



California's Active Transportation Program (ATP) Cycle 2:

*Generating Innovative and Competitive Safe Routes to School,
Walking and Bicycling Projects from Los Angeles County*

[LA n Sync](#), with assistance from Investing in Place and the Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition (LACBC), endeavors to support up to five applications to the [Active Transportation Program \(ATP\)](#) from Los Angeles County with grant writing and other technical assistance to support the submission of competitive applications. As the state's largest dedicated source of funding for safe routes to school and other walking and bicycling projects, the ATP is a highly competitive program that funds active transportation projects, programs and planning throughout the state, with special emphasis on disadvantaged communities.

Los Angeles County has extraordinary need for these funds:

- 19 percent of all trips in Los Angeles County are taken on foot or by bike, including 34 percent of all trips to school.
- Tragically, 39 percent of all roadway fatalities are people walking and bicycling.
- Los Angeles has not traditionally invested in these modes: only one percent of transportation funding currently goes to walking and bicycling.

The 2015 [Active Transportation Program \(ATP\)](#) call for projects, with \$120 Million in funds available statewide, provides a tremendous opportunity to impact these trends and unify the Los Angeles region around the need to invest strategically in safe routes to school, complete streets, access to transit and many other exciting projects that improve the walkability and bikeability of the Los Angeles region and bring partners together to support implementation of these projects.

Have a great idea for an ATP project but need help with developing a winning proposal? [Apply for support from LA n Sync](#) by March 18th and increase the chances that your community's project gets funded.

[Apply for support from LA n Sync today!](#)

For more info and a link to the online application, go to <http://investinginplace.org>.

FAQ:

What is LA n Sync offering for potential applicants?

At a minimum, LA n Sync will provide successful applicants, who must be based in Los Angeles County, with grant writing and other technical assistance. LA n Sync will also help strategize and identify financial assistance (such as local match for projects) or other support to develop strong project ideas that will be competitive for ATP funding. LA n Sync may connect potential applicants with each other to form partnerships that together are more competitive for state funding.

What criteria will LA n Sync use to select applicants for assistance?

LA n Sync seeks to support innovative projects, new partnerships, projects that have regional significance (either by involving multiple jurisdictions or piloting innovative treatments), applications from disadvantaged communities and projects with a clear and compelling need. LA n Sync is looking for competitive projects from applicants that could most benefit from grant writing support or other resources. LA n Sync wants to assist applicants that have excellent project ideas, but may struggle to express them in a competitive grant application. LA n Sync hopes that Los Angeles County will produce many competitive applications to the ATP, with or without assistance, and will give an extra boost to those that will gain the most value from additional resources.

LA n Sync will consider the following factors in selecting the proposals it will offer assistance to:

- Projects that are innovative or creatively respond to local needs
- Projects that advance the active transportation efforts of regional agencies
- Projects that emphasize links to schools and/or transit
- Projects that enhance public health and improve safety
- Projects that serve disadvantaged communities (defined by ATP guidelines), particularly low-resource jurisdictions with active participation by civic groups and other stakeholder participation
- Projects that involve partnerships among public agencies and/or non-profit organizations
- Projects that have demonstrated capacity to build strategic alliances between key agencies
- Projects that consider social barriers to walking and bicycling
- Projects that are cost-effective
- Projects that will prepare the region to be competitive in future ATP funding cycles

What is the definition of a disadvantaged community?

The ATP program defines disadvantaged communities by the following criteria:

- The median household income is less than 80% of the statewide median based on the most current census tract level data from the American Community Survey. Data is available at: <http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml>
- An area identified as among the most disadvantaged 10% in the state according to latest versions of the California Communities Environmental Health Screening Tool (CalEnviroScreen) scores. Scores are available at: <http://oehha.ca.gov/ej/ces11.html>
- At least 75% of public school students in the project area are eligible to receive free or reduced-price meals under the National School Lunch Program. Data is available at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/sd/sd/filessp.asp>. Applicants using this measure must indicate how the project benefits the school students in the project area or, for projects not directly benefiting school students, explain why this measure is representative of the larger community.

What information is needed for my agency to apply for assistance?

We recognize that many agencies have not yet selected or scoped projects to apply for ATP funding. Please treat this application as a concept proposal and provide as much information as you have available. If selected, we will work with you to scope your project idea into a competitive application.

When are applications for LA n Sync assistance due?

The ATP call for projects opens on March 26th. To provide the maximum amount of time for assistance, LA n Sync requests that interested applicants [fill out the online application form](#) no later than March 18th. After initial screening, strong applicants will be invited to present to an LA n Sync panel on March 25th. Successful applicants will need to fill out a Request for Support (RFS) from LA n Sync.

Applications selected for support from LA n Sync will exemplify the narrative of Los Angeles as a region that is increasingly embracing Safe Routes to School, Complete Streets, and efforts that improve walking and bicycling conditions and reflect the county's geographic and cultural diversity, and demonstrate collaboration among partners to leverage and implement funds for the region.

What if I have additional questions?

Contact Eric Bruins at eric@la-bike.org or (213) 629-2142, ext. 127, or Jessica Meaney at jessica@investinginplace.org or (213) 210-8136 with any additional questions about the ATP or applying for assistance from LA n Sync.

About Investing in Place:

<http://investinginplace.org>

Created in December 2014 as a new non-profit effort, Investing in Place works to support a constituency for equitable planning and build strategic relationships with agencies and efforts that invest in the built environment in Los Angeles County. Investing in Place collaborates with stakeholders from around Los Angeles County to support improved transportation policy priorities, including transportation finance, equity, data collection and performance measures.

About the Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition:

<http://la-bike.org>

The Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition (LACBC) is the Los Angeles region's largest membership-based, nonprofit advocacy and education organization working to make communities throughout the county healthy, safe and fun places to ride a bike. LACBC supports local efforts to build communities that are better places to walk, bike, and access transit. LACBC is partnering with [LA n Sync](#) to support increased funding for active transportation in Los Angeles County by competing in the state's [Active Transportation Program \(ATP\)](#).

About LA n Sync:

<http://lansync.org/>

LA n Sync is a groundbreaking partnership that brings together the academic, civic, nonprofit, business and philanthropic sectors of Greater Los Angeles to pursue and win major funding opportunities. LA n Sync was created to ensure that the L.A. region gets every funding dollar it needs and deserves.