

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
COMMISSION ORDER**

Division/Bureau/Office Planning, Programming and Modal Division  
Office of Systems Planning Order No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Submitted by Craig Markley Phone No. 515-239-1027 Meeting Date January 12, 2016  
 Title Statewide Transportation Alternatives Program Funding Recommendations

**DISCUSSION/BACKGROUND:**

Review of the current round of applications for funding from the statewide Transportation Alternatives program has been completed. The following funding recommendations will be presented.

|  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| Enhancing I-WALK: Iowa Visualization, Index and Evaluation of Walkability<br>(I-VIEW) (Iowa State University)                    | \$ 64,617       |
| Iowa Safe Routes to School Partnership (Iowa Northland Regional Council<br>of Governments and Iowa Bicycle Coalition)            | \$ 180,971      |
| Iowa's Living Roadways Projects and Trails Visioning Programs<br>(Trees Forever)   | \$ 249,562      |
| UNI Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management (University of Northern<br>Iowa and UNI Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management) | \$ 424,850      |
| Urban Youth Corps (Iowa DOT)   | \$ 80,000       |
| <br>Total  | <br>\$1,000,000 |

**PROPOSAL/ACTION RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended the Commission approve the statewide Transportation Alternatives program funding recommendations as listed.

|                           |                |                   |         |       |
|---------------------------|----------------|-------------------|---------|-------|
| <b>COMMISSION ACTION:</b> |                |                   | Vote    |       |
|                           |                |                   | Aye     | Nay   |
|                           |                |                   | Pass    |       |
|                           | Moved by _____ | Seconded by _____ | Boswell | _____ |
|                           |                |                   | Huber   | _____ |
|                           |                |                   | Miles   | _____ |
|                           |                |                   | Putney  | _____ |
|                           |                | Reasner           | _____   |       |
|                           |                | Rose              | _____   |       |
|                           |                | Yanney            | _____   |       |
| _____                     | _____          | _____             | _____   | _____ |
| Division<br>Director      | Legal          | State Director    |         |       |

**STATEWIDE TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES  
PROGRAM (TAP)**

**Application Summary and Funding Proposal**

**OCTOBER 2015 FUNDING CYCLE**

## **Available Funding**

Statewide TAP Estimated FY 2016 Appropriation:      \$9,776,366

- \$1,300,000 set aside for Federal Recreational Trails.
- Half (\$4,238,183) passed to locals, half stays at the state level.
- The set-aside for Statewide TAP is \$1,000,000
- Remaining \$3,238,183 of state level funding provided to locals for any eligible project:
  - Transportation Alternatives Program
  - Highway
  - Bridge
  - Transit

## **Application Summary**

Total number of projects = 9

Total project costs = \$3,099,265

Total requested amount = \$ 2,023,768

## **Recommendation Summary**

**Statewide TAP Projects: \$1,000,000**

## Funding Proposal – Statewide Transportation Alternatives Program

Staff recommends the following projects be approved for Statewide Transportation Alternatives Program funding:

| <b>No.</b> | <b>Project Name</b>  | <b><u>Grant</u></b> | <b><u>Cumulative</u></b> |
|------------|--|---------------------|--------------------------|
| 1.         | <b>Enhancing I-WALK: Iowa Visualization, Index and Evaluation of Walkability (I-VIEW) (Iowa State University)</b>                    | <b>\$ 64,617</b>    | <b>\$ 64,617</b>         |
| 2.         | <b>Iowa Safe Routes to School Partnership (Iowa Northland Regional Council of Governments and Iowa Bicycle Coalition)</b>            | <b>\$180,971</b>    | <b>\$ 245,588</b>        |
| 3.         | <b>Iowa’s Living Roadways Projects and Trails Visioning Programs (Trees Forever)</b>   | <b>\$249,562</b>    | <b>\$ 495,150</b>        |
| 4.         | <b>UNI Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management (University of Northern Iowa and UNI Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management)</b> | <b>\$424,850</b>    | <b>\$ 920,000</b>        |
| 5.         | <b>Urban Youth Corps (Iowa DOT)</b>  | <b>\$ 80,000</b>    | <b>\$1,000,000</b>       |
| 6.         | Leon Noel Park Reconstruction (Leon)   |                     |                          |
| 7.         | Maharishi Vedic City Trails Project (Vedic City)   |                     |                          |
| 8.         | Raccoon River Valley Trail Paved Crossings Phase II (Dallas County Conservation)   |                     |                          |
| 9.         | U.S. 63 Pedestrian Underpass (Hudson)  |                     |                          |

**1. Project Name: Enhancing I-WALK: Iowa Visualization, Index and Evaluation of Walkability (I-VIEW)**

**Sponsor:** Iowa State University  
**Contact:** Christopher J. Seeger  
2321 N. Loop Drive, Suite 121  
Ames, IA 50010-8218

**Description:** This project adds three primary components to the Web mapping portal that was previously developed. This includes developing a connectivity index map of street intersections and segments and a composite score of walk/bike infrastructure. Map overlays using data from Walk Score and the Iowa DOT crash data will also be incorporated in addition to demographic data collected through the ISU indicators project.

