

## Funding Alternatives For Trails

Have You Ever Needed Funds  
for a Trail Project?



## Objective

**For a Trail Project, Develop a Strategy That Will Help :**

- Organize the Support of Potential Partners,**
- Identify Funding Sources for Implementation,**
- Apply for funds for implementation.**



**FREE  
LUNCH**

## Federal Highway Administration

- SAFETEA-LU
- Recreational Trails Program (RTP)
- Transportation Enhancements
- Scenic Byways
- Transportation, Community and Systems Preservation Program

## RTP – The 800 Pound Gorilla



## RTP Administration

- Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Assistance Program – 60 million/year under SAFETEA-LU in FY 05
- States administer program
- States set procedures
- RTP advisory committees

## RTP in SAFETEA- LU

- *RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM.—  
For the recreational trails program under section 206 of title 23, United States Code, \$60,000,000 for fiscal year 2005, \$70,000,000 for fiscal year 2006, \$75,000,000 for fiscal year 2007, \$80,000,000 for fiscal year 2008, \$85,000,000 for fiscal year 2009.*

## Eligible Projects

- Motorized and non-motorized
- Maintenance and restoration of existing trails
- Trailside/trailhead facilities and trail linkages
- Purchase and lease of trail equipment

## Funds Can Be Used For

- Construction of new trails
- Acquisition of easements or property
- Administrative costs and education programs (spending limits)
- Trails accessibility assessment (new)
- Non-LE safety patrols (new)
- Trail monitoring (new)

## Funds Cannot Be Used For

- Property condemnation
- New Forest Service, FWS, or BLM trails that do not comply with land use plans
- Motorized use on otherwise non-motorized trails

## More SAFETEA-LU Changes

- Amends the allowable Federal Share of projects.
- May be more than 80% in some states.  
Will lower match in some states, leave it unchanged in others
- Allows RTP funds to be used as match for other Federal funding programs
- Allows pre-approval planning and environment compliance as match

## Project Sponsors

- Municipal, county, State or Federal agencies (except in California)
- Private organizations (in some States)
- Public or private lands (public access on private lands)
- Youth conservation or service programs encouraged

## Challenges not met in SAFETEA-LU

### No project Streamlining

- RTP projects must be in state and Metropolitan Planning Organizations plans
- If project is in Right of Way of Federal funded highway needs to follow highway contracting procedures.

## How Does Project Funding Work?

- Variable project sizes
- Some minimum or maximum limits
- Federal agencies can add funds to 95%  
-use their funds for up to 15% of required match
- Remainder from other sponsors
- In-kind materials/services can be match

## How Do I Obtain RTP Funding?

- Each State has its own procedures!!!
- Contact your State to find out program requirements and selection criteria
- Attend workshop if possible
- See FHWA website for State RTP coordinators/websites
- <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/restrails/index.htm>



## Transportation Enhancements

- Funded from the general gas tax
- 10% of a state's Surface Transportation Program
- Administered by the state DOT
  - Each state has their own procedures
  - Each state has their own match requirements
  - Are reimbursables, not grants

## Transportation Enhancements (TE)

- Must be related to a surface transportation facility
- Twelve categories: including
  - Pedestrian and bicycle facilities
  - Safety and education facilities
  - Preservation of abandoned railway corridors (rail-trails)

## Transportation Enhancements (con't)

- Trails MUST perform a transportation function
- <http://www.enhancements.org/>
  - Has links that describes the state's program and lists State and FHWA TE coordinators

## National Scenic Byways Program

- National Scenic Byway or All American Road – designated for outstanding qualities
- Matching fund awards
- Projects associated with designated roads
- Managed by State DOT and/or Tourism
- Project awards determined by FHWA

## Eligible Projects

- Site and/or project needs to be in Byway Corridor management plan
- Eight eligible categories (examples)
  - Enhance access for recreation
  - Construction of bicycle and pedestrian facilities
  - Protection of adjacent resources

## National Scenic Byways Program

- For the national scenic byways program under section 162 of such title—
  - (A) \$26,500,000 for fiscal year 2005;
  - (B) \$30,000,000 for fiscal year 2006;
  - (C) \$35,000,000 for fiscal year 2007;
  - (D) \$40,000,000 for fiscal year 2008; and
  - (E) \$43,500,000 for fiscal year 2009.

