

# Alternative Transportation in Parks and Public Lands

**Webinar**  
**January 16, 2007**

**Federal Transit  
Administration**

***[www.fta.dot.gov/atppl](http://www.fta.dot.gov/atppl)***

*Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge, Arizona*

## Technical introduction *(Eric Plosky, U.S. DOT Volpe Center)*

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- This webinar has three components:
  1. Audio (teleconference)—phone number was provided when you registered
  2. Web—software plug-in was provided when you registered (*presentation also at [www.fta.dot.gov/atppl](http://www.fta.dot.gov/atppl)*)
  3. E-mail: questions can be sent to the presenters via the webinar interface (or to [austinc@volpe.dot.gov](mailto:austinc@volpe.dot.gov)) for discussion during the webinar
  
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## Webinar agenda *(Scott Faulk, FTA)*

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- Welcome and introductions
- ATPPL overview: background, legislation, and goals
- ATPPL program structure
- Applicant and project eligibility and requirements
- Project application process
- Funds administration
- Sample project proposals
- Description of reference documentation and materials
- Q&A period

# Federal Transit Administration representatives

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- **Terry Rosapep**, Deputy Associate Administrator for Program Management (TPM)
- **Henrika Buchanan-Smith**
- **Scott Faulk**
- **Dwayne Weeks**

# Federal lands management agency representatives

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- **Lou DeLorme**, U.S. Department of the Interior
- **Nathan Caldwell**, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- **Linda Force**, Bureau of Land Management
- **Mark Hartsoe**, National Park Service
- **Ellen LaFayette**, U.S. Forest Service

## Introduction *(Terry Rosapep, FTA)*

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- The Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) (2005) authorized the **Alternative Transportation in Parks and Public Lands (ATPPL) program**
  - *Federal Lands Alternative Transportation Systems Study*
  - \$97 million authorized during FY 2006 – FY 2009
  - Inter-agency team

# Introduction

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- For FY 2006 (first year of the program):
  - About 70 project proposals were submitted, totaling more than \$40 million in requests
  - 42 planning and implementation projects were selected for a total of \$19,631,170 in funding (full list of projects is at ***[www.fta.dot.gov/atppl](http://www.fta.dot.gov/atppl)***)
    - 17 planning projects (\$3.6 million);  
25 capital projects (\$16 million)
    - 22 projects were under \$250,000;  
9 projects were between \$250,000 and \$500,000;  
11 projects were above \$500,000

# ATPPL overview

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## ➤ Program goals

- Two broad objectives specified in legislation, relating to *the visitor experience* and *resource protection*
- Five specific program goals identified:
  1. Conserve natural, historical, cultural resources
  2. Reduce congestion and pollution
  3. Improve visitor mobility and accessibility
  4. Enhance the visitor experience
  5. Ensure access to all, including persons with disabilities

# ATPPL overview

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- **Program management goals**
  - *Sound evaluation*: select the most meritorious projects for funding, based on a quantitative evaluation process
  - *Demonstrated need*: develop the best possible solutions to current or anticipated problems
  - *Financial efficiency and sustainability*: use federal dollars wisely, and stimulate funding from partnerships
  - *Sound, integrated, and participatory planning*: use objective analysis and cooperative planning processes
  - *Project variety*: geographic diversity, urban/rural, project size, new/existing projects

# ATPPL program structure

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- **Legislative requirements**
  - DOT, DOI cooperate to conduct program-level activities, such as technical assistance (up to 10% of ATPPL program funding can be used for this purpose)
  - Annual report to Congress
- **DOT-DOI Memorandum of Agreement (MOA)**
- The ATPPL **interagency working group** will undertake major program tasks: technical assistance, developing documentation and procedures, evaluating project proposals, providing oversight, monitoring project and program performance

## ATPPL program structure

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- For information about metropolitan and statewide planning, see ***[www.planning.dot.gov/state.asp](http://www.planning.dot.gov/state.asp)***

# ATPPL program structure

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## ➤ **Communications**

- Regular meetings of the interagency team
- Notices published in the Federal Register
- ATPPL web site (***www.fta.dot.gov/atppl***)
- Guidance and outreach materials
- Training activities (such as this webinar)
- Designated agency point of contact (HQ, regions)
- E-mail distribution list for news, updates, announcements

# Applicant and project eligibility and requirements

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- **Eligible areas:** any federally owned or managed park, refuge, or recreational area open to the general public, including:
  - National Park Service units
  - National Wildlife Refuge System units
  - Bureau of Reclamation recreational areas
  - Bureau of Land Management recreational areas
  - National Forest System units

# Applicant and project eligibility and requirements

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## Eligible applicants:

