

Department of the Interior Departmental Manual

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Series: Public Lands

Part 613: Special Programs

Chapter 4: Alternative Transportation in Parks and Public Lands Program

Originating Office: Office of Policy Analysis

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4.1 General. This chapter provides Departmental procedures to implement the Alternative Transportation in Parks and Public Lands (ATPPL) program.

4.2 Scope. The procedures in this chapter apply to bureaus and offices of the Department in selecting and funding an annual program of projects under the ATPPL program.

4.3 Authority. The ATPPL program is authorized by the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient, Transportation Equity Act - A Legacy for Users ("SAFETEA-LU") of 2005. Section 3021 of SAFETEA-LU establishes the ATPPL Program, P.L. 109-59, 119 Stat. 1608.

4.4 Purpose. This chapter sets forth the procedures to be followed by bureaus and offices in determining the selection and funding of an annual program of qualified projects for the ATPPL program in accordance with Section 3021(g) of SAFETEA-LU, 119 Stat. 1612.

4.5 Definitions. The definitions applicable to this chapter are set forth in Section 3021(b) of SAFETEA-LU, 119 Stat. 1609.

4.6 Responsibilities.

A. The Secretary of the Department of the Interior (Interior) in consultation with the Secretary of the Department of Transportation (Transportation) determines the final selection and funding, consistent with appropriations, of an annual program of projects to improve transportation in the parks and public lands.

B. The Deputy Assistant Secretary - Policy and International Affairs (DAS-PIA) oversees, coordinates, and reviews Interior's participation in the ATPPL program and chairs the Deputy Assistant Secretary Advisory Group (DASAG).

C. The Deputy Assistant Secretary Advisory Group reviews recommendations submitted by the Technical Review Committee (TRC) and provides final written recommendations to the DAS-PIA. Members of the DASAG include Deputy Assistant Secretaries from the offices of the Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, the

Assistant Secretary - Land and Minerals Management, and the Deputy Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

D. The Technical Review Committee reviews project proposals and provides to the DASAG, written recommendations on the annual awarding and allocation of funds available under ATPPL based upon the criteria for selection of qualified projects in SAFETEA-LU, 119 Stat. 1612. Members of the TRC include representatives from the National Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management, Office of the Assistant Secretary - Policy, Management and Budget, the U.S. Forest Service, and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). Members of the committee are selected by their respective agencies or organizations.

4.7 **Program Procedures.**

A. Funding availability and application procedures and deadlines will be published in an annual notice in the *Federal Register* by the FTA.

B. Prior to the submission of project proposals to the TRC, each land management agency will conduct an initial screening of proposals involving lands within their jurisdiction in order to meet the SAFETEA-LU requirement that projects have the consent of the land management agency involved.

C. Applications may be submitted by qualified participants as defined in SAFETEA-LU, 119 Stat. 1609. Qualified participants include a Federal land management agency or a state, tribal, or local governmental authority with jurisdiction over land in the vicinity of an eligible area acting with the consent of the Federal land management agency.

D. All funding for the ATPPL program is subject to appropriations by Congress.

4.8 **Reporting Requirements.** The Secretary of Interior will consult with the Secretary of Transportation in the preparation of the annual report to Congress required by SAFETEA-LU, 119 Stat. 1614.

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