

ITEM #: 4  
DATE: 09-24-24  
DEPT: AAMPO

**TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE ACTION FORM**

**SUBJECT: SAFE STREETS AND ROADS FOR ALL (SS4A) GRANT AGREEMENT**

**BACKGROUND:**

The [Safe Streets and Roads for All](#) (SS4A) discretionary grant program was established in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) with the primary purpose to improve roadway safety by significantly reducing or eliminating roadway fatalities and serious injuries through safety action plan development, refinement, and implementation focused on all users. The program has two grant types available: 1) a planning & demonstration grant or 2) an implementation grant, which are described as follows:

Planning & Demonstration Grant - Provide funding to develop a safety action plan, conduct supplemental safety planning to enhance an action plan, or carry out demonstration activities to inform the development of, or an update to, a safety action plan. A safety action plan is the foundation of the SS4A program and must include the components shown in **Attachment A**.

Implementation Grant - **Provide funding for projects and strategies identified in a safety action plan** that address roadway safety problems. In order to apply for an Implementation Grant, applicants are required to have an existing safety action plan.

**On December 13, 2023, the AAMPO was awarded \$100,000 in SS4A planning & demonstration grant funding by the U.S. Department of Transportation for the creation of a comprehensive safety action plan (CSAP). The AAMPO intends to develop its CSAP in coordination with its 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) update, including shared data collection and public engagement efforts. The anticipated adoption date of the CSAP is September 23, 2025 (the same date as the anticipated adoption of the MTP).**

The AAMPO included development of the CSAP in the Fiscal Year 2025 Transportation Planning Work Program (TPWP). **In total, \$125,000 is budgeted for the CSAP as follows:**

<b><u>Funding Source</u></b>	<b><u>Amount</u></b>
U.S. DOT SS4A Grant	\$100,000
City of Ames Local Road Use Tax	\$ 13,000
Iowa DOT HSIP Funding	\$ 12,000
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$125,000</b>

**Attachment B contains the SS4A Grant Agreement**, which is a result of coordination between AAMPO staff, FHWA Iowa Division staff, and US DOT Headquarters staff. **Once the grant agreement is approved and executed, the AAMPO can immediately begin work on creating its Comprehensive Safety Action Plan because a professional services agreement with HDR Engineering, Inc. was already approved by the AAMPO Transportation Policy Committee and Ames City Council, contingent upon the execution of the grant agreement. As a reminder, below is HDR's project scope for the creation of the AAMPO's Comprehensive Safety Action Plan.**

## **PROJECT SCOPE:**

The key services the consultant will perform include the following:

- Create a Comprehensive Safety Action Plan for the AAMPO which meets the requirements specified by the SS4A grant program.
- Collect and process all applicable roadway, socioeconomic, and transportation safety data (GIS data, traffic data, crash data, transit data, bicycle/pedestrian data, socioeconomic data, and previous transportation studies in the AAMPO region).
- Assist with leadership commitment and goal setting for significantly reducing fatalities and serious injuries on the region's transportation system.
- Help formalize a committee and task force structure for overseeing progress of the CSAP development and its implementation. Participate in AAMPO committee meetings and deliver presentations at key project milestones, including draft and final plan development.
- Perform a detailed safety analysis of the region's transportation network including a descriptive crash analysis, safety data conflation/ geographic layer creation, determining systemic crash patterns, and identifying a high-priority safety network.
- Develop robust community and stakeholder engagement strategies through the creation of a Public Engagement Plan. Assist the AAMPO and City of Ames with public & stakeholder engagement efforts including creation of a project webpage on the AAMPO website, hosting engagement booths at community events, participating in two public open houses, and developing content for a web-based open house.
- Ensure the public input process and the strategies used for the plan's development are equitable.
- Evaluate existing policies and processes to identify opportunities to make changes which will encourage severe crash reductions. Examples include engineering standards, comprehensive plans, and land use and zoning policies.
- Recommend strategies and infrastructure projects which will improve regional transportation safety and promote severe crash reductions using a combination of the safety data analysis, engagement findings, equity considerations, and results of evaluations of existing policies & processes.
- Help the AAMPO develop potential metrics which may be used to track safety progress during after the CSAP's approval and during implementation.

## **ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Approve the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Grant Agreement with the US DOT for creation of a Comprehensive Safety Action Plan for the AAMPO.
2. Do not approve the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Grant Agreement with the US DOT for creation of a Comprehensive Safety Action Plan for the AAMPO.

**MPO DIRECTOR'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

**Approving and executing the SS4A Grant Agreement will allow the AAMPO to immediately begin the creation of its Comprehensive Safety Action Plan. This plan will help the AAMPO and its member agencies develop strategies and program projects which will improve safety by reducing transportation-related serious injuries and fatalities.** Once the plan is ultimately approved, the AAMPO and its members agencies will be able to apply for SS4A implementation grant funding to implement future infrastructure projects and strategies identified in the plan. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the MPO Executive Director that the Transportation Policy Committee adopt Alternative No. 1, as noted above.

**ATTACHMENT(S):**

[Attachment A - SS4A Action Plan Components.pdf](#)

[Attachment B - SS4A Grant Agreement.pdf](#)