

Regional Project Evaluation Committee

September 27, 2024



Puget Sound Regional Council



We are leaders in the region to realize equity for all. Diversity, racial equity and inclusion are integrated into how we carry out all our work.

psrc.org/equity

Board-Directed Policy Topics

Two topics deferred by the board in January adoption of the *Policy Framework for PSRC's Federal Funds*

1. Potential limit or restriction to funding projects that would increase general purpose lane capacity
2. Potential application of a score threshold for funding eligibility



Board-Directed Policy Topics

- In 2023 policy framework review, RPEC
 - Recommended updates in four policy areas
 - Did not forward a recommendation on these two topics
- In the January 2024 policy framework update, the Board
 - Adopted the four RPEC-recommended updates
 - Did not adopt policy update related to these two topics
 - But, directed staff to compile/evaluate data to support more detailed discussion later this year



Plan Moving Forward

- Introduced discussion at July RPEC meeting
- In-depth discussion at September meeting – we are here!
- Additional discussion at countywide meetings, if desired
- RPEC action at October meeting
 - *Objective is RPEC recommendations or considerations to bring to help inform board discussion and determinations*
- Bring to boards later this year



Questions for Today

For each topic...

- Comments / reactions to data presented today?
- Preliminary thoughts/opinions on the RPEC recommendation?
 - ✓ If in favor of a policy change, what is the basis? What are the options?
 - ✓ If not in favor of a policy change, what is the basis?



Scoring Threshold Discussion

For each forum/year, determined mean and standard deviation (measure of spread)

- Accounts for scoring variation between forums and competitions
- Score lower than one standard deviation below mean (abbreviated as -1δ) noted as lower scoring project



Scoring Threshold Discussion

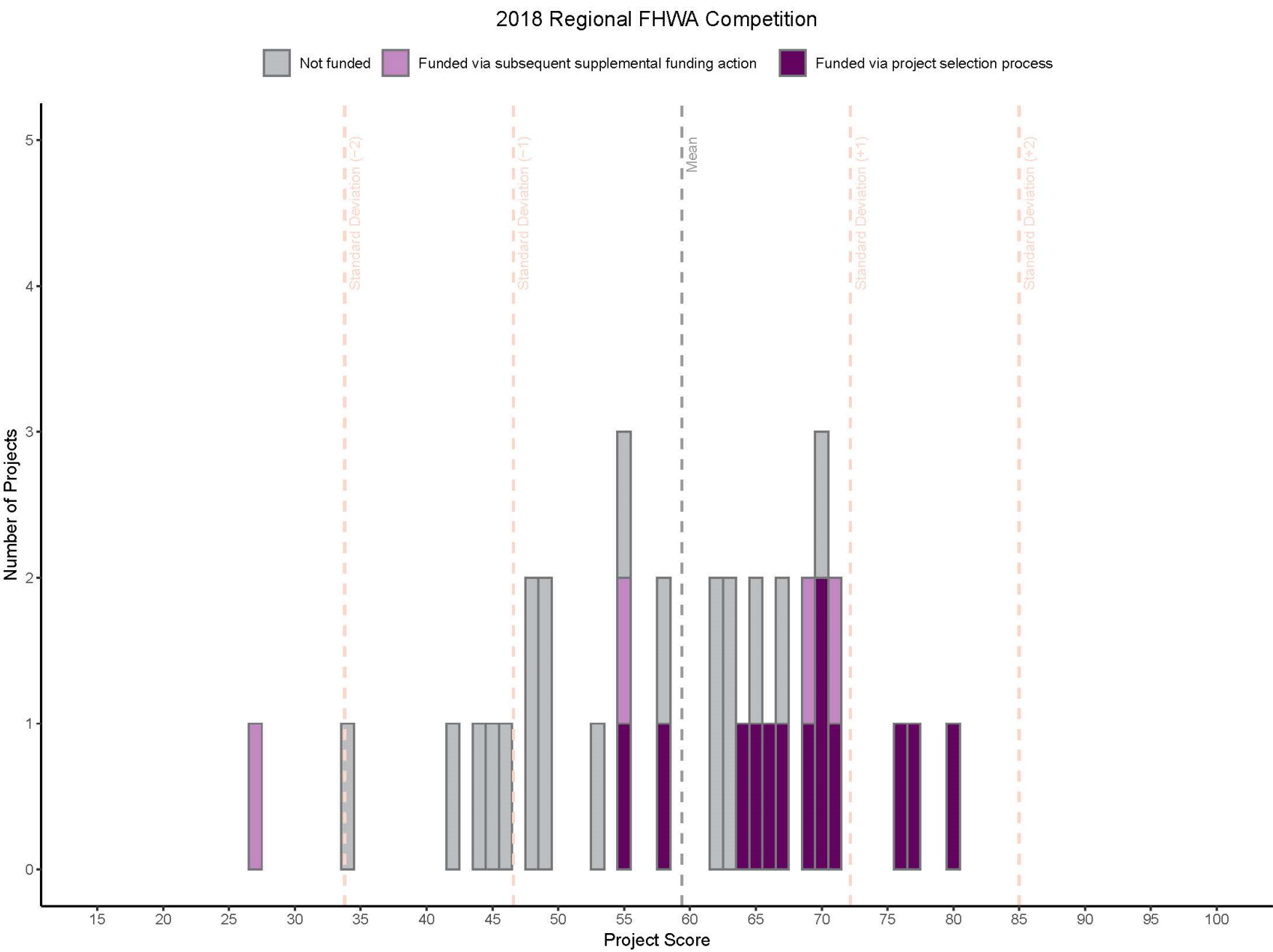
Additional information incorporated...