- **Any federal land management agency, including:**
  - National Park Service
  - U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
  - Bureau of Reclamation
  - Bureau of Land Management
  - U.S. Forest Service
- State, local, or tribal governments with jurisdiction over land in the vicinity of an eligible area, *acting with the consent of the relevant federal land management agency*

# Applicant and project eligibility and requirements

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- **Eligible project types:**
  - ***Planning projects*** are intended to identify potential solutions to alternative transportation problems, and to justify possible capital expenses
  - ***Implementation (“capital”) projects*** generally involve purchasing, designing, or constructing alternative transportation facilities or equipment
  - Eligible projects (*next slide*) must be in or near an eligible area, be “alternative transportation,” and contribute to the goals of the ATPPL program
- Operating assistance (e.g., driver salaries) is ***not*** eligible

# Applicant and project eligibility and requirements

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- **Eligible *planning* projects:**
  - Alternative transportation planning studies, including evaluation of no-build and other alternatives, traffic studies, visitor utilization studies, transportation analysis, and environmental studies
  - Activities to comply with metropolitan and statewide planning requirements

# Three categories of eligible implementation projects

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## #1: General capital expenses

- Acquiring, constructing, inspecting, or supervising equipment or facilities
- Capital cost of service contracts
- Deployment/commercialization of alternative transportation vehicles

# Three categories of eligible implementation projects

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## #2: Fixed guideway and bus projects

- Fixed guideway
  - Development of a new fixed guideway project
  - Rehabilitation, modernization, or expansion of existing fixed-guideway systems
- Bus projects
  - Purchase, rehabilitation, replacement of buses and related equipment
  - Construction of bus-related facilities

# Three categories of eligible implementation projects

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## #3: “Other” projects

- Capital costs of coordinating with external transit
- Non-motorized transportation systems
- Water-borne access systems
- Any other alternative transportation project

## Non-motorized transit projects

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- Are eligible projects for implementation and planning
- Non-motorized projects involving facilities for bicycling, walking, and watercraft need to meet the following criteria:
  - Reduce or mitigate the number of automobile trips by providing an alternative to travel by private vehicle
  - Provide a high degree of connectivity with a transportation system
  - Improve safety for motorized and nonmotorized transportation system users

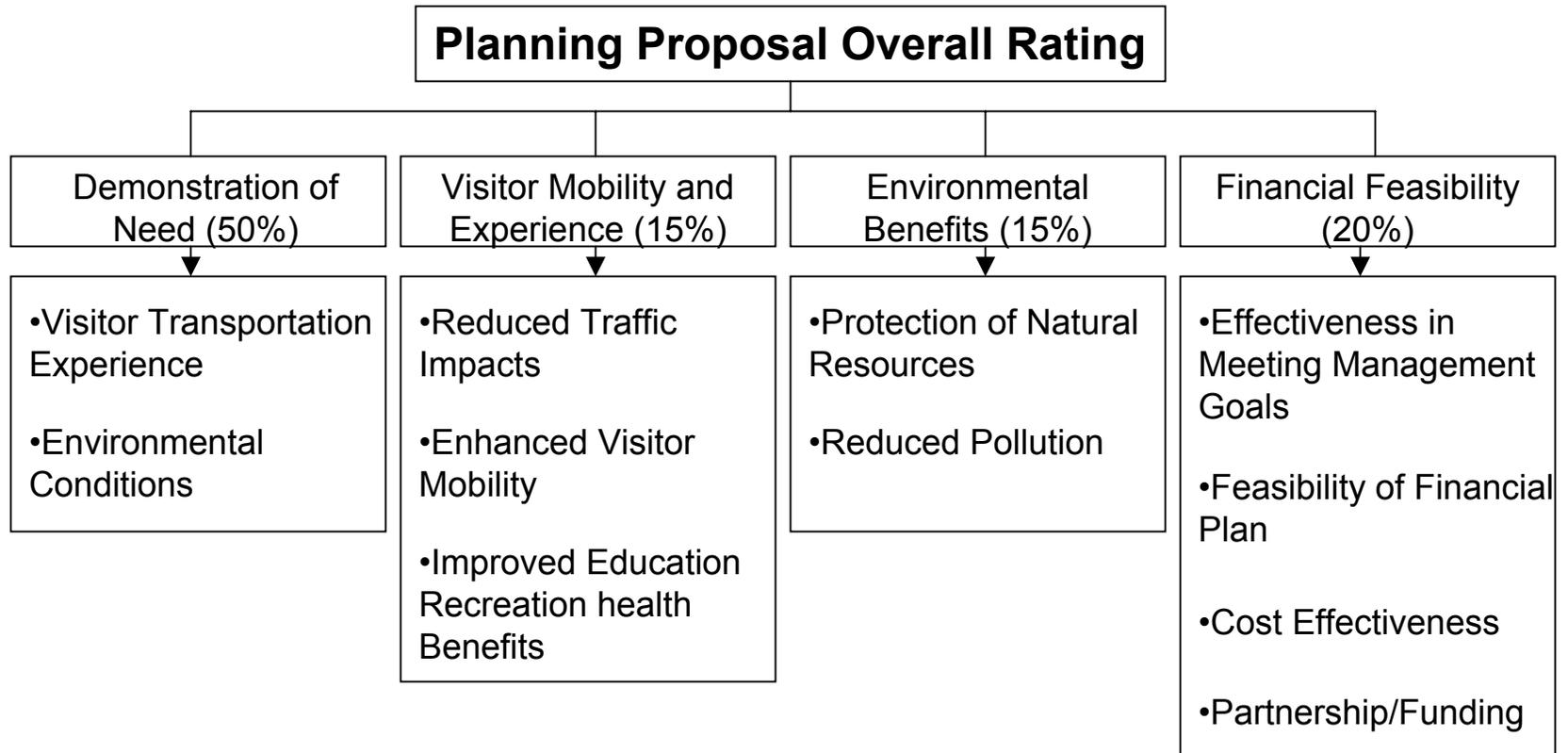
## Project application process (*Dwayne Weeks, FTA*)

