

NORTHWEST ARKANSAS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
Surface Transportation Block Grant Program – Attributable
(STBGP-A)

FFY2018 Project Application

*Section 1. Policy; Section 2. Project Requirements; Section 3. Project Selection
Criteria/Scoring*

Section 1. Policy

STBGP-A Funding Background:

In 2012, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) designated the Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers, AR-MO urbanized area as a Transportation Management Area (TMA). This TMA designation provides Surface Transportation Block Grant Program – Attributable (STBGP-A) funds to the Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission (NWARPC) based on the 2010 Census Urbanized Area population of 295,083. Under current Fixing America’s Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, STBGP-A funds can be utilized for all eligible transportation projects at the discretion of the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), which is the Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission/Policy Committee (NWARPC). Availability of FFY 2018 and subsequent years funds are subject to Congressional action.

The MPO will use the following guidelines to allocate STBGP-A funds:

- 1.1 **Staffing.** Up to \$200,000 may be utilized for MPO staffing purposes.
- 1.2 **Project Types.** (FAST Act Guidance: <https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/fastact/factsheets/stbgfs.cfm>)
 - 1.2.1 **Projects of Regional Significance.** From the remaining funds after staffing, STBGP-A funds will be utilized for Projects of Regional Significance. Regional Significance is defined as an improvement to major routes such as north/south corridors and the east/west corridors and frontage roads that improve access, reduce crash rates, and/or to relieve congestion to the north/south routes. Plans and Studies may be included as regional projects.

- 1.2.2 **Other Projects.** From the remaining funds after staffing, up to 20% may be utilized for other eligible projects that increase capacity.
- 1.2.3 In the case of emergency for full expenditure of funds, the Policy Committee can authorize funding for any eligible projects.
- 1.3 **Project Selection and Scoring.** All projects will be scored utilizing the same criteria. Project selection will be based on the overall number of projects submitted, availability of funding, and demonstrated need.
- 1.4 **Minimum Project Size.** The proposed project shall be a minimum of \$125,000 for engineering design projects and \$1,250,000 for construction projects. An exception may be made to these minimum amounts to ensure obligation of funds.
- 1.5. **Maximum Amount Per Project Sponsor.** A goal is to allocate no more than 50% of the Regionally Significant funds to a project sponsor in one year. There is the understanding that Regionally Significant funding should be equitably distributed within the Urbanized Area over time.
- 1.6. **Funding of Phased Projects.** When the first year of project funding includes engineering funding (design, engineering and environmental), there will be at least a one year gap before receiving funding for ROW, utilities, and construction.
- 1.7 **Application and Deadline Requirement.** All project sponsors must submit an application for funding and meet the required deadline.
- 1.8 **Obligation of Funds.** All projects awarded must meet the obligation deadline of September 30, 2018. (Note: The project will need to be through the AHTD process and submitted to FHWA by the end of August to obligate funds.)
- 1.9 **Project Selection Criteria. Projects will be evaluated and scored based on the six categories listed below:**
- Congestion Management
 - Regional Significance/Connectivity
 - Safety
 - Overall Improvement to the Transportation System
 - Project Design
 - Project Continuation, Partnership, Cost-Sharing

1.10 **STBGP-A Project Application Timeline:**

Call for Projects: _____ **May 15, 2017**

Project Application Deadline: _____ **June 30, 2017 at 4 p.m**

Project Sponsor Presentation to TAC Committee: _____ **July 20, 2017**

1.11 **Federal-Aid Project Requirements.** Projects are required to be designed to AASHTO and Federal Standards/Guidelines - PE/Environmental, Engineering/Design, ROW, and Utility Relocation

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FFY2018 Project Application

Project Sponsor Data:

Applicant: _____ Phone Number: _____

Contact: _____ E-mail: _____

Partners: _____

General Project Data:

Project Title: _____

Project Description: _____

Project Purpose: _____

Please Attach a Project Site Plan, Vicinity Map, and Proposed Cross-Section

NORTHWEST ARKANSAS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION

The Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission (NWARPC) complies with all civil rights provisions of federal statutes and related authorities that prohibit discrimination in programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance. Therefore, the NWARPC does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, color, age, national origin, religion or disability, in the admission, access to and treatment in NWARPC’s programs and activities, as well as the NWARPC’s hiring or employment practices. Complaints of alleged discrimination and inquiries regarding the NWARPC’s nondiscrimination policies may be directed to Celia Scott-Silkwood, AICP, Regional Planner – EEO/DBE (ADA/504/TitleVI Coordinator), 1311 Clayton, Springdale, AR 72762, (479) 751-7125, (Voice/TTY 7-1-1 or 1-800-285-1131) or the following email address: cscott-silkwood@nwarpc.org . This notice is available from the ADA/504/Title VI Coordinator in large print, on audiotape and in Braille.

If information is needed in another language, contact Celia Scott-Silkwood. Si se necesita informacion en otro idioma, comuniqese Celia Scott-Silkwood, cscott-silkwood@nwarpc.org.

Section 2. Project Requirements

2.1 Required Match/Local Support. Project sponsors must provide a minimum of 20% local funding match for all projects. (Note: This a reimbursable program through AHTD.)

Required City/County Resolution or Resolution for the City/County adopted Capital Improvement Program (CIP) with proposed project shown in CIP.