- Disaggregated by forum, year of competition (in agenda packet)
- Coordinated with Kitsap TransTAC to translate the high/medium/low approach into a numerical score, normalized to a 100-point scale
- Provided additional detail about funded projects with score one or more standard deviation below the mean



EXAMPLE

Summary provided in agenda packet for each of 5 forums and 3 funding biennia (2018, 2020, 2022)

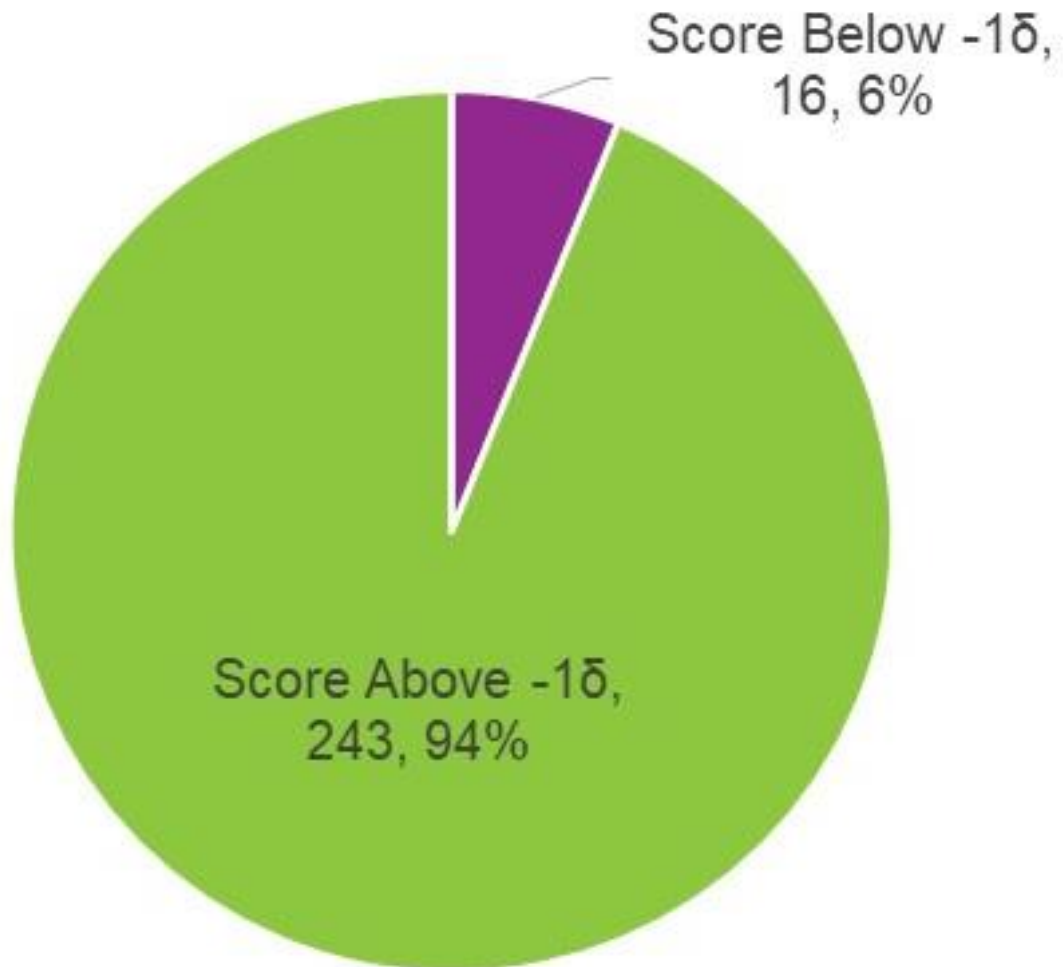


Funded project(s) below one or more standard deviations from mean:
(27) Supplemental Funding – Everett I-5 & US 2 Interchange Justification Planning Study (PLN)

