

To: Transportation Committee
From: Rob Aloise, Principal Transportation Engineer
Date: November 28, 2016
cc: Jennifer Carrier, Director of Transportation Planning
Subject: Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program
Project Rankings and Staff Recommendation

The region recently solicited municipalities and received five (5) candidate projects for FFY2016-2020 Transportation Alternatives (TA) Set-Aside Program funding. Four (4) of the applications were for new projects. The fifth application was a resubmittal of Rocky Hill's Silas Deane Streetscape project, previously approved by CRCOG in 2012 for Transportation Enhancement (TE) funding. Per October Transportation Committee action, the Rocky Hill project will be submitted as the region's top priority for TA Set-Aside funding. The remaining four (4) projects were required to compete for funding, with a maximum of three (3) to be selected for recommended approval by the Transportation Committee. The selected projects would then accompany the Rocky Hill project in being submitted to CTDOT as the region's desired TA Set-Aside program.

At the November 18, 2016 special meeting of the Transportation Committee, the four Municipalities presented their proposals and Committee members ranked each project. The final rankings were calculated by averaging the individual rankings, the Table below summarizes the results in order of priority based on average rating.

Town	Project	Project Rating	Federal Share
Rocky Hill	Silas Deane Streetscape - Phase III	Previously approved top priority	\$ 2,102,016
Hartford	Hartford - Windsor Riverwalk Extension	2.2	\$ 1,237,200
New Britain	New Britain's "Stanley Loop Trail" (Phase 2)	2.3	\$ 853,600
Ellington	Route 83 Corridor Sidewalks	2.5	\$ 1,920,000
Manchester	Charter Oak Greenway Shared Use Path - Hartford Road and Bidwell Street	3.1	\$ 748,160

Staff Recommendation

Selection of the top four priority ranked projects and their corresponding federal share would result in the approval of an estimated \$6,112,816, which is consistent with CRCOG's estimate of almost \$6.1 million in available funding for the region. In order to fully expend the region's FFY2016 - 2020 TA Set-Aside allocated funding, it is CRCOG staff's recommendation that the Rocky Hill, Hartford, New Britain, and Ellington projects be selected and forwarded to CTDOT for funding. Additionally, it is recommended that staff discuss strategically prioritizing the phasing of these projects with CTDOT in order to ensure the advancement of multiple regional projects and minimize carryover.

CTDOT Contingency Projects

CRCOG staff is working with municipalities to obtain completed applications for four (4) separate “contingency TA set-aside” projects. These are projects that the Transportation Committee will be asked to act on in January for use of TA Set-Aside funding in the event that TA funding is facing lapsing if not utilized and/or no other regionally initiated projects are available for funding obligation.