

DRAFT SUMMARY

2022 Regional Project Evaluation Criteria For PSRC's FHWA Funds

Guidance language pending

The scoring framework is updated to address the safety and equity stand-alone criteria, and to align all three project categories so the Policy Criteria sections and point values are consistent. *Note: point values are draft and may be adjusted slightly with final refinements.*

	Points	
	STP	CMAQ
Part 1: Policy Criteria (Category Specific Questions)	75	45
Category A: Designated Regional Growth Centers		
<i>Development of Regional Growth Center Development</i>	<i>30-30</i>	<i>16-15</i>
<i>Benefit to the Regional Growth Center</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>Equity</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Safety and Security</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Circulation, Mobility and Accessibility within the Regional Growth Center</i>	<i>25-27</i>	<i>17-14</i>
Category B: Manufacturing / Industrial Centers		
<i>Development of Manufacturing / Industrial Center and User Benefit</i>	<i>40-30</i>	<i>25-15</i>
<i>Equity</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Safety and Security</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Circulation, Mobility and Accessibility Benefit</i>	<i>35-27</i>	<i>20-14</i>
Category C: Corridors Serving Centers		
<i>Benefit to Development of Regional Growth or Manufacturing / Industrial Center</i>	<i>40-30</i>	<i>25-15</i>
<i>Equity</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Safety and Security</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Circulation, Mobility and Accessibility System Continuity/Long-Term Benefit and Sustainability</i>	<i>35-27</i>	<i>20-14</i>
Part 2: Technical Criteria for all Projects		
<i>D: Air Quality/ Climate Change</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>50</i>
<i>E: Project Readiness/Financial Plan</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>5</i>
TOTAL	100	100

Part 1: Category Specific Questions

A. DESIGNATED REGIONAL GROWTH CENTERS = 75 POINTS STP, 45 POINTS CMAQ

A1. **Development of Regional Growth Center Development = 30 Points STP, 16 15 Points CMAQ**

- Describe how the project will support the existing and planned housing/employment densities in the regional growth center.
- Describe how the project will support the development/redevelopment plans and activities (objectives and aims) of the center.
- Describe how the project will support the establishment of new jobs/businesses or the retention of existing jobs/businesses including those in the industry clusters identified in the adopted regional economic strategy.
- Describe how the project will benefit a variety of user groups, including commuters, residents, and/or commercial users. *(moved from former A2)*

~~A2. Benefit to the Regional Growth Center = 20 Points STP, 12 Points CMAQ~~

- ~~• Describe how the project remedies a current or anticipated problem (e.g. congestion, incomplete sidewalk system, inadequate transit service/facilities, modal conflicts and/or the preservation of essential freight movement). *(moved to A4)*~~
- ~~• Describe how the project will benefit a variety of user groups, including commuters, residents, and/or commercial users. *(moved to A1)*~~
- ~~• Describe how the project will benefit minority and low-income populations as identified in the President's Order for Environmental Justice, seniors, people with disabilities, populations located in highly impacted communities, and/or areas experiencing high levels of unemployment or chronic underemployment. *(moved to new A2)*~~

A2. Equity = 10 Points STP, 10 Points CMAQ

Section 1. Addressing population groups, benefits and disparities (7 points)

- Identify the population groups to be served by the project.
 - i.e., people of color, people with low-income, older adults, people with disabilities, youth, people with Limited English Proficiency, populations located in highly impacted communities, areas experiencing high levels of unemployment or chronic underemployment, immigrants and refugees, and transit dependent populations
- Identify the disparities or gaps in the transportation system / services for these populations that need to be addressed.
- Describe how the project is addressing those disparities or gaps and providing a benefit to the population groups identified under Step 1

Section 2. Addressing outreach (2 points)

- Describe the public outreach process that led to the development of the project. This could be at a broader planning level (comprehensive plan, corridor plan, etc.) or for the specific project. Include specific outreach or communication with the population groups identified in the previous section.
- Describe how this outreach influenced the development of the project, e.g., the location, scope, design, timing, etc.

Section 3. Addressing displacement (1 point)

- Identify whether or not the project is in an area of medium to high displacement risk, and if so, describe the broader mitigation strategies the jurisdiction may have in place to address those risks.

A3. Safety and Security = 8 Points STP, 6 Points CMAQ

- Describe how the project addresses safety and security. *(4 / 2 points)*
- Describe how the project helps protect vulnerable users of the transportation system, by improving pedestrian safety and addressing existing risks or conditions for pedestrian injuries and fatalities and/or adding or improving facilities for pedestrian and bicycle safety and comfort. *(2 points)*
- Describe how the project reduces reliance on enforcement and/or designs for decreased speeds. *(1 point)*
- Does your agency have an adopted safety policy (e.g., Vision Zero, Target Zero, etc.)? How did these policies inform the development of the project? *(1 point)*

~~A3~~A4. Circulation, Mobility and Accessibility Within the Regional Growth Center = 25 ~~17~~ 27 Points STP, 17 ~~14~~ 14 Points CMAQ