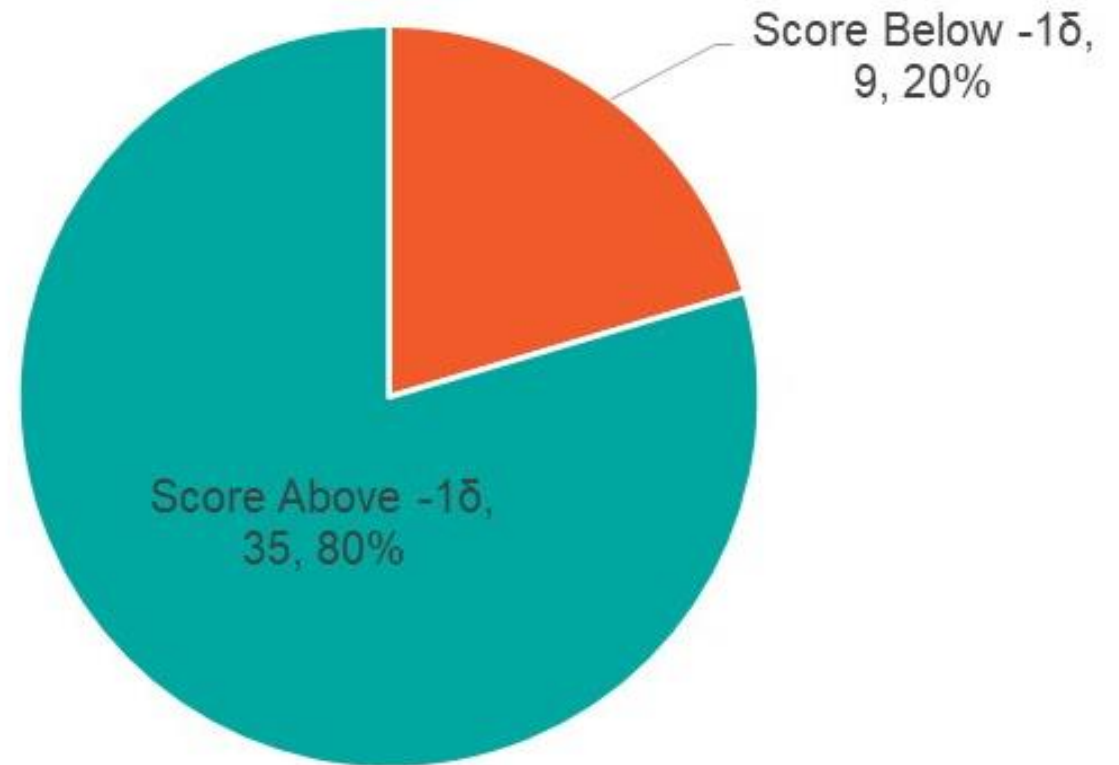


Proportion of Funded Projects with Lower Scores (2018-2023)

Of 259 projects awarded in Project Selection...



Of 44 projects awarded supplemental funding (immediately ready to go)...