Please provide copy of CIP showing the project programmed. If a jurisdiction does not prepare a CIP, a Resolution approved by the local governing body shall be provided indicating local support and the financial capacity to carry out the project.

Type Funds	Amount of this phase	Total Project Cost (All Phases)
STBGP-A Funds	%	%
Local Match	% (20% Minimum)	% (20% Required)
Project Cost	%	

Current Project Phase: _____

2.2 Roadway Projects.

2.2.1 What is the classification of the street on the Local Master Street Plan?

2.2.2 What is the classification of the street on the Functional Classification Map-NWARPC/AHTD?

Note: Functionally Classified Streets Collector and above qualify for STBGP-A Funding per Federal requirements. Data Source: Local Jurisdiction and NWARPC/AHTD

2.3 2040 NWA Regional Transportation Plan Project Listing. How is the project listed in the 2040 NWA Regional Transportation Plan?

Constrained List

Unconstrained List

Not Listed

Project name as listed in the 2040 Transportation Plan _____

Note: Projects not listed or on the unconstrained list in the 2040 Plan will need to be amended into the 2040 Plan per Federal requirements.

2.4 FY 2016-2020 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Is the project programmed in the FY 2016-2020 TIP?

Yes

No

Project name listed in the (TIP) _____

Note: All projects must be programmed in the current TIP. If projects are not currently programmed, selected projects will need to be amended into the TIP per Federal requirements.

2.5 Adjusted Urban Area Boundary. Is the project located within the Adjusted Urban Area Boundary?

Yes

No

2.6 Existing Roadway Conditions.

2.6.1 Number of existing lanes? _____

2.6.2 What is the width of the existing street? _____

2.6.3 Does the existing street have Bike/Pedestrian accommodations?

Yes

No

2.7 Proposed Improvements.

What improvements are proposed?

2.8 Historical Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT) Counts - Roadways.

What are the Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT) Counts Shown?

2006 _____

2011 _____

2016 _____

Data Source: AHTD Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT) and Local Sources

http://www.arkansashighways.com/planning_research/technical_services/technical_services.aspx

2.9 Growth and Projected Annual Average Daily Traffic - Roadways.

What percent growth in Annual Average Daily Traffic has occurred in the last ten years?

_____ %

What is the forecasted 2040 AADT? _____

Data Source: NWARPC Travel Demand Model

2.10 Safety.

Please describe how this project will improve the safety of the transportation system. Please cite any studies that show a reduction in crash rates and/or reduction in serious and fatal injuries based on the type of project proposed. Please describe how safety will be improved for all users of the facility: vehicles, pedestrians, and bicyclists.

Section 3. Project Selection/Scoring Criteria

Please answer the following questions. Scores and ranking of applications will be determined by the committee after the review of each application.

3.1 Congestion Management (Maximum of 3 points)

3.1.1 Annual Average Daily Traffic Estimate (AHTD) - 24 Hour volume?

24 Hour street capacity*? _____ (See table below)

Generalized Average Daily Estimated Capacity on Arterial Roadways*	
Level of Service	D (Design Level)
Two-lane Road	16,000
Four-Lane Road	32,000

3.1.2 For new streets and/or streets classified as a collector or below, please provide an estimated volume and capacity.

24 Hour estimated volume? _____

24 Hour estimated capacity? _____

3.1.3 Is the project on the NWARPC Congestion Management Process (CMP) Network?

If Yes, what is the posted speed _____(MPH)

What is the Average Peak Period Speed _____(MPH)

3.2 Regional Significance/Connectivity (Maximum of 5 points)

3.2.1 Is the project a new overpass/underpass which provides an alternative route to travel across I-49 without using an existing interchange? (1 point)

3.2.2 Is the project a "frontage road" along I-49 that provides connectivity/access between interchanges and overpasses/underpasses? (1 point)

3.2.3 Does the project meet the definition of a Project of Regional Significance? (1 point)

3.2.4 Is the project located on the 4-lane network grid shown as the 2040 Proposed Network in the 2040 NWA Regional Transportation Plan? (1 point)

3.2.5 Does the project connect multiple jurisdictions? (1 point)

3.2.6 Is the project a Plan and/or Study that is needed to advance a regional project? (up to 5 points)

3.3 Safety (Maximum 3 points)

3.3.1 Does the project address an identified safety issue based on the crash rate being higher than the state average for a similar facility, bridge sufficiency rating, and/or at-grade rail crossing rating?

3.3.2 Projected percentage reduction in fatal and serious crash rates based on proposed improvements _____ (Source: Everyday Counts, FHWA, and other studies and counter measures based on improvement type)

3.4 Overall Improvement to the Transportation System (Maximum of 3 points)

Amount of additional roadway capacity to be added (AADT)? _____
Data Source: NWARPC, AHTD, Local Traffic Studies

3.5 Project Design (Maximum of 3 points)

Does the project generally meet and/or exceed the street cross section design standards in the 2040 Plan with regard to “multi-modal” and “Bicycle and Pedestrian Accommodations?”

Data Source: 2040 NWA Regional Transportation Plan

3.6 Project Continuation, Partnership, Cost-Sharing (Maximum of 3 points)

3.6.1 Does the project have multiple partners? (1 point)

3.6.2 Is the project a continuation of a multi-phase project? (1 point)

3.6.3 Is the local match more than the 20% required? (1 point)