**Total Cost:** \$80,771  
**Requested Amount:** \$64,617 (80%)

**2. Project Name: Iowa Safe Routes to School Partnership**

**Sponsor:** Iowa Bicycle Coalition  
**Contact:** Troy Carter, Safe Routes to School Program Director  
PO Box 5562  
Coralville, IA 52241

**CoSponsor:** Iowa Northland Regional Council of Governments  
**Contact:** Kevin Blanshan, Executive Director  
229 E. Park Avenue  
Waterloo, IA 50703

**Description:** The Iowa Safe Routes to School Partnership will work with schools and communities in Iowa to host education and encouragement activities for elementary aged kids. The objective is to encourage more children to walk or ride bicycles to and from school. Where it is safe, give communities tools and knowledge on how to make it safe for walking.

**Total Cost:** \$226,214  
**Requested Amount:** \$180,971 (80%)

**3. Project Name: Iowa's Living Roadways Projects and Trails Visioning Programs**

**Sponsor:** Trees Forever  
**Contact:** Carole Teator  
770 7th Avenue  
Marion, IA 52302

**Description:** The Iowa's Living Roadways Projects and Trails Visioning programs are statewide programs open to Iowa communities and counties. The Projects program funds vegetation management practices that provide ecological services along road and trail rights-of-way. Trails Visioning helps Iowa communities plan and implement trail safety and overall trail improvement projects.

**Total Cost:** \$505,890  
**Requested Amount:** \$400,000 (79%)  
**Recommended:** \$249,562

**4. Project Name: UNI Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management**

**Sponsor:** University of Northern Iowa  
**Contact:** Tolif Hunt, Grants and Contracts Administrator  
Office of Research and Sponsored Programs  
University of Northern Iowa  
Cedar Falls, IA 50614-0394

**CoSponsor:** UNI Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management  
**Contact:** Kristine Nemec  
Tallgrass Prairie Center  
Cedar Falls, IA 50614-0394

**Description:** Native grass and wildflower seed to be planted in county road or city (if population is >10,000) rights-of-way. Counties and cities that apply Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management may more cost effectively establish native roadside vegetation for habitat, biodiversity, erosion control and improved hydrology across Iowa's landscape.

**Total Cost:** \$783,900  
**Requested Amount:** \$424,850 (54%)

**5. Project Name: Urban Youth Corps**

**Sponsor:** Iowa Department of Transportation  
**Contact:** Zachary Bitting  
800 Lincoln Way  
Ames, IA 50010

**Description:** Funds non-profit private or public agency initiatives to provide transportation related employment and training opportunities to youth between the ages of 16 and 21 who face barriers to employment.

**Total Cost:** \$100,000  
**Requested Amount:** \$80,000 (80%)

**6. Project Name: Leon Noel Park Reconstruction**

**Sponsor:** City of Leon  
**Contact:** Lorrie Scrivner, Deputy Clerk  
104 W. 1st Street  
Leon, IA 50144

**CoSponsor:** Leon Visioning Committee  
**Contact:** Lorrie Scrivner, Committee Member  
104 W 1st Street  
Leon, IA 50144

**Description:** After taking a comprehensive look at all factors that need to be addressed at the park, a plan was formed to address the most pressing needs first. These areas are: a new sidewalk needs to be constructed to provide accessibility and stormwater issues need to be addressed by installing bioswale and drainage tile.

**Total Cost:** \$264,000  
**Requested Amount:** \$105,200 (40%)

**7. Project Name: Maharishi Vedic City Trails Project**

**Sponsor:** Maharishi Vedic City  
**Contact:** Kent Boyum, Ph.D., Director of Government Relations  
1750 Maharishi Center Avenue  
Maharishi Vedic City, IA 52556

**Description:** The Maharishi Vedic City is defined by eleven circles that define the neighborhoods of the city. All have been currently surveyed and marked to define a trail project throughout the city. Some of the circles are active trails, primarily grass mowed trails, that when completed will extend the trail system to about twelve miles of multi-use trails. Uses include recreational hiking, biking, horse riding, and electric cars.

**Total Cost:** \$162,500  
**Requested Amount:** \$130,000 (80%)

**8. Project Name: Raccoon River Valley Trail Paved Crossings Phase II**

**Sponsor:** Dallas County Conservation Board  
**Contact:** Mike Wallace  
14581 K Avenue  
Perry, IA 50220

**Description:** The RRVT segment in Dallas County from Waukee to Linden was built in 1989. It contains 14 gravel crossings at road intersections. Six crossings have been paved in Phase I. This project consists of paving the remaining eight crossings and making appropriate skewed angle improvements and adjustments to bring this trail up to current recommendations that new trail construction guidelines require. It brings this trail into compliance with ADA requirements.

**Total Cost:** \$198,303  
**Requested Amount:** \$ 61,443 (31%)

**9. Project Name: U.S. 63 Pedestrian Underpass**

**Sponsor:** City of Hudson  
**Contact:** Bob Stevenson, Zoning Administrator  
PO Box 536  
Hudson, IA 50643

**Description:** The proposed project includes the construction of a pedestrian underpass beneath U.S. 63 near 1st Street in the city of Hudson consisting of a 10' x 10' precast box and trail connections on both sides. The main objective of this project is to provide safe access to the Hudson Community School and Hudson High School. Altogether, the project is approximately 0.25 miles long.

**Total Cost:** \$777,687  
**Requested Amount:** \$576,687 (74%)