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- Determine the project type: **planning** or **implementation**
- Planning and implementation projects have different forms — **use the correct form**
- Review the proposal forms and the questions
- Gather data and documentation
- *Planning* emphasis: purpose and need—why is it necessary to consider transportation alternatives?
- *Implementation* emphasis: good projects with sound cost-estimate, solid financial plan, strong implementation strategy, local partnerships

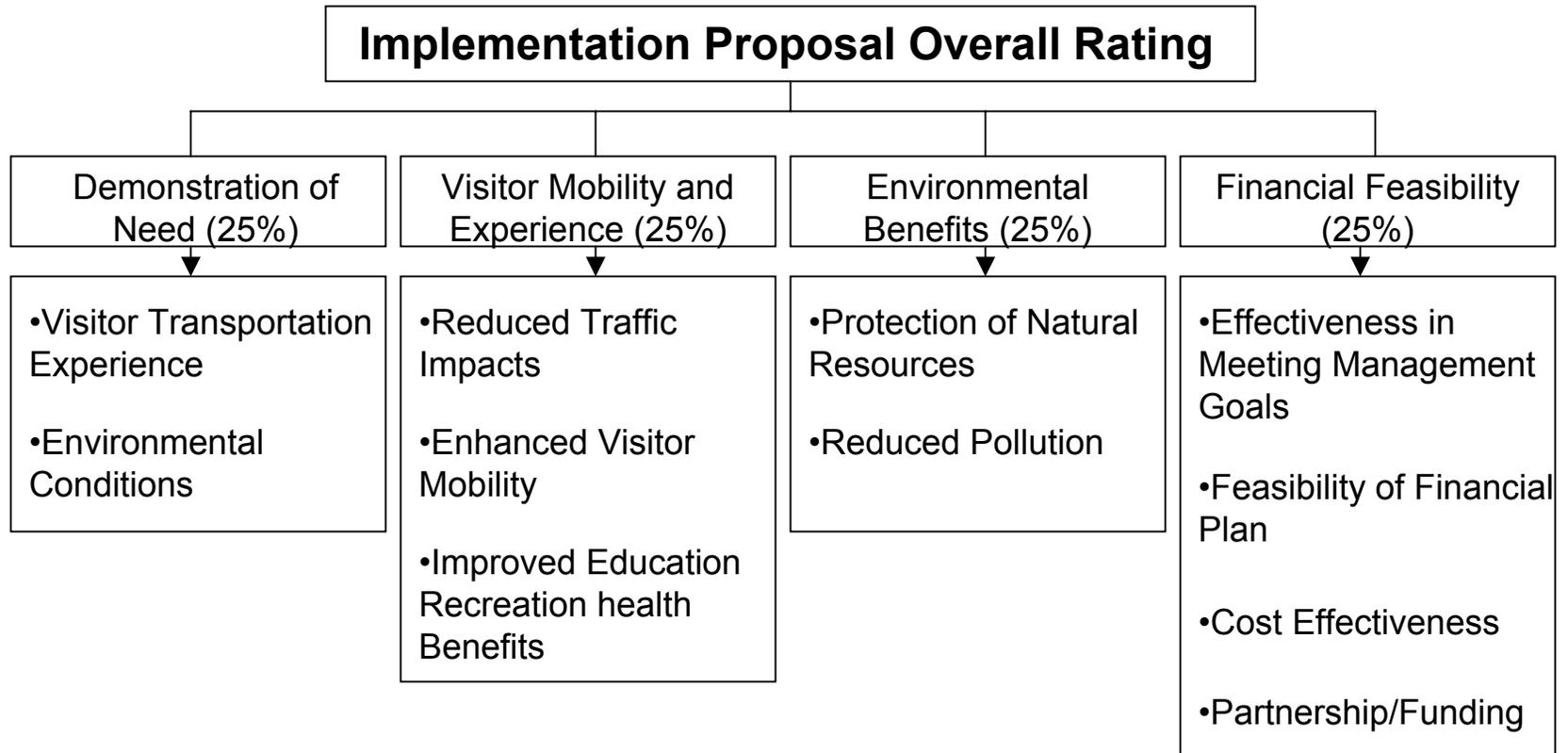
# Planning project evaluation criteria

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# Implementation project evaluation criteria

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## Project evaluation process: helpful hints

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- Tell the story:
  - ✓ Why is this project necessary?
  - ✓ Who benefits?
  - ✓ How?
- Do homework: use previous studies for data
- Document environmental impacts and benefits
- Clear definition of the project: length, mode, stations, vehicles, capital cost, operating cost
- Map of project and area

## Project evaluation process: helpful hints

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- Financial plan – make it real!
- Use actual cost estimate – request only the amount of funding necessary!
- Capital funding needed – five years
- Operating funding needed – five years
- Identify capital and operating funding for project
- Leverage other funding sources
- Supporting documentation – commitment letters

# Project evaluation process

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## In summary

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- Work with partners to develop the best proposals
- Use data to support the benefits of your project—document and cite sources
- Develop a strong financial plan and leverage funding
- Craft the best project proposal to meet identified needs

# Project proposal forms (two types!)



**U.S. Department of Transportation  
Federal Transit Administration**

**Alternative Transportation in the Parks and Public Lands Program  
Project Proposal for Fiscal Year 2007 Funds – Planning Project**

<b>BASIC PROJECT INFORMATION</b>	
Project Name (Please provide a 1-2 sentence description of the project): <input type="text"/>	
Proposed Funding Recipient: <input type="text"/>	
