



Rhode Island Division of Statewide Planning: 2023 Technical Assistance Programs

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AGENDA

Welcome and Introductions

Overview

- Purpose of Program
- How is the funding administered?
- Match requirements and In-kind match
- Requirements for Livable Community Technical Assistance
- Requirements for Climate Resilient Technical Assistance

Q & A

Next Steps

- Applications are due on OCTOBER 2, 2023 at 4:00PM EST
 - Communities notified by October 11, 2023

Program Purpose

To provide planning technical assistance to municipalities

- Provide funding for planning projects; design/construction NOT funded.
- RIDSP manages procurement process
- This program will provide technical assistance *only*, in the form of consultant support, to a chosen community or communities: no cash
- Two Programs (must choose one):
 - **Active Transportation**: up to \$200,000 per project
 - **Climate Resilience**: up to \$75,000 per project
 - Vulnerability Assessment OR Advancing Climate Resilience through local regulation review

Program Info.


- **Who Can Apply?**

- RI communities with a population of 50,000 or under

- **Who Cannot Apply?**

- Communities that have received technical assistance from us within the past six year through our TA program
- For resilience assistance: Communities that are served by a RIIB Resilience Coordinator
- We want to assist as many RI communities as we can!

Program Process

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- The RIDSP provides technical assistance via consultant services
 - RIDSP hires the planning consultants on behalf of the awarded municipality via the state procurement process.
 - RIDSP negotiates the contract:
 - Will reflect the scope of work for the community project.
 - However: the municipality cannot help choose the consultant.
 - RIDSP and the municipality jointly work with the consultants to ensure the desired outcome.
 - We work together as full partners.
 - The plans and studies are for *you*, not for us!

Program Process, cont'd.

- Monthly meetings with the consultants and the project steering committee
- Steering committee includes RIDSP, municipal planners, and relevant state agencies
- Past steering committees have included RIDOT, RIPTA, RITBA
- Timeline: projects generally take eighteen (18) months from kick-off to completion.



Match Requirements/ In-Kind Match —

- The municipality must provide a match of at least twenty percent (20%) of the **total cost of the technical assistance**.
 - This is a requirement of our federal funding: 20% non-federal match.
- Eligible match includes: cash donations, in-kind municipal staff time (with fringe), donated space, volunteer time, or equipment for the project.
 - Municipal staff can include planners, DPW staff, engineering, police and fire department, town manager, conservation, EMA, etc.
- All cash and in-kind contributions must be **tracked and documented** by the municipality.
 - Supporting documentation must be submitted to us quarterly.

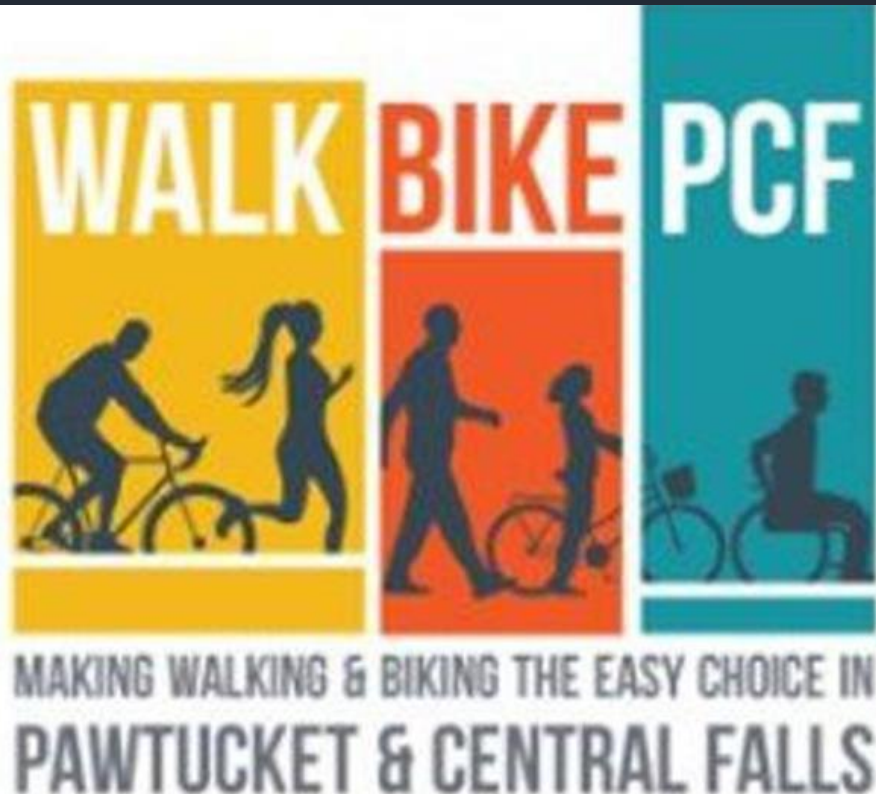




Community Planning for a Livable Future

- Technical support up to \$200,000 per community
- Goal is to increase multi-modal opportunities for residents by encouraging trips of modes other than single occupant vehicles and planning for the infrastructure to support non-motorized transportation trips.
- Planning for sidewalks, bike lanes, bike paths, crosswalks, bus shelters, transit hubs, and bike or scooter share would fall under this definition of active transportation.
- Municipalities are encouraged to partner with neighboring communities on plans, if a problem area or corridor crosses municipal boundaries.
- Examples of prior projects funded through this technical assistance program include the *Walk/Bike PCF Plan* and the *Newport Transportation Master Plan*.

Community Planning for a Livable Future



- Selection Criteria:
 - Increases mobility choices
 - Improves transportation access to jobs, retail, services
 - increases transportation network safety for residents
 - promotes walkability and bike-ability of neighborhoods
 - Extra bonus points for multi-community application
 - Extra bonus points for EJ areas

Planning for a Climate Resilient Community



- Technical support for promoting climate resilience, up to \$75,000 per community
- Climate Resilience Definition:
 - “the capacity of individuals, institutions, businesses, and natural systems within Rhode Island to survive, adapt, and grow no matter what chronic stresses and weather events they experience”
- Climate Vulnerability Assessment and Action Plans
- Building Community Resilience Through Local Regulations
 - Bylaw review and draft regulations

Planning for a Climate Resilient Community

Selection Criteria Include:

- Need to address climate change
- Previous efforts to address climate change including participation in the Municipal Resilience Program, any Municipal Resilience Action grants received, Hazard Mitigation Plans and other past or ongoing resilience/adaptation efforts.
- How the results of this process will inform ongoing or new planning/implementation efforts including local hazard mitigation plans (HMP), comprehensive plan, open space and recreation plans, master plans, etc., and how results from this process would be used to inform future investments.
- Commitment to the project and planning for the impacts of climate change, including their commitment to assigning a local project manager and developing a core team to support the project
- Advances social equity (see [Justice 40](#) for mapper and criteria that are considered when designating a disadvantaged area).



NEXT STEPS



**APPLICATIONS DUE MONDAY
OCTOBER 2**



**SELECTED COMMUNITIES WILL
BE NOTIFIED BY OCTOBER 11**



**PLEASE CONTACT US WITH
QUESTIONS**

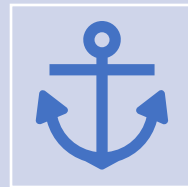
Q & A



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