – 5 pts

AD HOC COMMITTEE OBJECTIVES

1. Make recommendation to TPAC on allocation of TASA funds for FFY 2026, 2027, and 2028 based on the following sub-tasks:
 1. Score projects
 2. Determine how to distribute funds

AD HOC COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Total available: \$3,224,000

2026	Description	Total
CRRMA	SunCycle Bike Share	\$125K

APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

Total available: \$3M plus carryover

2027	Description	Total
CRRMA	SunCycle Bike Share	\$125K
COEP	Brown Street Shared Use Path	\$4,090,584

APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

Total available \$3M plus carryover (100% available funds programmed)

2028	Description	Total
CRRMA	SunCycle Bike Share	\$125K
Socorro	Socorro Safe Routes to School	\$3,696,945
COEP	Shadow Mountain Dr. Shared Use Path*	\$1,061,166

AD HOC COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

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STAFF RECOMMENDATION

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THANK YOU



Category	Regional Connectivity	Mobility	Safety	Reducing. Barriers	Congestion	Density	Air Quality	Equity	Local. Connectivity	TOTAL
<i>Total Points:</i>	25	20	15	10	10	5	5	5	5	100
CRRMA 26, 27, 28	25	15	5	8	10	5	5	3	5	81
EP County	15	20	5	5	5	4	3	3	5	65
Socorro	20	15	15	10	5	5	3	5	5	83
COEP-NE SUP	15	10	15	7	5	5	5	5	5	72
COEP-Mag	20	20	13	7	5	5	5	5	3	83
COEP-Brown	20	15	15	8	10	5	5	5	3	86
COEP-Shadow	20	15	15	8	10	5	5	2	3	83

FY 2026 – 2028 TA Set Aside Project Call Ad Hoc Committee Recommendation for TPAC Review

2026:

Sponsor	Project Name	Project Description	TAP Funds Requested	Match 20%	Total Project Cost	FY	Score
Projected TASA Funds Available FY 2026: \$3,223,356							
CRRMA	SunCycle Bike Share Fleet Enhancement Project (FY26, FY27, & FY28)	<i>Through this application, the CRRMA is seeking funding for the purchase of additional electric bikes for the SunCycle fleet.</i>	\$99,909	\$24,977	\$124,887	2026	81%

2027

Sponsor	Project Name	Project Description	TAP Funds Requested	Match 20%	Total Project Cost	FY	Score
Projected TASA Funds Available FY 2026: \$3,000,000 + \$3,098,469 carryover from 2026							
CRRMA	SunCycle Bike Share Fleet Enhancement Project (FY26, FY27, & FY28)	Through this application, the CRRMA is seeking funding for the purchase of additional electric bikes for the SunCycle fleet.	\$99,909	\$24,977	\$124,887	2027	81%
City of El Paso	Brown St Shared Use Path	<i>The proposed project is to construct a 1 mile shared use path on existing ROW of a northern segment of Brown St from I-10 to Lost Padre Mine Dr.</i>	\$3,272,468	\$818,117	\$4,090,584	2027	86%

2028

Sponsor	Project Name	Project Description	TAP Funds Requested	Match 20%	Total Project Cost	FY	Score
Projected TASA Funds Available FY 2026: \$3,000,000+ \$1,882,998 Carryover from 2027							
CRRMA	SunCycle Bike Share Fleet Enhancement Project (FY26, FY27, & FY28)	Through this application, the CRRMA is seeking funding for the purchase of additional electric bikes for the SunCycle fleet.	\$99,909	\$24,977	\$124,887	2028	81%
Socorro	Socorro Safe Routes to Schools	<i>The project proposes the design and construction of approximately 8 miles of ADA-accessible sidewalks closing SRTS gaps to nine (9) local K-8 public schools, and critical safety improvements at all K-8 school zones including raised pedestrian crosswalks, solar rectangular rapid flashing beacons, illumination, and a pedestrian bridge.</i>	\$2,957,556	\$739,389	\$3,696,945	2028	83%
City of El Paso	Shadow Mountain Dr Shared Use Path	<i>The proposed project is to construct a 0.61* mi shared use path on a eastern segment of Shadow Mountain Dr starting at Mesa St and ending at Silver Springs Dr.</i>	\$1,220,341	\$159,175	\$1,061,166*	2028	83%



**El Paso MPO Texas Transportation Alternatives-Set Aside (TASA) and Safe Routes to Schools (SRTS)
Fiscal Years (FY) 2026-2028 Project Call**

The TA Set-Aside provides funding for projects and activities defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation, trails that serve a transportation purpose, and safe routes to school projects.

El Paso MPO TASA available funds. *These funding amounts are subject to change.*

FY 2026 - \$3,223,356

FY 2027 - \$3,000,000

FY 2028 - \$3,000,000

Complete TASA/SRTS application packets must include the following:

- TASA/SRTS Application
- Environmental Checklist
- Budget Worksheet
- Project Location Map
- Cost Estimate
- Resolution of Sponsorship
- Project Schedule
- Project Request Form (PRF)*

*To request credentials for PRF website please contact EPMPO staff.

Resources:

Final TAP Guidance: <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/map21/guidance/guidetap.cfm>

TAP Questions & Answers: <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/map21/qandas/qatap.cfm>

TAP Webinars: http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/transportation_alternatives/overview/

EPMPO Staff contacts

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El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization

El Paso MPO Texas Transportation Alternatives-Set Aside (TASA) and Safe Routes to Schools (SRTS) Fiscal Years (FY) 2026-2028 Project Call Timeline

July 3, 2024	Release and announcement of the TASA Project Call to the public. TASA documents are available online at EPMPPO website www.elpasompo.org
As requested	Applicants may request an individual workshop to EPMPPO staff by appointment prior to July 19th, 2024.
August 16, 2024	Deadline to submit Draft application to EPMPPO staff by 5:00 PM MDT
September 2-13, 2024	EPMPPO staff mandatory review meetings. This review of agency applications and PRF's is mandatory* and will assist the applicants in ensuring their proposal addresses gaps in Active Transportation System and answers one of the objectives/strategies listed in the EPMPPO Congestion Management Process document. <i>*Failure to have Draft application reviewed may result in a disqualification.</i>
October 18, 2024	Project Call Closes. All final applications and supporting documents are due and must be submitted by <u>3:00 PM MDT.</u>
November 6, 2024	Transportation Project Advisory Committee (TPAC) Ad Hoc Committee appointed at November TPAC meeting
November 11-15, 2024	TPAC Ad Hoc Committee review of submittals for recommendation to TPAC
December 4, 2024	TPAC Meeting review of recommendations from Ad Hoc Committee for recommendation to the Transportation Policy Board (TPB)
December 13, 2024	TPB Meeting for review of recommendations from TPAC for approval of project programming and amendments to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)

Incomplete applications and/or failure to meet any of the milestones may result in disqualification of the application.

Note: Approved projects will be included in the next scheduled TIP/STIP Revision.