Transportation Enhancement (TE) Program

Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century
U.S. Code, Title 23 Sections 104b(3) and 133d(2)

What is the Transportation Enhancement (TE) program?

California receives about $60 million per year. A local or State funding share is required in each reimbursed phase of work. The TE Program is a reimbursable capital-improvement program. Projects must comply with federal environmental requirements and other federal regulations, including those for considering disadvantaged business enterprises in consultant selection and for paying prevailing wages during construction.

What makes a project eligible for Transportation Enhancement Funds?

Transportation Enhancement activities must have a direct relationship – by function, proximity or impact – to the surface transportation system. Activities must be over and above normal projects, including mitigation.

This list is exclusive. Only these activities are eligible to be accounted for as Transportation Enhancement activities. They are:

1. Provision of facilities for pedestrians and bicycles.
2. Provision of safety and educational activities for pedestrians and bicyclists.
3. Acquisition of scenic easements and scenic or historic sites.
4. Scenic or historic highway programs (including the provision of tourist and welcome center facilities).
5. Landscaping and other scenic beautification.
6. Historic preservation.
7. Rehabilitation and operation of historic transportation buildings, structures or facilities (including historic railroad facilities and canals).
8. Preservation of abandoned railway corridors (including the conversion and use thereof for pedestrian or bicycle trails).
9. Control and removal of outdoor advertising.
10. Archaeological planning and research.
11. Environmental mitigation to address water pollution due to highway runoff or reduce vehicle-caused wildlife mortality while maintaining habitat connectivity
12. Establishment of transportation museums.

How does the application process work?

California's TE dollars are divided into two places:
1) Regional Transportation Planning Agencies select three quarters of the projects. These are programmed into the Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) and become part of the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)
2) The twelve Department districts select the remaining projects. These are programmed into the Interregional Transportation Improvement Program (ITIP) and also become part of the STIP. Projects must meet the criteria for statewide significance to be considered for the ITIP.

How can I get more information?

Call ~~(916) 654-2177~~, FAX: (916)~~650-7621~~ 657-4455
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Applicants must check with their Regional Transportation Planning Agency to obtain the deadline for application. Dates vary by Region. See the Department TE website for more information: www.dot.ca.gov/hq/TransEnhAct/TransEnact.htm