DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION ORDER

Planning, Programming and Modal Division
Office of Systems Planning

Submitted by Craig Markley Phone No. 515-239-1027 Meeting Date January 9, 2018
Title Statewide Transportation Alternatives Program Funding Recommendations

DISCUSSION/BACKGROUND:

Review of the current round of applications for funding from the statewide Transportation Alternatives program has been completed. The following funding recommendations will be presented.

- Iowa Safe Routes to School Partnership (Iowa Northland Regional Council of Governments and Upper Explorerland Regional Planning Commission) $196,574
- UNI Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management (University of Northern Iowa and UNI Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management) $479,510
- Urban Youth Corps (Iowa Department of Transportation) $80,000

Total $756,084

PROPOSAL/ACTION RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended the Commission approve the Statewide Transportation Alternatives program funding recommendations as listed.

COMMISSION ACTION:

Moved by __________________________ Seconded by __________________________

Division Director Legal State Director

Fehrman
Huber
Maher
Putney
Rielly
Rose
Yanney
STATEWIDE TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM (TAP)

Application Summary and Funding Proposal

DECEMBER 2017 FUNDING CYCLE
Available Funding

Statewide TAP Estimated FY 2017 Appropriation: $10,764,227

- $1,374,817 set aside for Federal Recreational Trails.
- Half ($4,694,705) reserved for local projects, half stays at the state level.
- The set-aside for Statewide TAP is $1,000,000
- Remaining $3,694,705 of state level funding reserved for local projects such as:
  - Transportation Alternatives Program
  - Highway
  - Bridge
  - Transit

Application Summary

Total number of projects = 6
Total project costs = $5,710,230
Total requested amount = $3,800,818

Recommendation Summary

Statewide TAP Projects: $756,084
Funding Proposal – Statewide Transportation Alternatives Program

Staff recommends the following projects be approved for Statewide Transportation Alternatives Program funding:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Project Name</th>
<th>Grant</th>
<th>Cumulative</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Iowa Safe Routes to School Partnership (Iowa Northland Regional Council of Governments and Upper Explorerland Regional Planning Commission)</td>
<td>$196,574</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>UNI Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management (University of Northern Iowa and UNI Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management)</td>
<td>$479,510</td>
<td>$676,084</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>Urban Youth Corps (Iowa Department of Transportation)</td>
<td>$80,000</td>
<td>$756,084</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>First Bridge - Phase 1 (River Action)</td>
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<td>5.</td>
<td>Shelby County Comprehensive Trails Project Phase I - Ballpark to Ballpark Trail (Shelby County)</td>
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<td>6.</td>
<td>Underwood Trail: Railroad-Highway Project (Underwood)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
1. **Project Name:** Iowa Safe Routes to School Partnership

   **Sponsor:** Iowa Northland Regional Council of Governments
   **Contact:** Kevin Blanshan, Executive Director
   229 E. Park Avenue
   Waterloo, IA 50703

   **CoSponsor:** Upper Explorerland Regional Planning Commission
   **Contact:** Rachelle Howe, Executive Director
   325 Washington Street
   Decorah, IA 52101

   **Description:** The Iowa Safe Routes to School Partnership is a comprehensive program that assists communities with implementing Safe Routes to School initiatives and recruits new communities to participate. The partnership will continue to provide pedestrian and bicycle safety education through encouragement activities both in the classroom and outside the classroom. A focus of the partnership is to increase the number of students walking and biking to and from school using skills learned from Safe Routes to School programming. Finally, the Safe Routes to School Partnership will work to improve infrastructure needs around schools by working with city planning efforts to improve walkways and bikeways.

   **Total Cost:** $245,718
   **Requested Amount:** $196,574 (80%)

2. **Project Name:** UNI Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management

   **Sponsor:** University of Northern Iowa
   **Contact:** Tolif Hunt, Director, Research and Sponsored Programs
   Office of Research and Sponsored Programs
   213 E. Barlett Hall
   Cedar Falls, IA 50614

   **CoSponsor:** UNI Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management
   **Contact:** Kristine Nemec, IRVM Program Manager
   2412 W 27th Street
   Cedar Falls, IA 50614

   **Description:** Native grass and wildflower seed to be planted in county road or city (if population is >10,000) rights-of-way. This allows counties and cities that apply Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management to more cost effectively establish native roadside vegetation for habitat, biodiversity, erosion control and improved hydrology across Iowa's Landscape.

   **Total Cost:** $647,818
   **Requested Amount:** $479,510 (74%)
3. **Project Name:** Urban Youth Corps  
**Sponsor:** Iowa Department of Transportation  
**Contact:** Stacy Lentsch  
**Description:** This program offers meaningful, full-time work for individuals between the ages of 16 and 25 in a transportation setting, who face barriers to employment. It gives participants a mix of work experience, basic and life skills, education, training, and support services. It also provides participants with the opportunity to develop citizenship values and skills through service to their communities and the United States.  
**Total Cost:** $100,000  
**Requested Amount:** $80,000 (80%)

4. **Project Name:** First Bridge – Phase I North  
**Sponsor:** City of Davenport  
**Contact:** Frank Klipsch, Mayor  
226 West 4th Street  
Davenport, IA 52801  
**CoSponsor:** River Action, Inc.  
**Contact:** Kathy Wine, Executive Director  
822 E River Drive  
Davenport, IA 52803  
**Description:** Phase I North will build the substructure for First Bridge (a pedestrian and bicycle bridge) on the north side of U.S. 67/River Drive on the original bridge berm. It will feature native limestone facing and preserve an original rail clearly visible from street level. Securing critical leadership funding for shovel-ready Phase I North will act as a catalyst to raise the remaining funds for future phases. The full scope of the multiphase plan will replicate one span of the first railroad bridge to cross the Mississippi River. It will stop short of the river but will cross an active rail line and four-lane U.S. 67 to access River Heritage Park, connect to the American Discovery and Mississippi River Trails to the south and to sidewalks and bicycle route to the north.  
**Total Cost:** $714,870  
**Requested Amount:** $251,375 (35%)
5. **Project Name:** Shelby County Comprehensive Trails Project Phase I – Ballpark to Ballpark Trail  

**Sponsor:** Shelby County  
**Contact:** Steve Kenkel, Chairman  
Shelby County Board of Supervisors  
612 Court Street  
Harlan, IA  51537  

**Description:** Construct a multi-use paved recreational trail between Panama and Portsmouth accessible to special needs persons, bicycles, walkers, joggers, and the elderly. This trail will be constructed in the state right-of-way, west of Highway 191 and offers a safe alternative transportation route for pedestrian and bicycle traffic.  

**Total Cost:** $3,046,856  
**Requested Amount:** $2,437,484  (80%)  

6. **Project Name:** Underwood Trail: Railroad-Highway Project  

**Sponsor:** City of Underwood  
**Contact:** Jill Willard  
PO Box 40  
Underwood, IA  51576  

**Description:** The project will provide a link and public access to the county-wide trail system that is planned from Council Bluffs to Neola. The project will be about 1.6 miles in length and will provide local residents a safe way to walk/ride along the highway. Most importantly, Underwood’s project will connect riders to miles of trail systems providing a healthier community.  

**Total Cost:** $474,500  
**Requested Amount:** $355,875  (75%)