

Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Program

FY 2017-18

Strategic Partnerships &
Sustainable Communities



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Presentation Outline

What
Changed?

Changes for FY 2017-18

Federal/State Goals. Climate-Ready Transportation. Additional Performance Considerations.

Grants
Overview

Strategic Partnerships & Sustainable Communities

Who may apply? Budgets. Local Match. Grant Specific Objective. Example Project Types.

Anticipated
Schedule

Schedule for FY 2017-18 Grant Awards

Application Deadline. Preliminary Notice. Official Award Letter. Project Start Dates.

Project Start
Dates

Project Start Dates

July or October? All Depends on Type of Grantee.

Website
Resources

Grants Websites

What's On-line and Where?

Grant Program Overarching Objectives

Identified to ensure consideration of State priorities/objectives:

- ▶ Sustainability
- ▶ Preservation
- ▶ Mobility
- ▶ Safety
- ▶ Innovation
- ▶ Economy
- ▶ Health
- ▶ Equity

Changes for FY 2017-18

Federal and State Goals Checklist

- ▶ Federal and State goals have not changed. Applicants must now briefly identify how their applications meets those goals.
- ▶ One to two sentence description requested on how project meets the goal.

Changes for FY 2017-18 (continued)

Climate Ready Transportation

- ▶ Ties the Grant program to Executive Order B-30-15, which mandated that the State Agencies should, where possible, give priority to actions that both build climate preparedness and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- ▶ Executive Order B-30-15
<https://www.gov.ca.gov/news.php?id=18938>

Changes for FY 2017-18 (continued)

Additional Performance Considerations

- ▶ Clarifies considerations from previous years to identify specifically that applicants that have an excessive balance of or consistently relinquish any transportation funds administered by Caltrans Planning and/or have unresolved audit issues or findings will also be at a competitive disadvantage in the application review process.
- ▶ Also identifies that applicants that have also failed to satisfy the required state and federal planning requirements, including submittal and administration of the Overall Work Program, Regional Transportation Plans, and Transportation Improvement Program, *may* not be awarded grants.

Strategic Partnerships

Who May Apply?

Eligible Primary Applicants Include: Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) and Regional Transportation Planning Agencies (RTPAs) with a current Master Fund Transfer Agreement (MFTA) with Caltrans Headquarters Office of Regional Planning

Eligible sub-applicants include:

- ▶ MPOs/RTPAs
- ▶ Universities & Community Colleges
- ▶ Native American Tribal Governments
- ▶ Cities & Counties
- ▶ Community-Based Organizations
- ▶ Non-Profit Organizations (501.c.3)
- ▶ Other Public Entities

Strategic Partnerships

Budget

- ▶ The Strategic Partnerships Grants are funded by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA State Planning and Research, Part I). The FHWA has authorized Caltrans to distribute these grant funds.
- ▶ Approximately \$1.5 million will be available for the FY 2017-18 grant cycle.
- ▶ 20% non-federal local match of the total project amount.
- ▶ Min. grant is \$100,000; max. grant is \$500,000*.

*MPOs only may apply for a maximum grant of \$1 million.

Strategic Partnerships

Grant Specific Objective

- ▶ To achieve the Caltrans Mission and Grant Program Overarching Objectives;
- ▶ Encourage regional agencies to partner with Caltrans to identify and address statewide/interregional transportation deficiencies in the state highway system;
- ▶ Strengthen government-to-government relationships; and,
- ▶ Result in programmed system improvements.

Strategic Partnerships

Example Project Types

- ▶ Studies that identify interregional, inter-county, and/or statewide mobility and access needs
- ▶ Corridor studies and corridor performance/preservation studies
- ▶ Studies that evaluate transportation issues involving ground access to international borders, seaports, airports, intermodal facilities, freight hubs, and recreational sites
- ▶ Studies for relinquishment of state routes
- ▶ Statewide research or modeling tools
- ▶ Transportation demand management plans
- ▶ System investment prioritization plans

Sustainable Communities

Who May Apply?