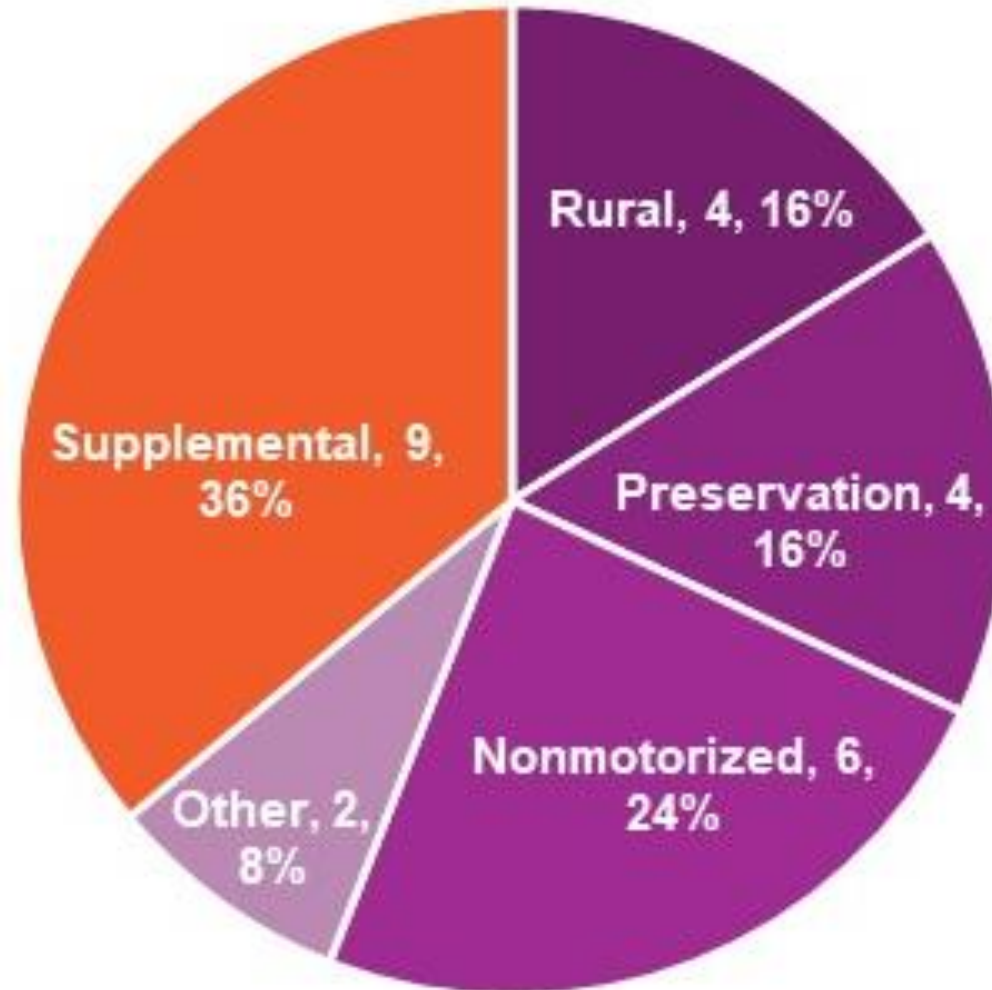


-1σ = 1 std deviation below mean



Funding Program of Projects with Lower Scores

Of the 25 lower scoring projects that received funding, 2018 through 2023...



*Note, both "Other" projects were funded in King Countywide's "Small Cities" program



Reactions to Scoring / Threshold Data

- Comments / reactions to the scoring distribution data?
- Preliminary thoughts/opinions on the RPEC recommendation?
 - ✓ If in favor of a policy change, what is the basis? What are the options?
 - ✓ If not in favor of a policy change, what is the basis?



General Purpose Lane Capacity – Background

In board discussion leading to 2024 policy framework...

- There was acknowledgement that projects adding lane capacity, in general, are aligned with PSRC criteria and are also doing other things
- But also an interest in policy to support projects that most strongly support climate goals
- Considered a limited proposal to restrict funding general capacity additions to limited access highways
 - *Did not recommend, but directed staff to bring back later in year with additional analysis*



General Purpose Lane Threshold Discussion

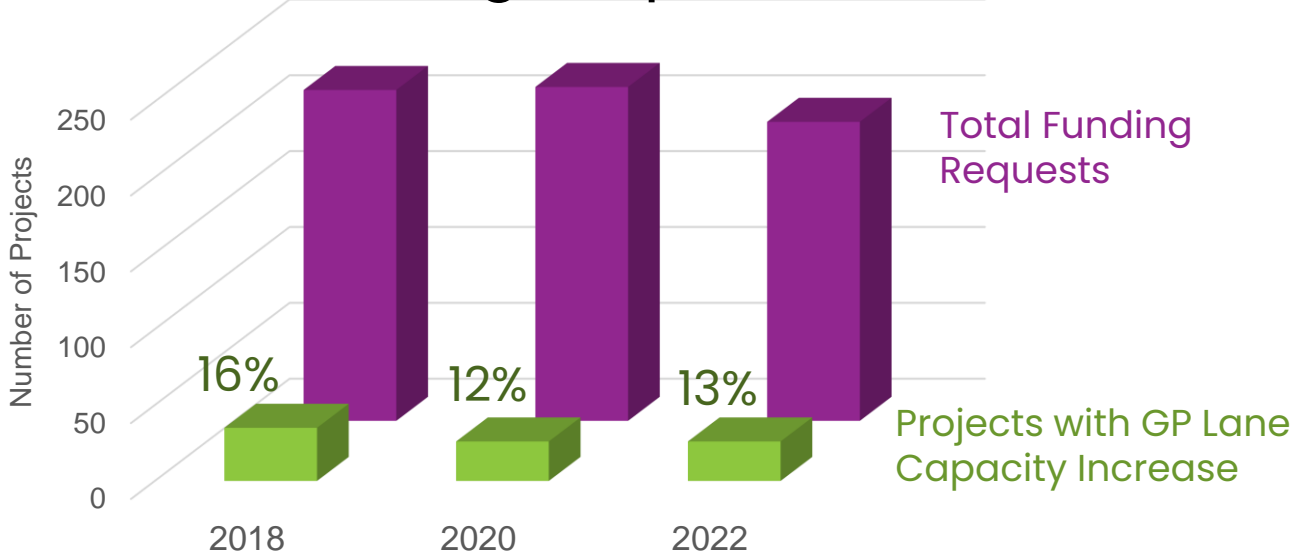
Additional information incorporated...

