



AGENDA REPORT

City Council Meeting

TODAY'S DATE: December 9, 2025

MEETING DATE: December 17, 2025

TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Holly Ellis, Public Works Director

SUBJECT: Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP): 2026 Application – Superior St Project

BACKGROUND:

Superior Street, between the Byway and First Ave, has long been identified as a key east–west corridor with missing pedestrian facilities, creating a significant gap between residential neighborhoods, Serenity Lee-Trail/Long Bridge users, businesses, and the downtown. This deficiency is documented in both the Multimodal Transportation Master Plan (MTMP) and the Downtown Street Design Guide, which highlight Superior as a priority corridor for improved pedestrian access, ADA compliance, and multimodal connectivity.

The proposed Superior Street Connectivity Project will construct new pedestrian infrastructure along Superior Street, completing a missing link in the City's multimodal network. Improvements will include new sidewalk or shared-use path facilities to provide a continuous, ADA-compliant connection between residential areas, Sagle, the downtown, as well as improved access to parks, and potentially future transit. This corridor experiences regular pedestrian activity but currently lacks safe, separated facilities. The project directly responds to TAP program goals by increasing mobility, improving safety, and supporting non-driver access to services.

This project is identified in the MTMP and the Downtown Street Design Guide, meeting TAP scoring criteria for consistency with adopted plans. The City maintains an ADA Transition Plan, and Superior Street improvements advance the plan's goals by removing known accessibility barriers. Staff will complete required pre-application forms, including the TAP estimating worksheet, environmental screening, and pre-application checklist by the January 15 deadline.

The TAP program provides up to \$500,000 in federal funds for a standard project, requiring a 7.34% local match. The City intends to use Street Capital Sidewalk Funds or other eligible sources to meet the match requirement. If awarded, staff will return to Council with a full project budget, agreements, and design and construction administration contracts for approval.

DESCRIPTION:

The Local Highway Technical Assistance Council (LHTAC), in partnership with the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD), is soliciting applications for the 2026 Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) to select projects for FY2028–2030. The purpose of TAP funding is to improve mobility, safety, and quality of life by supporting alternative transportation projects, including on- and off-road facilities for pedestrians, bicyclists, and other nonmotorized users; sidewalks; bicycle infrastructure; pedestrian and bicycle

signals; traffic calming; lighting and other safety-related elements; and projects that improve compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. As outlined in the program guidance, approximately \$7.5 million is available statewide each year, with up to 95% allocated to infrastructure projects and the remainder available for non-infrastructure Safe Routes to School activities. The annual funding level is established under the IIJA Act.

The maximum Federal TAP award is \$500,000, and all projects require a 7.34% local match. TAP funding may be used to hire a consultant from ITD's term agreement list to complete design to Federal-aid standards, for construction of the project, and for construction engineering and inspection (CE&I). Federal requirements stipulate that construction administration must be performed by an ITD term-agreement consultant, although local agency staff may supplement inspection. Projects must follow all applicable federal design, procurement, and documentation requirements for the sponsor to remain eligible for the 92.66% federal reimbursement.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize staff to submit a Transportation Alternatives Program grant of up to \$500,000 to LHTAC for sidewalk connectivity on Superior Street.

ACTION:

Move to authorize staff to submit a Transportation Alternatives Program grant of up to \$500,000 to LHTAC for sidewalk connectivity on Superior Street.

WILL THERE BE ANY FINANCIAL IMPACT? N/A HAS THIS ITEM BEEN BUDGETED? N/A

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Project Map
2. TAP Grant Application