

## 20 Tips to Transportation Enhancements

Transportation Enhancements Applications are due to ALDOT by September 30, each year. We will be available to assist your community with the next round of applications. Please let us know if you plan to apply for funding so that we may begin design work with your engineer, gathering necessary documentation and preparing your narrative.

1. Do not “phase” your project. ALDOT wants to see completed projects. Projects that are submitted in phases run the risk of never being completed which weakens the scope of the TE program.
2. Be specific with the project budget. Itemize all core products.
3. Strengthen the application with good color photos. Remember that the persons reviewing the application may have never seen your community. Take the pictures from that angle. Up close shots are good for detail, but also take one from further back to show the surrounding area.
4. The 7.5 Minute USGS Quadrangle Maps, that are required to accompany each project application, must be readable. NACOLG has all of these maps on CD and can print them in color for accuracy and excellent readability.
5. If you choose the Force Account option, you must prove savings of 10% over Competitive Bid and you must have all the equipment that is to be used on the project. You may not rent, lease, or borrow any equipment.
6. Avoid words such as “park”; “recreation” and projects that contain “circular” trails. (i.e. walking tracks)
7. Projects are prioritized by the following: How many people does it serve, Does it serve the public well, Are you getting the most bang for your buck.
8. For restoration or rehabilitation of a historic structure, the building must be used for its existing or a compatible use.
9. Schools are not eligible at this time for the TE program.
10. Be aware of ADA requirements – if a sidewalk crosses at street, be sure both sides have ramps.
11. The Federal share of the project cost is 80 %. You put up the 20% match.
12. Only property acquisition and actual construction are eligible for participation.
13. Professional fees (architectural, engineering, landscaping, etc.) for preliminary engineering are not eligible for reimbursement.
14. Project oversight is now eligible for reimbursement, not to exceed 15% of project cost.
15. Projects are cost reimbursable. ALDOT will not pay for the project until it is complete.

16. Hardscapes (fountains, statues, flag poles, "welcome to ..." signs) are not eligible

17. Minimum width for sidewalks is four feet. Minimum width for bike/ped facilities is eight feet.

18. The average cost for a project is \$200,000.00 to \$300,000.00. This is not a requirement, but it makes your project more "appealing" to the review board.

19. Lighting is limited to 30% of the project cost.

20. In Kind cannot be used for the 20% match.

Please contact Tom Piper at 256-389-0513 for complete application packet.