Eligible Primary Applicants Include:

- ▶ MPOs/RTPAs with a current MFTA with Caltrans Headquarters Office of Regional Planning
- ▶ Cities & Counties
- ▶ Transit Agencies
- ▶ Native American Tribal Governments

Eligible sub-applicants include those listed above, as well as:

- ▶ Universities & Community Colleges
- ▶ Community-Based Organizations
- ▶ Non-Profit Organizations (501.c.3)
- ▶ Other Public Entities

Sustainable Communities

Budget

- ▶ The Sustainable Communities Grants are funded by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA § 5304) and the State Highway Account. The FTA has authorized Caltrans to distribute these grant funds.
 - ▶ Approximately \$7.8 million will be available for the Fiscal Year 2017-18 grant cycle. Funding distribution will depend on the quality and quantity of applications in each applicant pool, i.e., (1) MPOs/RTPAs; and, (2) cities and counties, transit agencies, and Native American Tribal Governments.
 - ▶ 11.47% local match of the total project amount.
 - ▶ Min. grant is \$50,000; max. grant is \$500,000*.
- *MPOs may apply for a maximum grant of \$1 million.

Sustainable Communities

Grant Specific Objective

- ▶ To achieve the Caltrans Mission and Grant Program Overarching Objectives;
- ▶ Identify and address mobility deficiencies in the multimodal transportation system **including the needs of environmental justice and disadvantaged communities;**
- ▶ Encourage stakeholder collaboration;
- ▶ Involve active public engagement;
- ▶ Integrate Smart Mobility 2010 concepts; and,
- ▶ Ultimately result in programmed system improvements.

Sustainable Communities

Example Project Types

- Studies that advance a community's effort to reduce transportation related greenhouse gases
- Studies that assist transportation agencies in creating sustainable communities
- Community to school studies or safe routes to school plans
- Studies that advance a community's effort to address the impacts of climate change and sea level rise
- Studies that address environmental justice issues in a transportation related context
- Jobs and affordable housing proximity studies
- Context-sensitive streetscapes or town center plans
- Bike and pedestrian safety enhancement plans
- Traffic calming and safety enhancement plans

Sustainable Communities

Example Project Types

- Corridor enhancement studies
- Complete street plans
- Studies that evaluate accessibility and connectivity of the multimodal transportation network
- Health equity transportation studies
- Climate change adaptation plans for transportation facilities
- Transit plans, surveys and research
- Identification of policies, strategies, and programs to preserve transit facilities and optimize transit infrastructure
- Short range transit development plans
- Transit marketing plans
- Social service improvement studies

Local Match Requirements

Strategic Partnerships FHWA SPR, Part I Funds (MPO/RTPAs)	Sustainable Communities FTA 5304 Funds (MPO/RTPAs)	Sustainable Communities SHA funds (Cities/Counties, Transit Agencies, Tribal Governments)
Non-federal match source	Non-federal match source	Any source, including federal if the source allows for this purpose

The minimum local match is a percentage of the total project cost (i.e., minimum local match amount plus the grant amount).

The minimum local match must be rendered during the invoicing period of requested reimbursement and must be provided with every invoice.

The local match can be all cash, all third party in-kind contributions, or a combination of the two.

In-kind contributions require an In-Kind Valuation Plan to be submitted for approval as a condition of grant acceptance.

The Local Match Calculator is accessible at:

http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/tpp/offices/orip/Grants/2015/Match_Calculator.xlsx

Tips for a Successful Application

Include Caltrans	Solicit feedback from Caltrans District staff prior to the deadline
Provide letters of support	Provide photographs
Clearly demonstrate how the project promotes State and Federal Transportation Planning Goals	Clearly address every aspect of the Grant Specific Objective
Clearly define the transportation problem	Support the problem with concrete data, if available
Provide details for public engagement	Identify next steps for implementation
Administrative tasks do not exceed 5 percent of the grant request	Keep the project focused and the costs reasonable

Anticipated Schedule for FY 2017-18 Grant Awards

Application Period

- August 26, 2016 - Grant Application Guide Release Date
- **November 4, 2016**- Grant Applications Due via E-mail by 5 PM to Regional.Planning.Grants@dot.ca.gov with a copy to District staff

Evaluation Period

- November/December 2016 - District Review
- January/February 2017 - Headquarters Review
- March 2017 - Management Approval of Funding Recommendations

Preliminary Notifications

- March/April 2017 - Preliminary E-mail Notices Inform Applicants of the Outcome

Official Award Letters

- April 2017 - Award Letters with Conditions of Grant Acceptance

Project Start Date

- July/October 2017 - Grantees may begin grant-funded work, pending State Budget approval.

Project Start Dates

MPO/RTPAs - MFTA/Overall Work Program

Consider these dates when developing the Scope of Work and Project Timeline:

- ▶ **July 2017** - Anticipated start date, pending State Budget approval and programming in OWP.
- ▶ **June 30, 2020** - Project end date when reimbursable work must be completed
- ▶ **Final Request for Reimbursement** - Final Request for Reimbursement must be filed no later than 60 days after the end of the fiscal year to coincide with the submission of the Overall Work Program (OWP) Final Expenditure Report.