- Describe how the project provides access to major destinations within the center, such as completing a physical gap, providing an essential link in the transportation network for people and/or goods, or providing a range of travel modes or a missing mode.
- Describe how the project will improve circulation within the center and enhance opportunities for active transportation that can provide public health benefits through the following relevant areas: walkability, public transit access, public transit speed and reliability, bicycle mobility, bicycle facilities, streetscape improvements, traffic calming, etc.
- ~~Describe how the project addresses safety and security.~~ *(moved to new A3)*
- Describe how the project remedies a current or anticipated problem (e.g. congestion, incomplete sidewalk system, inadequate transit service/facilities, modal conflicts and/or the preservation of essential freight movement). *(moved from former A2)*
- If the project has a parking component, describe how it has been designed to be compatible with a pedestrian oriented environment, including any innovative parking management tools.

B. MANUFACTURING/INDUSTRIAL CENTERS = 75 POINTS STP, 45 POINTS CMAQ

B1. Development and User Benefit – 40 30 Points STP, 25 15 Points CMAQ

- Describe how the project will benefit or support the development plans and activities of the manufacturing/industrial center.
- Describe how the project will support the establishment of new jobs/businesses or the retention of existing jobs/businesses, including those in the industry clusters identified in the adopted regional economic strategy.
- Describe how the project will support the existing and planned employment densities in the manufacturing/industrial center. *(added for consistency to other categories)*
- Describe how the project will benefit a variety of user groups, including commuters, residents, and/or commercial users.
- ~~Describe how the project will benefit minority and low-income populations identified in the President's Order for Environmental Justice, seniors, people with disabilities, populations located in highly impacted communities, and/or areas experiencing high levels of unemployment or chronic underemployment.~~ *(moved to new B2)*

B2. Equity = 10 Points STP, 10 Points CMAQ

Section 1. Addressing population groups, benefits and disparities (7 points)

- Identify the population groups to be served by the project.
 - i.e., people of color, people with low-income, older adults, people with disabilities, youth, people with Limited English Proficiency, populations located in highly impacted communities, areas experiencing high levels of unemployment or chronic underemployment, immigrants and refugees, and transit dependent populations
- Identify the disparities or gaps in the transportation system / services for these populations that need to be addressed.
- Describe how the project is addressing those disparities or gaps and providing a benefit to the population groups identified under Step 1

Section 2. Addressing outreach (2 points)

- Describe the public outreach process that led to the development of the project. This could be at a broader planning level (comprehensive plan, corridor plan, etc.) or for the specific project. Include specific outreach or communication with the population groups identified in the previous section.
- Describe how this outreach influenced the development of the project, e.g., the location, scope, design, timing, etc.

Section 3. Addressing displacement (1 point)

- Identify whether or not the project is in an area of medium to high displacement risk, and if so, describe the broader mitigation strategies the jurisdiction may have in place to address those risks.

B3. Safety and Security = 8 Points STP, 6 Points CMAQ

- Describe how the project addresses safety and security. (4 / 2 points)
- Describe how the project helps protect vulnerable users of the transportation system, by improving pedestrian safety and addressing existing risks or conditions for pedestrian injuries and fatalities and/or adding or improving facilities for pedestrian and bicycle safety and comfort. (2 points)
- Describe how the project reduces reliance on enforcement and/or designs for decreased speeds. (1 point)
- Does your agency have an adopted safety policy (e.g., Vision Zero, Target Zero, etc.)? How did these policies inform the development of the project? (1 point)

~~B2~~B4. Circulation, Mobility and Accessibility Benefits – ~~35~~27 Points STP, ~~20~~ 14 Points CMAQ

- Describe how the project provides and/or enhances opportunities for freight movement.
- Describe how the project completes a physical gap, provides an essential link, or removes a barrier in the freight and goods system.
- ~~Describe how the project addresses safety and security. (moved to new B3)~~
- Describe how the project improves access for one or more modes to major employment sites.
- Describe how the project provides opportunities for active transportation that can lead to public health benefits.
- Describe how the project promotes Commute Trip Reduction (CTR) and other TDM opportunities.

C. CORRIDORS SERVING CENTERS = 75 POINTS STP, 45 POINTS CMAQ

C1. Benefit to Regional Growth or Manufacturing/Industrial Center = ~~40~~ 30 Points STP, ~~25~~ 15 Points CMAQ

- Describe how this project will benefit or support the housing and employment development in a regional growth center(s) and/or employment growth in a manufacturing/industrial center(s). Does it support multiple centers?
- Describe how the project will support the development/redevelopment plans and activities (objectives and aims) of the center. (added for consistency to other categories)
- ~~Describe how the project provides or benefits a range of travel modes to users traveling to/from centers, or if it provides a missing mode. (moved to C4)~~
- Describe how the project will benefit a variety of user groups, including commuters, residents, and/or commercial users.
- ~~Describe how the project will benefit minority and low income populations identified in the President's Order for Environmental Justice, seniors, people with disabilities, populations located in highly impacted communities, and/or areas experiencing high levels of unemployment or chronic underemployment. (moved to new C2)~~

- Describe how the project will support the establishment of new jobs/businesses or the retention of existing jobs/businesses including those in the industry clusters identified in the adopted regional economic strategy.

