



MEMORANDUM

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TO: McHenry County Council of Mayors members

FROM: Cody Sheriff, Planning Liaison

DATE: May 13, 2018

RE: Agenda Item 6.A. – CMAP – STP Project Selection Committee Update

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:

The current status of the changes to the Surface Transportation Program (STP).

BACKGROUND - CMAP SURFACE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM CHANGES:

As part of the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning’s (CMAP) goal to bring its process for allocating Surface Transportation Funds (STP) into alignment with the Federal Highway Administration’s performance-based accreditation standards, CMAP created the STP Project Selection Committee. The committee is responsible for the development of an application review methodology for the newly created regional shared fund, update performance measure criteria for evaluating projects, develop an Active Program Management (APM) system, and developing parameters for providing assistance to disadvantaged communities, including defining eligible communities. Since the Council’s last meeting in March, there have been several meetings with revisions/clarification made to CMAP’s Active Program Management draft proposal and the STP Shared Fund’s project selection criteria. A summary of these changes can be found below.

ACTIVE PROGRAM MANAGEMENT SYSTEM:

On March 28, 2018, the STP Project Selection Committee reviewed CMAP staff’s preliminary active program management system. The proposal consists of four parts: program development, project management, program management, and additional provisions. Program development consists of regular calls (every 2 years), a fiscally constrained five-year program, and a contingency list for ranked projects from regular calls that were not selected or became inactive. Project management consists of training at the discretion of each council, defined local sponsor project roles, quarterly status updates, and defined penalties for inactive projects. Program management consists of further defined obligation deadlines, carryover limitations, redistribution of council unobligated funding at the end of each fiscal year, and active reprogramming. Additional provisions include assistance for disadvantaged communities, and special provisions for carryover projects into the new system. For more information, please see attached CMAP – APM Outline.

STP REGIONAL SHARED FUND:

On May 2, 2018, the STP Project Selection Committee met to discuss CMAP staffs' draft proposal for the newly created regional shared fund. Several changes added since the first proposal in February include an open call during the first year in January 2019 to include all focus area project types. Additionally, CMAP staff added road expansions as an eligible project type and replaced transit station reconstruction with transit station condition improvements. The following is a list of the revised eligible project types:

- Road reconstructions
- Transit station condition improvements
- Bridge replacement, reconstructions, and rehabilitation
- Highway/rail grade crossing improvements
- Road expansions
- Bus speed improvements
- Corridor-level or small area safety improvements
- Truck route improvements

Additionally, CMAP staff provided project evaluation criteria on a 100 points scale:

- Project readiness (25 points),
- Transportation impact (50 points),
- Regional priorities (25 points), and
- Bonus council support

Please see attached CMAP Regional Shared Fund outline for more information.

MCCOM – STP REGIONAL FUND PROJECT SELECTION COMMITTEE:

On May 3, 2018, MCCOM's STP Regional Fund Subcommittee met to discuss potential regional projects and how CMAP's STP Shared Regional Fund project selection criteria will impact them. Several concerns were addressed by the committee: how McHenry County regional projects will compete with larger counties with significantly higher average daily traffic, the threshold for higher need communities to receive phase 1 engineering, and how approximately half the evaluation criteria require the use of CMAP's traffic models. The committee recommended several items for CMAP to consider when editing their draft proposal:

- 1) to fund phase I engineering through the shard fund by creating a needs-based sliding scale for communities;
- 2) to designate a maximum amount of STP Regional Shared Fund awarded to any one Council or to the City of Chicago;
- 3) to reduce the points given to projects in the densest areas of the region;
- 4) to broaden the transit station condition improvement focus area to allow for additional transit projects to be eligible for funding.

Staff is in the process of drafting a letter outlining these concerns.

RECOMMENDATION:

Discussion.

ATTACHMENTS:

- CMAP STP APM Outline
- CMAP STP Regional Shared Fund Outline
- FY 2018-2022 CMAQ/TAP Phase I Engineering Hardship Communities
- CMAP STP Project Selection Committee Timeline