**Trail Projects Funded by National Scenic Byway Program FY 06**  
**\$873,000**

Alaska	Bike and Pedestrian Trail at Homer Terminal - Alaska's Marine Highway	\$63,000
	Auke Bay Coastal Trails Interpretive Program- Alaska's Marine Hwy	\$75,000
California	Big Sur Coastal Trail Master Plan	\$75,000
Illinois	Sylvan Island Trailhead in Monroe - Great River Road	\$290,616

**Trail Projects Funded by National Scenic Byway Program FY 06**

- Iowa Great River Road - Muscatine Bike Trail Kiosk \$8,000
- New Hampshire Balloch's Crossing Land Conservation and Trail Project \$135,000
- New York Adirondack North Country Byways: On-line Bike Map \$63,200
- Washington Chinook Scenic Byway-Naches Depot and Trail Project: \$100,000  
 Okanogan Scenic Byway Trails Interpretive Project: \$63,000

**TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNITY,  
AND SYSTEM PRESERVATION  
PROGRAM.**

- Open to State, tribal, regional, and local governments,
- To address the relationships among transportation, community, and system preservation plans and practices
- Identify private sector-based initiatives to improve such relationships.

**TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNITY,  
AND SYSTEM PRESERVATION  
PROGRAM Goals.**

- (1) Improve the efficiency of the transportation system of the United States.
- (2) Reduce the impacts of transportation on the environment.
- (3) Reduce the need for costly future investments in public infrastructure.
- (4) Provide efficient access to jobs, services, and centers of trade.
- (5) Examine community development patterns and identify

## TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNITY, AND SYSTEM PRESERVATION PROGRAM Funding.

- \$25,000,000 fiscal year 2005
- \$61,250,000 for each of fiscal years 2006 through 2009.
- Contact
  - Kenneth Petty
  - TCSP Program Manager, Office of Planning
  - Phone: (202) 366-6654
  - Fax: (202) 493-2198
  - E-mail: [kenneth.petty@fhwa.dot.gov](mailto:kenneth.petty@fhwa.dot.gov)

## TCSP Projects for FY 2005

- **WASHINGTON STATE** - Henry M. Jackson Pedestrian and Bicycle Bridge and Snohomish River Shoreline Trail  
\$424,080
- **SOUTH DAKOTA** - Aberdeen Pedestrian/Bicycle Trail  
\$169,632
- Oglala Pedestrian/Bicycle Plan \$190,836
- **OKLAHOMA** -Mingo Trail Construction \$169,632
- **MISSOURI**- Lakeview Park trail \$318,060
- **CALIFORNIA**-Shandon Pedestrian Bridge \$212,040

## Other Federal Agency Cooperation

- National Endowment for the Arts
- Other Agency Grants
- Challenge Cost Share
- Assistance and Cooperative Agreements

## National Park Service

- Center for Recreation and Conservation
- State and Local Governments, non-profits, partnerships
- Federal Lands to Parks
- Land and Water Conservation Fund
- National Trails System
- Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance

## State Government

- State by State variability
- OHV grants – AZ, CA, CO, ID, MT, OR, UT, WY
- Non-motorized grants – AZ, UT, Others
- Check out your State's possibilities and attend workshops they offer!!!

## Local Government







## Partnerships- Life on the Trails

- County government and BLM partnership
- Creatively addressed common needs
- AmeriCorps, State sources
- See handout

## Non-government Funding Sources

- Non-profits, businesses, corporations, foundations
- Projects align with company/organization goals
- Trail interest or connection
- Business sponsors often work through non-profits



## Non-government Funding Sources: examples

- Past corporate sponsors include: Honda, Subaru, SGMA, many others
- Grant programs: Tread Lightly, Continental Divide Trail Alliance, American Hiking Society, REI, and more
- Check web sites, creative funding ideas handout

## Enthusiasts and User Groups

- Available at all levels
- Often in-kind match or volunteer support
- Examples: AHS Volunteer Vacations, Back Country Horsemen

## Community Support

- Schools, churches, community groups, service organizations, etc
- Cooperating association or friends groups
- As many variations as projects
- Support can include dollars, materials, labor, in-kind contributions
- Meet contributing organization's goals

## More Possible Sources



- Corrections Programs
- Americorps
- American Conservation Experience
- Youth Programs
- May be less costly than in-house
- May be helpful in acquiring outside funds

## Grant Writing

- Good courses available – NTC, State RTP coordinators, universities
- Consult with RTP coordinators, get examples
- Books and publications

## Guidelines for Project Sponsors

- Get public support – identify benefits, sponsors
- Get project into a state, regional or local plan
- Multiple partners and trail uses
- Workable project – consider trail needs
- Realistic expectations of results
- Find sources for matching funds

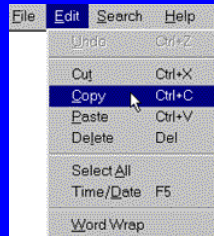
## More Guidelines

- Involve youth programs if possible
- Good design
- Budget Realistically, DON'T low ball
- Consider potential problems – permits, environment, opposition
- Timely, good quality application
- Get to work! Move quickly from project approval to implementation

## Be Creative!



## Or Copy Somebody!



## C'est Moi

Nathan Caldwell  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Trails, Byways, Transportation Enhancements and  
Alternative Transportation Coordinator  
4401 N. Fairfax Dr., Room 634  
Arlington, VA 22203

phone (703) 358-2205  
Nathan\_caldwell@fws.gov