Project Start Dates

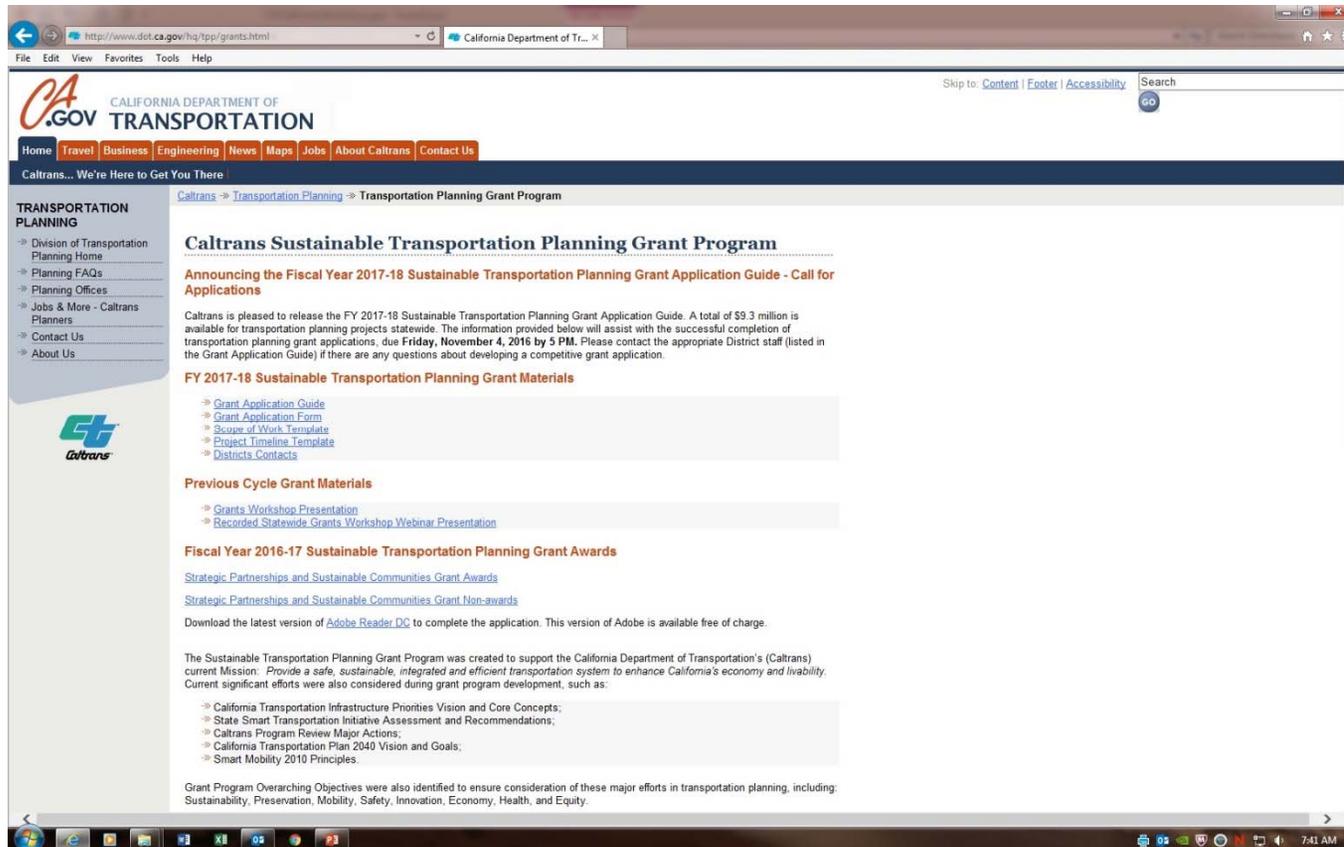
Cities/Counties, Transit Agencies, Native American Tribes - Restricted Grant Agreement

Consider these dates when developing the Scope of Work and Project Timeline:

- ▶ **October 2017** - Anticipated start date, pending State Budget approval and completion of 360 package.
- ▶ **February 28, 2020** - Project end date when reimbursable work must be completed
- ▶ **April 30, 2020** - All final invoices must be submitted to Caltrans for approval and reimbursement. This allows Caltrans sufficient time to comply with the State Controller's Office payment requirements.

Grants Website:

<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/tpp/grants.html>



Questions?

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