

NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD
777 North Capitol Street, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20002

**RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SUBMISSION OF A SS4A APPLICATION FOR CONNECTED
VEHICLE DEMONSTRATION PROJECT IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

WHEREAS, the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB), as the metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for the Washington Region, has the responsibility under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) for developing and carrying out a continuing, cooperative and comprehensive transportation planning process for the Metropolitan Area; and

WHEREAS, the safety of all users is a core goal of the TPB that, in July 2020, adopted Resolution R3-2021 establishing a policy on roadway safety that reaffirms road user safety as a top priority; and

WHEREAS, TPB's recent assessments of regional roadway safety performance have shown that the region is not meeting its targets for reducing fatalities and serious injuries on the region's roadways; and

WHEREAS, the Secretary of Transportation, United States Department of Transportation, is authorized to make grants for transportation projects; and

WHEREAS, the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Grant Program FY 2026 Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) is funded to award up to \$993,488,194 for FY 2026 grants, with \$687,809,874 available for Implementation Grants and \$305,678,320 for Planning and Demonstration Grants to be awarded by the United States Department of Transportation for federal fiscal year 2026; and

WHEREAS, funds for the SS4A Grant Program are to be awarded on a competitive basis to support planning, infrastructure, behavioral, and operational initiatives to prevent death and serious injury on roads and streets involving all roadway users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, public transportation, personal conveyance, micro mobility users, motorists, and commercial vehicle operators; and

WHEREAS, the SS4A grant program provides federal funds to eligible applicants for supplemental planning and demonstration projects that include pilots of new technology; and

WHEREAS, the SS4A grant program is eligible to Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) and local governments but does not allow applications from state DOTs such as the District Department of Transportation (DDOT); and

WHEREAS, the TPB staff have collaborated with DDOT and private industry partners to develop a demonstration project proposal to design, deploy, and evaluate the use of Vehicle-to-everything (V2X) connected vehicle technology to alert drivers about the general presence of bicyclists in the vicinity of the vehicle and provide critical safety information to drivers to prevent collisions and to improve the safety of cyclists and other riders of micromobility devices; and

WHEREAS, the project will have regional benefits given that the travelers on the District of Columbia roads are often not District residents and that a successful demonstration of this technology can be applied in the future to other parts of the region; and

WHEREAS, grant applications to the federal SS4A program are due by May 26, 2026.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Steering Committee of the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board approves the submission of a FY 2026 grant application for a connected vehicle demonstration project in the District of Columbia to protect vulnerable riders under the federal SS4A program, subject to staff being able to reach acceptable arrangements on the role, responsibility and resources for TPB staff to administer the project and fulfill its obligations as a federal grant recipient.



MEMORANDUM

TO: TPB Steering Committee

FROM: Tom Harrington, TPB Multimodal Planning Program Director

SUBJECT: Safe Streets for All (SS4A) Grant Application for a Connected Vehicle Demonstration Project in the District of Columbia

DATE: April 29, 2026

PURPOSE

This memorandum provides details on a request from the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) to have the TPB apply, on DDOT's behalf, for FY 2026 Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) grant funding, in collaboration with WSP and [Partners for AV Education \(PAVE\)](#) member companies. Staff has held preliminary discussions on the project proposal and believes that staff time needed to administer the grant, if awarded, would be available. Staff is currently working with DDOT and WSP to finalize the grant proposal, identify roles and responsibilities and the funding for staff time, should the grant be awarded. The due date for the grant application is May 26, 2026, less than one week after the next meeting of the TPB. As such, staff is seeking the Steering Committee's approval to continue working with DDOT and WSP to finalize the proposal and apply for the grant if a satisfactory arrangement for TPB and its staff's role is reached.

BACKGROUND

The U.S. Department of Transportation issued a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) and is currently accepting competitive grant applications until May 26, 2026 for the [FY26 Safe Streets and Roads for All \(SS4A\) Grant Program](#), created in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). SS4A grants support planning, infrastructure, behavioral, and operational initiatives to prevent death and serious injury on roads and streets, involving all roadway users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, public transportation, personal conveyance, micromobility users, motorists, and commercial vehicle operators. Two categories of grants are awarded – Implementation grants and Planning and Demonstration grants.

Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) and local governments are eligible to apply; state Departments of Transportation are not eligible to apply. For this grant opportunity, the District Department of Transportation is viewed as a state agency, not as a city DOT, and therefore cannot apply for a SS4A grant directly.

CONNECTED VEHICLE DEMONSTRATION PROJECT

Project Scope: In association with the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) and private industry partners, led by WSP, TPB will develop and submit a grant application for a SS4A Planning and Demonstration project to conduct a demonstration of Vehicle-to-everything (V2X) connected vehicle technology to protect vulnerable riders such as cyclists. V2X technology enables vehicles to communicate wirelessly with other vehicles (V2V), infrastructure (V2I), pedestrians (V2P), and

networks (V2N) to improve road safety, traffic flow, and efficiency. The proposed technology pilot project will design, deploy, and evaluate the use of V2X to alert drivers about the general presence of bicyclists in the vicinity of the vehicle and provide critical safety information to drivers to prevent collisions.

Although the demonstration project will identify a specific corridor or locations within the District of Columbia for the pilot, the project will have regional benefits given that the travelers on the District of Columbia roads often travel throughout the region and, particularly for vehicle users, are often not District residents. So, V2X technology deployed with an emphasis in the District will be a regional deployment, just at a very small scale.

Proposed Funding Request: Up to \$5 million, the maximum for a Planning and Demonstration grant. The federal share of a SS4A grant may not exceed 80 percent of total eligible costs. The local match of 20 percent for this proposed project will be covered by in-kind services and materials provided by the private industry partners.

Roles and Responsibilities:

- *COG/TPB:* TPB will be the applicant; COG, as the fiscal and administrative agent for TPB, will administer the grant, contract with the vendor(s), and fulfill grant management and reporting requirements.
- *DDOT:* Will serve as technical project manager and advisor to ensure the successful delivery of the project; identify corridor locations for the pilot demonstration based on traffic and safety data and provide services and permits needed to conduct the demonstration project.
- *Private sector partners:* Will deliver the project according to a scope of work that will include project management, planning and design of the concept, deployment of a pilot demonstration, and testing and evaluation of effectiveness. The prime contractor will coordinate the work of a coalition of industry partners needed to carry out the demonstration project.

DRAFT RESOLUTION

Attached is a draft resolution for the board's consideration. The Steering Committee is being asked to approve TPB Resolution SR31-2026 to approve submission of a grant application for a connected vehicle demonstration project in the District of Columbia to protect vulnerable riders under the federal SS4A program by the due date of May 26, 2026. This action is subject to staff being able to reach acceptable arrangements on the role, responsibility, and resources for TPB staff to administer the project and fulfill its obligations as a federal grant recipient.