

FYE 2017 Bicycle Facilities Program Frequently Asked Questions

1) **What types of bikeway segments qualify for this grant?**

Answer: Projects that propose to construct one or more segments of new Class-I, II, III, or IV bikeways that meet the definitions on page 4 of the [Application Guidance](#), or install new bicycle parking (i.e., racks and/or electronic bicycle lockers) are eligible for funding..

2) **Does the bicycle parking funded by this program need to be open to the general public?**

Answer: Yes.

3) **Do upgrades to existing bikeways qualify for a grant?**

Answer: Projects that propose upgrades to existing bikeways are not eligible for this Program. Funding may be available through the TFCA County Program Manager Fund. Please contact your local [Congestion Management Agency](#) for more information.

4) **Can the funding be used to retrofit existing mechanical lockers?**

Answer: No.

5) **Do projects need to start by December 31?**

Answer: As of June 21, 2017, the requirement is that all projects must commence within 12-months from the date a Funding Agreement is executed. Previously, the requirement was that all projects must commence by December 31, 2017.

6) **If closing a gap in an existing network of bikeways, does the project length include only the new lane miles? Or, does it include a portion of the network it is connecting?**

Answer: For the evaluation of the project, you are required to identify and provide both the length of the proposed new bikeway and the length of continuous safe existing bikeways that are connected to the proposed segment that are within 1.5-mile radius of the mid-point of the proposed segment.

7) **Why is there a requirement that the location of the bikeway segment(s) and parking spot(s) be described in an adopted county-wide bicycle plan, Congestion Management Plan, or Metropolitan Transportation Commission's Regional Bicycle Plan?**

Answer: The legislation that allows the Air District to provide funding for this program requires bicycle facility improvement projects to be included in an adopted plan.

8) **Does the specific location of where the equipment will be installed or where the bikeway is to be constructed need to be identified in the adopted plan?**

Answer: For bikeway segments, the planning documents need to identify the exact segment.

For bicycle parking, the planning documents are not required to identify the exact location of where the equipment will be installed; however, the documents should make references in general to bicycle parking at location within ½ mile of public transit station/stop, major activity center, or three existing activity centers.

9) **Are the projects required to be located within or near a Community Air Risk Evaluation (CARE) or Priority Development Area (PDA)?**

Answer: No. However, whether a project is located in CARE Areas or PDAs will be considered for evaluation of the project in the event there is a tie in cost-effectiveness, or if the program is oversubscribed.

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10) Does the local agency receive additional points if the agency contributes more than 10%?

Answer: No. Applications will be checked for eligibility in accordance with the requirements stated in this Application Guidance document, and Board Adopted TFCA Regional Fund Policies, and then ranked in the order of cost-effectiveness.

11) Is post-construction evaluation activities, such as counting bikes eligible for reimbursement?

Answer: No. Eligible Project Costs are identified on page 13 of the Application Guidance document.

12) Can the District provide a list of recommended vendors?

Answer: The Air District does not maintain a list of vendors. It is the applicant's responsibility to research electronic bicycle locker options and select a vendor.

13) What does the term "Project Commence" mean?

Answer: The term "commence" is referenced in Policy #8 Readiness of the FYE 2017 Regional Fund Policies, which are incorporated in to the Application Guidance document. Specifically, the term means a tangible preparatory action taken in connection with the project's operation or implementation, for which the project sponsor can provide documentation of the commencement date and action performed, such as the delivery of the award letter for a construction contract.

Additional examples of when a project would commence include the signing of a purchase orders, executing contracts for construction of the project, or purchasing of equipment (i.e. bicycle racks) directly related to the construction of the project.

14) What is the definition of "activity center"?

Answer: Definitions are located on page four of the Application Guidance document.

"Activity Centers: is a place where people work, study, go shopping, or conduct other activities, such as employment centers, schools, business districts, a bank, church, hospital, public transit station, park & ride, office park, post office, public library, shopping area or grocery store, university or junior college."

15) Can you explain the cost effectiveness a little more?

Answer: Definitions are located on page four of the Application Guidance document.

"Cost-effectiveness (\$ awarded/weighted ton): is a measure of how effective the Project is at using TFCA funds to reduce criteria pollutant emissions and is a metric by which all TFCA-funded projects are evaluated. Cost-effectiveness is calculated as the ratio of TFCA funds requested divided by the sum of surplus emissions reduced of reactive organic gases (ROG), nitrogen oxides (NOx), and weighted PM10 (particulate matter 10 microns in diameter and smaller) over the proposed project's Project Useful Life."

Factors that contribute to the cost-effectiveness evaluation are listed in the Evaluations Criteria on page 6 of the Application Guidance Document.