


CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA

A COAST GUARD CITY

MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor Eisenbeisz and Assembly Members

Thru: John Leach, Municipal Administrator 

From: Melissa Henshaw, Public and Government Relations Director

Date: August 17, 2022

Subject: Authorization to Apply for a DOT Funding Opportunity under the Safe Streets and Roads for All Action Plan

Background

Link to the U.S. Department of Transportation Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) grant program: <https://www.transportation.gov/grants/SS4A>

The SS4A program provides funding for two types of grants: Action Plan Grants and Implementation Grants. Action Plan Grants are used to develop, complete, or supplement a comprehensive safety action plan. In order to apply for an Implementation Grant for infrastructure funding, an applicant must have a qualifying Action Plan. The Action Plan is the foundation of the SS4A grant and DOT considers the process of developing an Action Plan to be critical for success. The goal of the Action Plan is to develop a holistic, well-defined strategy to prevent roadway fatalities and serious injuries. The components of the Action Plan reflect a process-oriented set of activities (see attached for details). An Action Plan will position the CBS to qualify for future infrastructure funding for roads.

SS4A grant program key factors:

- Applications are due by September 15, 2022.
- A 20 percent match is required for Action Plan grants.
- This is a new discretionary program that will provide \$5-6 billion in grants over the next 5 years.
- FY22 has up to \$1 billion in available funds and expects to award hundreds of Action Plan Grants.
- 40% of the total FY22 funds made available must be for developing and updating an Action Plan.
- Not more than 15% of the funds made available in FY22 may be awarded to eligible applicants in a single state.

- Award amounts will be based on estimated costs with expected minimum of \$200,000 for all applicants and an expected maximum of \$1,000,000 for a political subdivision of a State.
- Applicants may only apply for an Action Plan Grant or an Implementation Grant, not both.
- Criteria include improves safety impact, equity, and other safety considerations.
- Award announcements should be expected by early 2023.

An Action Plan follows the 2030 Comprehensive Plan objective: *Adopt and Implement a Sitka Complete Street Policy.*

Fiscal Note

An estimated project cost of \$550,000 with a CBS match of \$100,000 will consist of in-kind staff time and resources to manage outside consultants along with a \$50,000 contingency. CBS match funding would come from the General Fund, and the Action Plan would be completed within a 12 to 24-month timeline.

The total estimated project cost for the Action Plan is \$700,000.

Recommendation

Approve this resolution authorizing the Municipal Administrator to apply for a U.S. DOT Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) funding opportunity for \$550,000 to include a CBS match commitment of \$150,000 for in-kind staff time and resources to support development of an Action Plan.