C2. Equity = 10 Points STP, 10 Points CMAQ

Section 1. Addressing population groups, benefits and disparities (7 points)

- Identify the population groups to be served by the project.
 - i.e., people of color, people with low-income, older adults, people with disabilities, youth, people with Limited English Proficiency, populations located in highly impacted communities, areas experiencing high levels of unemployment or chronic underemployment, immigrants and refugees, and transit dependent populations
- Identify the disparities or gaps in the transportation system / services for these populations that need to be addressed.
- Describe how the project is addressing those disparities or gaps and providing a benefit to the population groups identified under Step 1

Section 2. Addressing outreach (2 points)

- Describe the public outreach process that led to the development of the project. This could be at a broader planning level (comprehensive plan, corridor plan, etc.) or for the specific project. Include specific outreach or communication with the population groups identified in the previous section.
- Describe how this outreach influenced the development of the project, e.g., the location, scope, design, timing, etc.

Section 3. Addressing displacement (1 point)

- Identify whether or not the project is in an area of medium to high displacement risk, and if so, describe the broader mitigation strategies the jurisdiction may have in place to address those risks.

C3. Safety and Security = 8 Points STP, 6 Points CMAQ

- Describe how the project addresses safety and security. *(4 / 2 points)*
- Describe how the project helps protect vulnerable users of the transportation system, by improving pedestrian safety and addressing existing risks or conditions for pedestrian injuries and fatalities and/or adding or improving facilities for pedestrian and bicycle safety and comfort. *(2 points)*
- Describe how the project reduces reliance on enforcement and/or designs for decreased speeds. *(1 point)*
- Does your agency have an adopted safety policy (e.g., Vision Zero, Target Zero, etc.)? How did these policies inform the development of the project? *(1 point)*

C2C4. Circulation, Mobility and Accessibility System Continuity/Long-Term Benefit and Sustainability = 35 27 Points STP, 20 14 Points CMAQ

- Describe how this project supports a long-term strategy to maximize the efficiency of the corridor, including TDM activities and ITS improvements that use advanced technologies or innovative approaches to improve traffic flow. Describe the problem and how this project will remedy it.
- Describe how this project provides a “logical segment” that links to a regional growth or manufacturing/industrial center.
- Describe how the project fills in a missing link or removes barriers to/from a center.
- Describe how this project will relieve pressure or remove a bottleneck on the regional transportation system and how this will positively impact overall system performance.
- ~~Describe how this project addresses safety and security.~~ (moved to new C3)
- Describe how the project provides opportunities for active transportation that can lead to public health benefits.

Part 2: Questions for All Projects

D. AIR QUALITY / CLIMATE CHANGE = 20 POINTS STP, 50 POINTS CMAQ

- Describe how the project will reduce emissions, particularly of diesel particulates, through one or more of the following:
 - Eliminating vehicle trips;
 - Inducing a mode shift away from single occupant vehicles (SOVs);
 - Reducing vehicle miles traveled (VMT);
 - Improving traffic flow (e.g., through signal coordination or by removing a bottleneck);
 - Converting to cleaner fuels, equipment, fuel systems and/or vehicles.
- For CMAQ projects only: What is the anticipated useful life of the project?
- **For CMAQ projects only: Is the project located in an area identified as a 7 of 10 for diesel pollution and disproportionate impacts in the Washington Environmental Health Disparities map? (10 points)**

E. PROJECT READINESS/FINANCIAL PLAN = 5 POINTS

- When will the sponsor complete all prerequisites needed to obligate the project’s requested regional funds?
- How reasonable is the financial plan for the requested phase(s)? Describe the funds already secured for the project, anticipated and reasonably expected to be secured, or unsecured at the time of the application.

Project sponsors will be asked to supply a full financial budget and project schedule in the application. Depending on the type and scale of the project, information should be provided on

the following project milestones: environmental documentation, permits, right of way approvals, percent design completed, contract dates, etc.

F. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS (NO POINTS)

Project sponsors have the opportunity to describe additional aspects of the project that are not addressed in the evaluation criteria that could be relevant to the final recommendation and decision-making process. Per Board direction, this includes information on innovative project elements or procedures, and the process by which jurisdictions determine the benefits of projects. A report will be provided to the Board for future consideration of these topics.

- Describe any additional aspects of your project not requested in the evaluation criteria that could be relevant to the final project recommendation and decision-making process.
- Describe any innovative components included in your project: these could include design elements, cost saving measures, or other innovations.
- Describe the process that your agency uses to determine the benefits of projects; this could include formal cost-benefit analysis, practical design, or some other process by which the benefits of projects are determined.
- Describe the jurisdiction's Apprenticeship Utilization Program / Ordinance in place for projects over \$1 million with at least 15% Apprenticeship Utilization or programs that prioritize the use of local hire and the diversification of the workforce.