

MAP-21 CHANGES

UNDERSTANDING THE NEW MATCH REQUIREMENTS FOR SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PROJECTS

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HISTORY OF THE MATCH FOR SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL



- **Since 2005, Safe Routes to School projects were 100% federally funded**
 - Somewhat uncommon to have no match
- **Congressional rationale:**
 - Unique transportation program impacting schools, which lacked budget for match
 - About safety – precedent for certain types of safety projects to be 100%
- **Impact of the 100% funding**
 - 22% of Safe Routes funds have gone to low-income schools/communities
 - Much more demand than available funds



THE NEW MATCH POLICIES UNDER MAP-21



- **Safe Routes to School projects are now an eligible use within the larger Transportation Alternatives (TA) program**
- **All TA projects, including SRTS, now have an 80-20 match:**
 - No more than 80% of project costs can be from federal dollars
 - At least 20% of project costs must be from other sources
- **14 Western states with lots of federal and tribal lands are allowed to have a higher proportion of federal funds**
 - Sliding scale is based on percentage of federal/tribal lands
- **We hope to change these provisions back to 100%, but it's a challenging undertaking and requires Congressional action**

WHAT KIND OF FUNDS CAN BE USED FOR THE MATCH?



- **State dollars, such as state appropriated funds, tolling revenue, lottery proceeds**
- **Local government funds, such as property tax revenue, income taxes, traffic fine revenue**
 - Federal Community Development Block Grant funds can count as local dollars
- **Private donations**
- **In-kind contributions (materials, equipment, labor)**
 - States are not required to accept in-kind contributions
 - Can be difficult to demonstrate the value of contributions (paperwork burden)
 - In-kind contributions must be necessary for the project



HOW CAN STATES HELP WITH THE MATCH?



- Allow in-kind contributions instead of requiring the entire match to be “cash”
- Use state funds to make up the match – state gas tax, tolling, state appropriations
- Allow state commerce and tourism grants to serve as a match
- Educate Safe Routes grantees about opportunities to apply for HSIP safety funds (which have lower matches)
- Prioritize any remaining SRTS funds (which are 100% funded) for low-income communities



WHAT ABOUT LOCAL FUNDING SOURCES FOR THE MATCH?



- See if there are any state transportation, tourism or safety funds that you can obtain
- Ask local government to provide funding from bonds, income taxes, sales taxes, capital improvement budget or traffic ticket revenue
- Look to local businesses and foundations for donations – Chamber of Commerce, banks, hospitals, community foundations
- Consider doing fundraising campaigns with the PTA or local supporters to raise money
- If in-kind is allowed, ask public works and local businesses to donate time and materials



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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