- Summary by functional classification
- Lane-miles added by funded projects
- Deeper dive into full scope/purpose of funded projects with general purpose lane capacity element



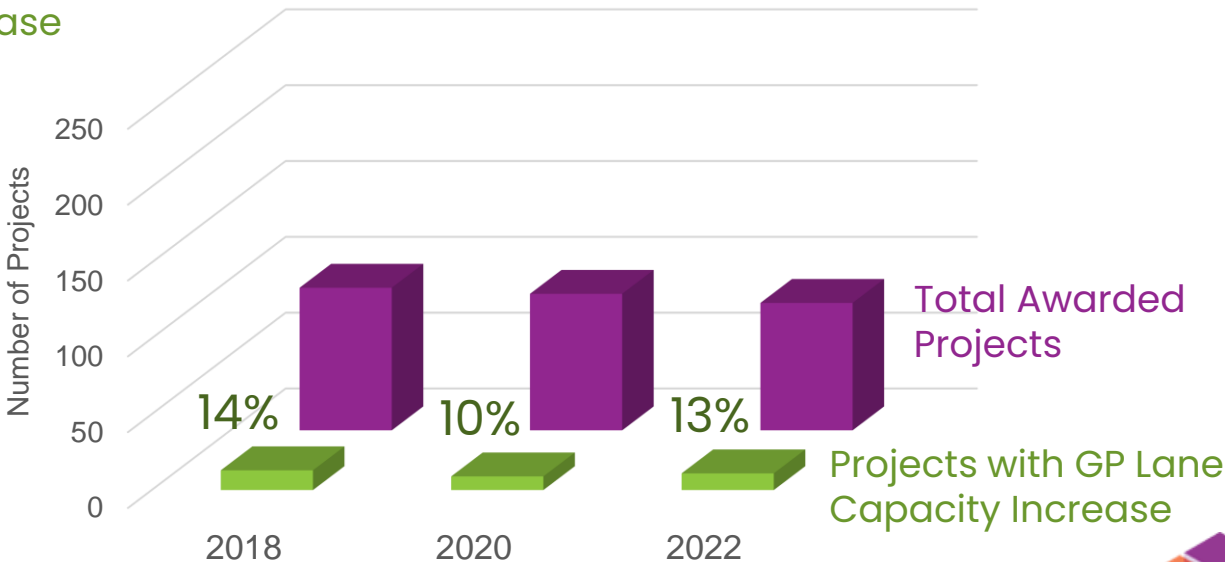
Projects with GP Lane Capacity Component, 2018–2022

Funding Requests...