Public land unit(s) involved: <input type="text"/>	<u>Location of Project</u> City: <input type="text"/> County: <input type="text"/> State: <input type="text"/> Congressional District: <input type="text"/>
Federal Land Management Agency managing the above unit(s): <input type="checkbox"/> Bureau of Land Management <input type="checkbox"/> Bureau of Reclamation <input type="checkbox"/> Fish and Wildlife Service <input type="checkbox"/> Forest Service <input type="checkbox"/> National Park Service	Type of Planning Project: (Implementation projects, please use the alternate form) <input type="checkbox"/> Planning

## Funds administration

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- Funds awarded to FLMAs will be made through interagency agreements between FTA and the FLMA
- Funds awarded to state, local, and tribal entities will be made through grants directly from FTA

## Requirements for funding recipients

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- Federal requirements triggered by ATPPL
- ATPPL specific requirements as contained in the legislation
- Requirements that apply to all FTA programs
- Requirements referenced in 49 U.S.C. §5307
- Reporting requirements

**Full list** of requirements is available on the ATPPL web site at:  
***[www.fta.dot.gov/documents/ATPPL\\_FY\\_2006\\_Requirements\\_Final.pdf](http://www.fta.dot.gov/documents/ATPPL_FY_2006_Requirements_Final.pdf)***

# Program documentation and reference materials

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- **ATPPL program manual** is central reference document
- **ATPPL web site** ([www.fta.dot.gov/atppl](http://www.fta.dot.gov/atppl)) contains links to other program documentation and reference materials, *including FY 2007 project application forms and guidance*

## Question-and-answer period

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Open Q&A period

Please use the webinar interface to submit questions,  
or you may e-mail questions to **[austinc@volpe.dot.gov](mailto:austinc@volpe.dot.gov)**

## Webinar close-out (*Scott Faulk*)

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- Thanks to all participants
- Your feedback will be solicited, and the webinar will be archived, on the ATPPL web page:

***[www.fta.dot.gov/atppl](http://www.fta.dot.gov/atppl)***

- If you have questions or would like to follow up, please contact Scott Faulk at [scott.faulk@dot.gov](mailto:scott.faulk@dot.gov) or 202-366-1660

**END OF WEBINAR**

***Thank you for participating!***

