



MEMORANDUM

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TO: McHenry County Council of Mayors members
FROM: Janell Jensen, Planning Liaison
DATE: August 18, 2017
RE: Agenda Item 3.A. – Surface Transportation Program Revisions

ALGONQUIN
BARRINGTON HILLS
BULL VALLEY

CARY
CRYSTAL LAKE
FOX RIVER GROVE

GREENWOOD
HARVARD
HEBRON

HOLIDAY HILLS
HUNTLEY
JOHNSBURG

LAKE IN THE HILLS
LAKEMOOR
LAKEWOOD

MARENGO
McCULLOM LAKE
McHENRY

OAKWOOD HILLS
PORT BARRINGTON
PRAIRIE GROVE

RICHMOND
RINGWOOD
SPRING GROVE

TROUT VALLEY
UNION
WONDER LAKE

WOODSTOCK
McHENRY COUNTY

SUBJECT:

Discussion on CMAP’s proposed revisions to our region’s Surface Transportation Program (STP-L) and the possible impacts to our council’s STP program

BACKGROUND:

The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) has been holding STP Programming/Suballocation Working Group meetings to discuss renegotiating the agreement between the City of Chicago and the suburban Councils of Mayors regarding the STP program. This is in response to requests from the Federal Highway Administration to incorporate performance measurements into local STP programming instead of suballocating STP funds to Councils based on population alone.

Our council sent a letter to CMAP on July 19, 2017, that summarized the concerns/questions that arise from MCCOM’s July 14, 2017, STP Working Group meeting. Since the July letter, our chairman Rick Mack has met with CMAP staff to discuss our council’s concerns/suggestions.

DISCUSSION:

CMAP’s draft Surface Transportation Program (STP-L) Revision proposal has not changed since our last meeting on July 14, 2017, and is not anticipated to. The four main changes are:

- 1. New shared funding program**
A regional STP fund of approximately \$43 million per year generated from the current set aside for the City of Chicago and reprogramming of excess carryover. Shared funding program is meant for larger, regionally-significant projects that individual Council allotments cannot readily fund.
- 2. Local funding distributed using a needs-based formula**
Local STP funding distributed to Councils based on five performance measures from MAP-21 – Pavement Condition, Bridge Condition, Congestion, Safety and Non-SOV travel. This new distribution formula is estimated to result in an additional \$210,000 per year for the McHenry County Council of Mayors (new annual allotment of \$4,161,715).
- 3. Supplemental local project selection criteria based on ON TO 2050**
Each Council will be required to incorporate regional priorities into the local programming decision-making with a weighting of at least 25%. Regional priorities include - Using green infrastructure, serving reinvestment areas, improving access to economically disconnected

areas, benefiting freight movement, sponsor having a complete street policy and sponsor permitting density at transit-supportive levels.

4. Enhanced program management

All project phases will be required to meet accomplishment goals, with missed goals resulting in funding returned to shared fund.

If adopted, this proposal will be phased-in over the next two years with revisions to local methodologies occurring in 2018 or 2019.

IMPACT ON COUNCIL'S STP PROGRAM - FFY 2017-2020:

Our council's current STP Program for FFY 2017-2020 (rev 3/16/2017) should not be negatively impacted by CMAP's proposed changes. Rather, all projects listed on the program are anticipated to continue as scheduled. In addition, our council will not need to request Advance Funding (AF), since that procedure is proposed to be removed.

Projects scheduled in FFY 2018-2020 should be let for construction by the end of FFY 2020, which means that the last possible IDOT letting is November, 2020 (federal authorization in September, 2020). If not let in time, it's possible that councils could "grandfather" projects into their new STP program or have projects reapply during a new Call for Projects.

If a project on our program (FFY 2018-2020) was withdrawn, that project's STP funds could be reallocated to another scheduled project on our program (FFY 2018-2020).

New projects cannot be added to our program in FFY 2017-2020, which means delaying releasing a Call for STP Projects until FY 2020. Also, we cannot change our Methodology/funding levels for projects scheduled in FFY 2017-2020.

IMPACT ON COUNCIL'S STP PROGRAM - FUTURE:

CMAP's proposal "forgives" our council's Advance Funding (AF) requests. This is extremely important, since we don't need to repay the 3 plus years' worth of future money that we used (AF into FFY 2021). Starting in FFY 2021 we'll have a clean slate and one years' worth of money to spend on projects going forward.

All councils will have to revise their current Methodology (Project Selection & Programming Procedures) to adhere to the new STP Allocation/Programming Agreement.

CMAP anticipates releasing the Regional Call for STP Projects every 2-3 years, with the first one in FY 2019 for FFY 2020-TBD. Then each council could release their own Call for STP Projects in FY 2020 for FFY 2021-TBD.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

1. A special Council of Mayors Executive Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 12, 2017, at 9:30 am at CMAP's office.
2. CMAP is targeting approving the STP Allocation/Programming Agreement (between Chicago & councils) at the October 11, 2017, joint CMAP Board and MPO Policy Committee meeting.

ATTACHMENT: MCCOM STP Revision response letter to CMAP - 7/19/2017