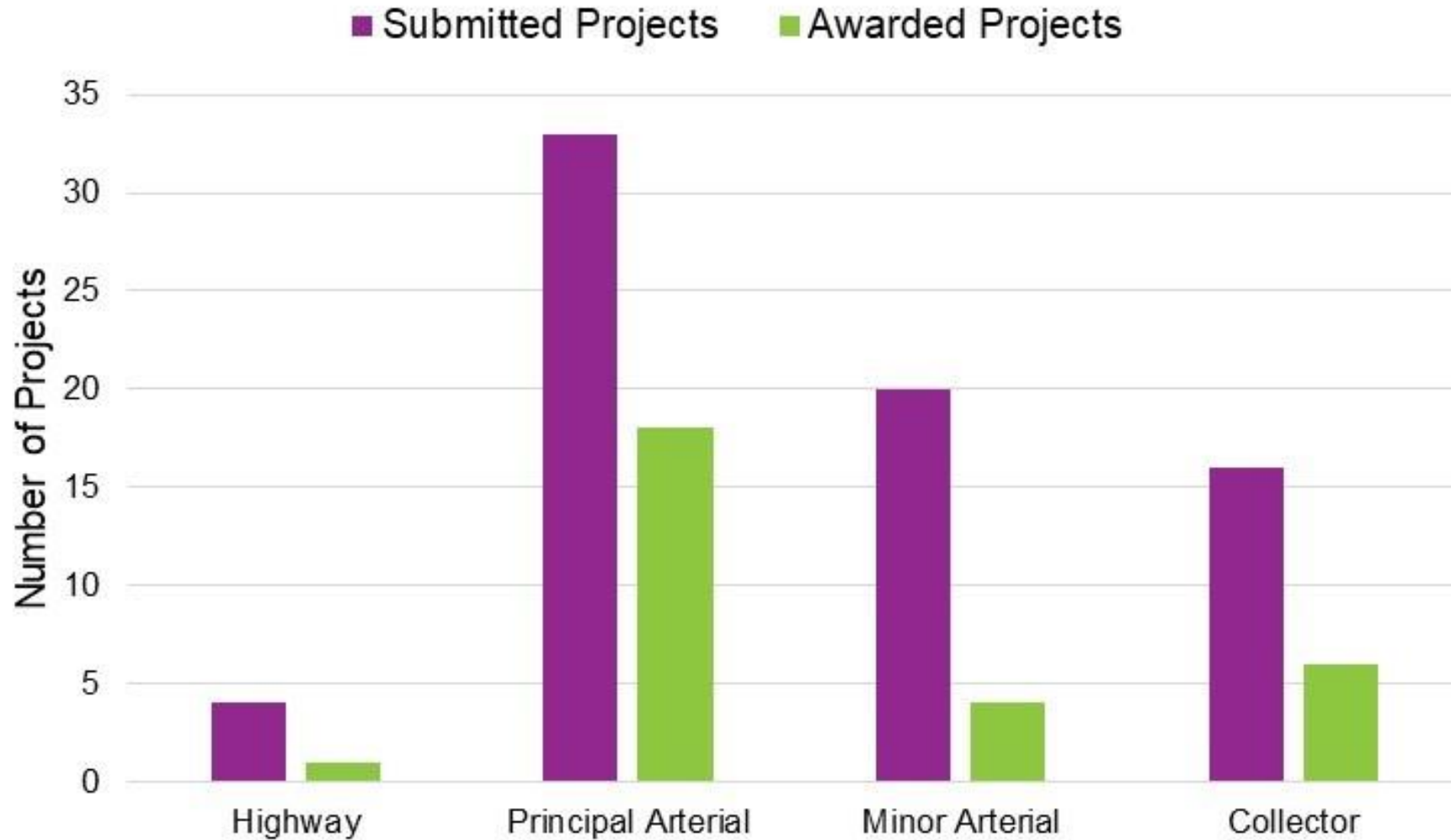


*Of the 29 unique awarded projects, 1 would have been affected by the limited access highway restriction considered by the board.

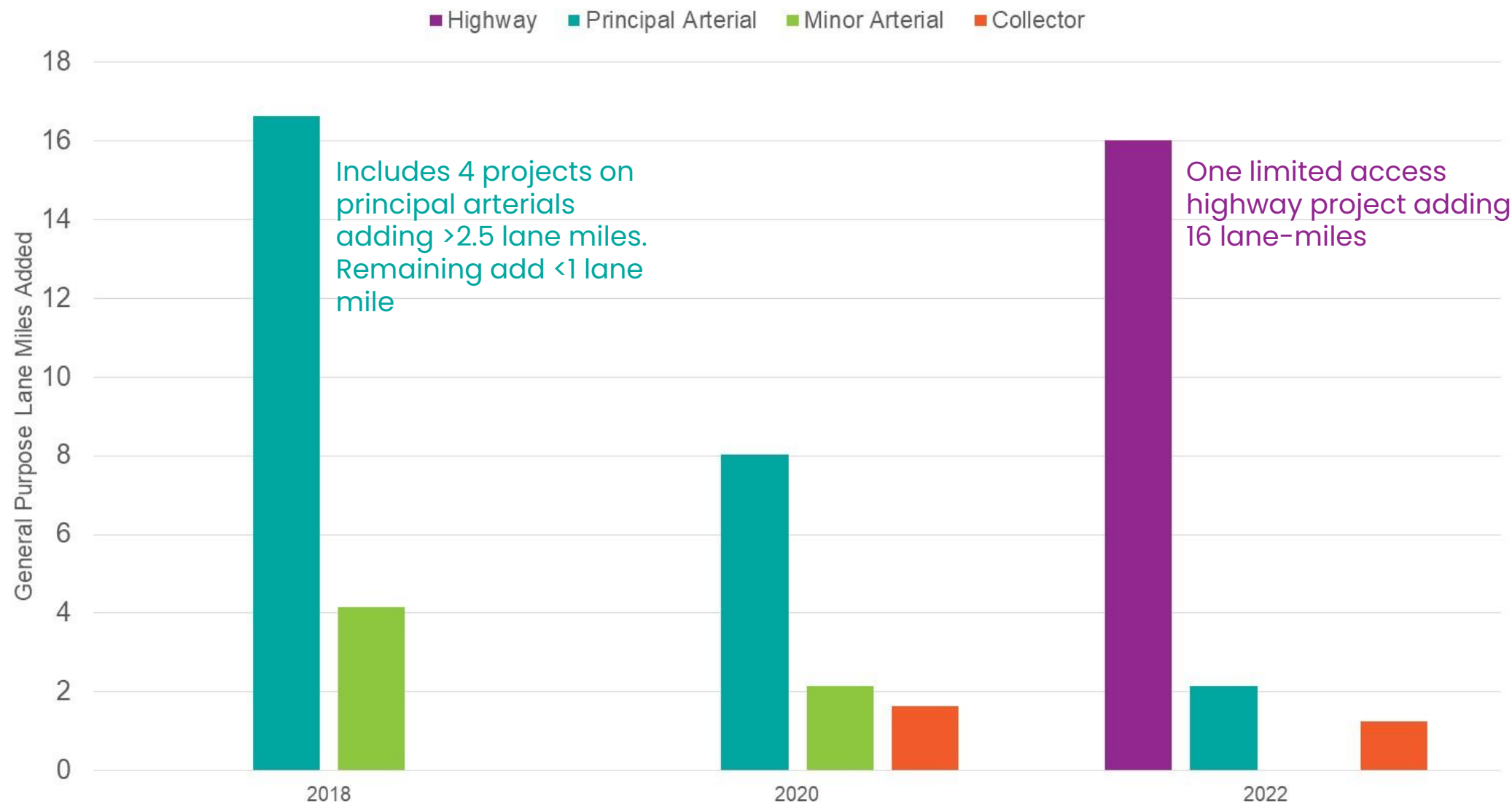
Awarded Projects...



