

Navigating MAP-21 The Safe Routes to School Edition

Margo Pedroso, Deputy Director Safe Routes to School National Partnership











MAP-21 Overview

MAP-21 – Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century
Signed into law July 6, 2012
Goes into effect October 1, 2012
Until then current transportation law/ funding in effect
Lasts for two years
Overall, provides level funding for states from FY12

Focus for today

 On impact of MAP-21 specific to Safe Routes to School
 See webinar 1 in this series for broader discussion: <u>www.advocacyadvance.org/MAP21#webinars</u>
 Next webinar September 5 at 2pm







Transportation Alternatives

Consolidates bike/ped programs into new program and changes eligibilities. Includes:

- Recreational Trails
- Safe Routes to School (per current law)
- Transportation Alternatives– (rename of Transportation Enhancements)
- Redevelopment of underused highways to boulevards

All current TE eligibilities, except:

ADDS:

- Turnoffs, overlooks, viewing areas
- Safe routes for non-drivers
- ANY environmental mitigation

REMOVES:

- Tourist/welcome centers
- Museums
- Buying scenic/historic sites
- Streetscaping
- Bike/ped education

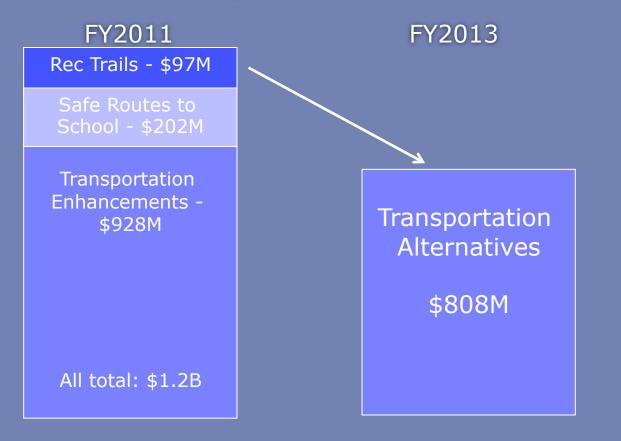




Transportation Alternatives

Funding is significantly reduced

- Nationally approx. 30% cut
- State cuts range from 18% (GA) to 51% (VT)









Transportation Alternatives

Sets up a new funding structure with complicated funding flow.

State's TA allocation

Minus: Recreational Trails (FY09 level) * unless Governor opts out

Half of \$: "Population pot"

Distributed by population share

MPOs w/population>200K

- Receive suballocated funds
- Must hold competition to award funds

Remainder distributed by state-run competition

Split between areas with population of 5-200k and below 5k

Half of \$**: "Unrestricted pot"

Distributed by state through competition

Variety of local entities eligible; state DOT not eligible

**** Transferability:**

 State can transfer all of this pot to other transportation programs
 State can also transfer up to 50% of other funds into TA





Safe Routes to School Issues

Safe Routes to School language in MAP-21
references current law (Sec. 1404)
Lack of clarity when Sec. 1404 conflicts w/MAP-21
These issues will have to be resolved by USDOT

Federal Share/Local Match

For rest of TA, it's 80% federal; 20% local dollarsSafe Routes to School is 100% federally funded

•Our view: states should be able to fund SRTS projects at 100%

Infrastructure/Non-infrastructure

Current law: states spend 10-30% on non-infrastructure
NI definitely eligible, unclear how minimums could apply; Congress restricted most other TA uses to construction
Our view: states should be encouraged to fund NI as comprehensive approach to Safe Routes to School







Safe Routes to School Issues

Safe Routes to School Coordinators

- Required by Sec. 1404, but tied to SRTS funding that is no longer being provided
- Thousands of SRTS projects still in pipeline; requires staffing to get projects built



• Our view: SRTS coordinators should be retained by all states

National Center for Safe Routes to School

- Was required to be funded out of SRTS administrative funds
- No funding set-aside provided in MAP-21
- Our view: National Center should be retained by USDOT

Structure of Program and Application Process

- Can retain their existing SRTS structure/process intact
- Can hold just one TA competition for all uses
- Our view: states have the flexibility to retain SRTS; work with advocates to retain the best elements of the program





Other Funding Opportunities

Safe Routes for Non-Drivers

- As a new eligibility in Transportation Alternatives, now also eligible for Surface Transportation Program funding
- Creates possible opening for your state to fund SRTS projects from the bigger STP pot

Highway Safety Improvement Program

- Still includes as eligible uses bike/ped safety improvements and signals and signals at bike/ped crossings and in school zones
- Now requires inclusion of bike/ped rep on planning and better bike/ ped safety data collection



Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality

- New eligibility for projects that shift traffic to non-peak hours or reduce demand for roads
- May provide opening for bike/ped/SRTS





Next Steps for the National Partnership

Federal guidance

USDOT provides recommendations and interpretation of MAP-21 for states
Will be critical to answering outstanding issues on Safe Routes to School
Partnering with America Bikes to work with USDOT on our questions and concerns

Coordinator outreach

Gathering intel from every state's SRTS coordinatorHelping us understand which states are in good situation or in danger

State by state campaigns

Working with Advocacy Advance (League of American Bicyclists and Alliance for Bicycling and Walking)
Goal to ensure that EVERY state takes full advantage of its Transportation Alternatives campaign







State Transportation Alternatives Campaigns

Campaign Goals:

- *Fully fund* Transportation Alternatives:
 - Don't opt out of Recreational Trails
 - Don't transfer any funding out of TA
 - Transfer funding into TA to correct the funding shortfall
- Fully staff Transportation Alternatives: Retain the Safe Routes to School coordinators and other bike/ped coordinators
- Fully implement Transportation Alternatives: Work with advocates to create a good process and get funding out the door
- *Fully spend* all existing funds:
 - Nationally, states have \$300M left in unused Safe Routes funds.
 - They need to hold competitions this year to spend what's left
- Fully maximize other transportation funds for bike/ped: Make sure to use STP, HSIP, CMAQ for SRTS and bike/ped.



State Transportation Alternatives Campaigns

Campaign structure

- Lead person has been identified for nearly all states
- State leads are responsible for:
 - Gathering intel on the state DOT and determining the most effective ask and strategy
 - Coordinating with advocates to press the DOT/Governor (or other appropriate decision-maker) to fully support bicycling, walking and Safe Routes to School

Viela Artificitig School Bus

Get involved

- Look up your state lead at www.bit.ly/MAP21stateleads
- Get in touch and see how you can help with the campaign
- Make sure Safe Routes to School is well-represented in the campaigns – loop in other SRTS advocates too
- Share intel on your state's Safe Routes to School situation with margo@saferoutespartnership.org





For More Information

 Visit our MAP-21 Resource Center at www.saferoutespartnership.org/national#map21resourcecenter

All our MAP-21 updates, blogs and resources are posted there, including funding charts, links to state leads, and our positions.

 Questions or comments? Contact me at margo@saferoutespartnership.org

 Go to www.saferoutespartnership.org and sign up for our enews!



