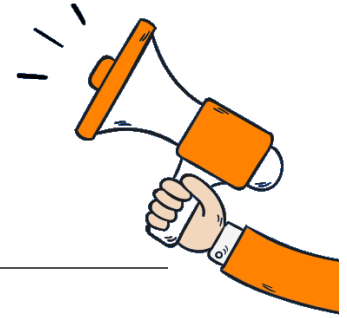


GET TO KNOW READY, SET, GO!

A QUICK REFERENCE



OVERVIEW

Ready, Set, Go! (RSG!) is a grant program designed to assist VDOT's local partners with populations less than 200,000 in developing potential project ideas toward an eligible Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) application. This program provides high-level conceptual planning for localities, including potential project area and alignment, estimated cost, projected schedule, and other relevant conceptual details.

This is a collaborative effort lead by a consultant team, administered by VDOT's Local Assistance Division, and supported by VDOT District technical staff and community representatives. Communities selected for participation in RSG! will not be required to provide any funding for their participation. Applicants for RSG! should plan to commit the required 20% match if a TAP application is submitted as a result of participation in the RSG! program.

WHO CAN APPLY?

Localities with a population size of less than 200,000 are eligible to apply for RSG!. Priority is given to localities with populations of less than 5,000 that are not contained within a TMA/TPO area. Consult VDOT's Local Assistance Division should you have questions regarding eligibility.

WHAT PROJECTS ARE ELIGIBLE?

Project types are limited to those that would typically be eligible for TAP funding through VDOT. Projects that would not be eligible for TAP funding through VDOT, such as maintenance, recreational trails, intersection improvements that enhance vehicle capacity, or area-wide plans/studies will not be eligible for the RSG! program. All RSG! projects must have logical termini and independent utility either upon application submission or be identifiable during the RSG! process. If meeting these criteria is contingent upon future development, applicants should be prepared to provide planning documents, timelines, etc. as supportive information.

APPLICATION PROCESS

A call for applications for RSG! will be announced in September of odd-numbered years. Applications will be accepted until the published deadline. Applications for RSG! will be taken through VDOT Local Assistance Division's Transportation Alternatives website (<https://www.virginiadot.org/business/prehancegrants.asp>) via a questionnaire. Through the questionnaire, the applicant will answer a range of questions about their community, representatives, project concept, project goals, and location.

RSG! PROCESS

The program intends to provide local partners with additional technical information to assist in the community's decision-making on planning, funding, and implementation of their project concept. The program process further develops project concepts, identifies risks, constraints and enhancements, and cost information. Administration for the grant will be provided by VDOT's Local Assistance Division, with technical support by a consultant team. The community is expected to remain engaged in the process through select virtual meetings with the RSG! team and District staff, usually two to three meetings.

Communities that are selected for participation in the RSG! program can expect a collaborative assessment and project development process. An iterative process within the group will confirm the understanding of the community's project and goals through the creation of an initial framework document, then develop an initial project concept, identify risks and constraints, brainstorm revisions, and provide application-ready concept visuals, estimates, and other content. Finally, the completed project will be staged in VDOT's Smart Portal Pre-Scoping module to seamlessly assist in the preparation of a future TAP application.

TIMELINE

- September, in odd-numbered years: Call for applications
- November, in odd-numbered years: Applications close
- March, in even-numbered years: Award announcements issued
- April, in even-numbered years, to December, in odd-numbered years: Consultant work with selected localities
- Odd-numbered years: Transportation Alternatives application cycle

FAQ

Q: Who is eligible to apply?

A: Communities with populations less than 200,000. Priority is given to localities with populations of less than 5,000 that are not contained within a TMA/TPO area.

Q: Does participation in RSG! cost anything?

A: No, the RSG! program does not have a cost for participants. There is no cost required of the community to participate in the RSG! program. Community participation in meetings, process and information sharing with the RSG! team will be necessary. Should the locality proceed with a TAP application, the 20% local match to support project funding (if selected for funding), will be required.

Q: What happens during the RSG! process?

A: The program provides communities with additional technical information to assist decision-making in the areas of planning, funding, and implementation of the project concept. The consultant team will assist the community and VDOT in developing the project concept to a sufficient level that is suitable for a TAP pre-application.