Function Classification Summary



General Purpose Lane-Miles Added

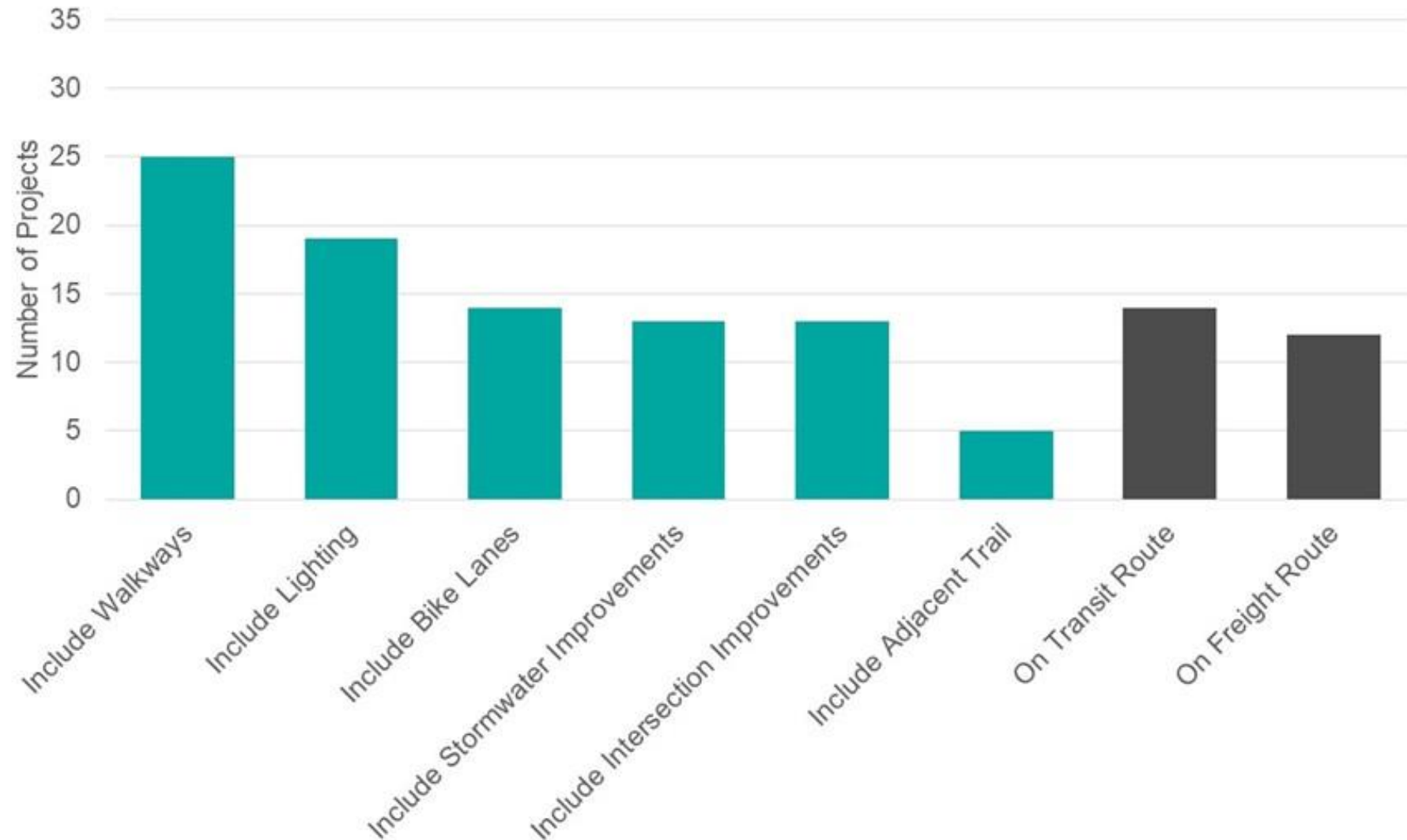


About 52 lane miles added through funded projects, 2018-2022

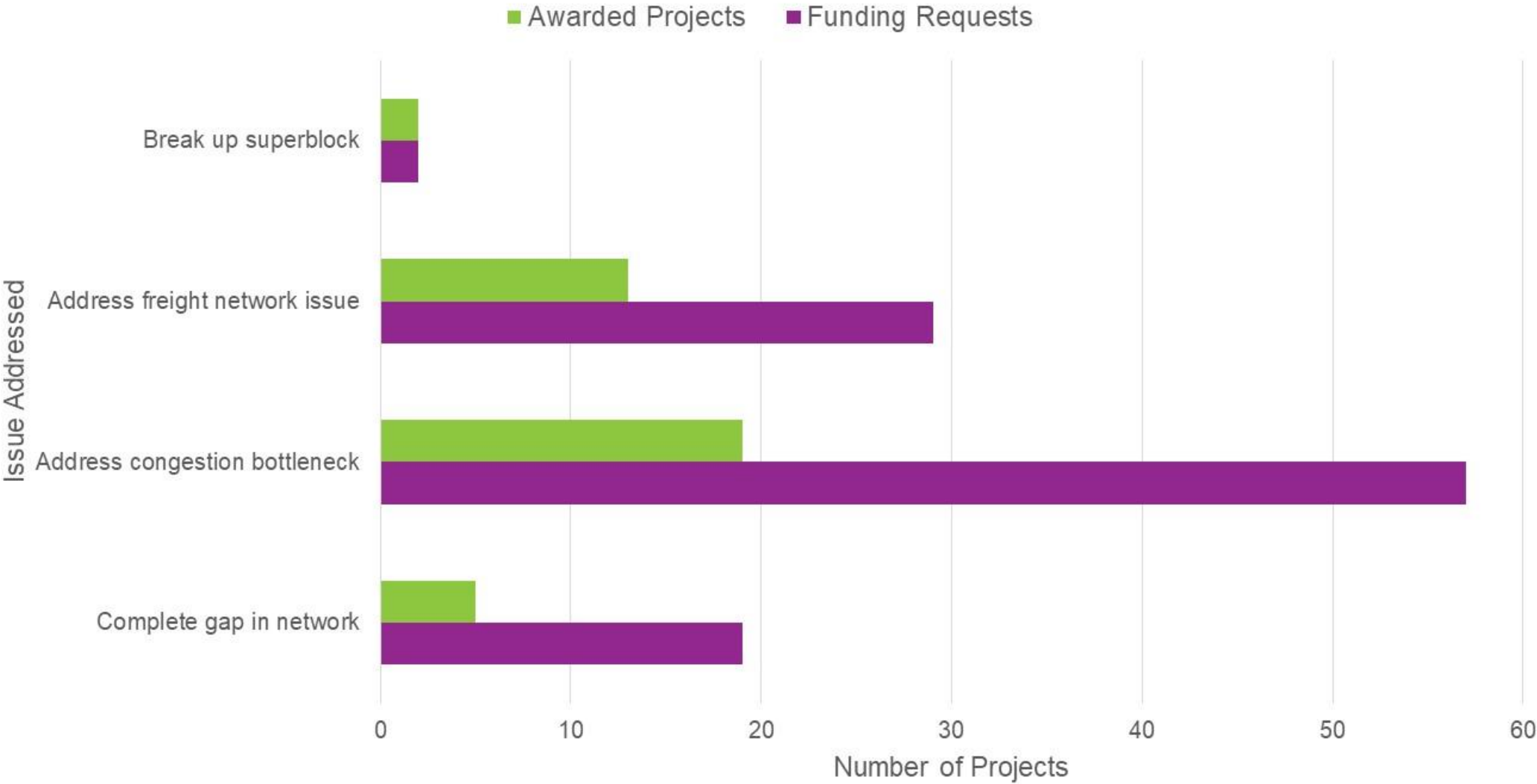


Other Scope Elements of Funded Projects

Of 31 funded projects with GP lane capacity element, scope also includes...



Issues Addressed by GP Lane Component



Data by Forum and Year (2018–2022)

Summary by year and by forum provided in supplemental handout

- Shows scoring distribution of projects with GP lane capacity element as compared to the projects overall
- In general, funded projects with GP lane capacity element have received comparable scores to funded projects overall
 - Projects that have received awards generally have aligned with evaluation criteria overall



Reactions to General Purpose Lane Capacity Data

- Comments / reactions to the general-purpose lane capacity project data?
- Preliminary thoughts/opinions on the RPEC recommendation?
 - ✓ If in favor of a policy change, what is the basis? What are the options?
 - ✓ If not in favor of a policy change, what is the basis?

