2020 Project Selection
Policy Framework Topics

Regional Project Evaluation Committee
October 25, 2019
Today’s Agenda

- October Project Selection Task Force summary
- Discussion on Policy Framework key topics:
  - Streamlining proposals, number of regional applications
  - Regional funding limits / caps
  - Project tracking proposals
  - PSRC funding
  - Criteria
  - Other administrative items
Project Selection Task Force

October Task Force summary of recommendations / discussion:

- VISION 2040 as policy basis
- Preservation, bicycle/pedestrian, Kitsap set-asides retained

November Task Force:

- Continued RTCC discussion
- Administrative elements – regional vs. countywide splits, funding limits, etc.
- Criteria
- Project tracking
- PSRC funds
Regional Applications and Streamlining Proposals

• Option A: Status Quo
  • 36 regional applications, 60% CMAQ, 40% STP

• Option B: Regional CMAQ proposal
  • All CMAQ to the regional competition *(refer to Attachment 6, page 19)*

• Option C: unlimited # of regional applications
  • *Refer to Attachment 6, page 19*

**DISCUSSION**

Is there consensus on Options A, B or C?
Funding Limits

- Funding limits / caps:
  - Refer to Attachment 2, pages 11-12: data on minimum, average and maximum awards; data on various options

- Reminders:
  - No direct correlation between size of award and delivery
  - Larger projects can help with delivery, or delay of larger projects can harm delivery

DISCUSSION

Is there consensus for feedback to the Project Selection Task Force?
Project Tracking Proposal

• Proposal for process improvements (*refer to pages 20-22*):
  • Changes to obligation deadline extensions
    • No longer automatically granted – identification of reasons *not* allowed
    • Earlier date for requesting extensions
  • Two tiered process for approving extensions
    • First deadline = July 15th, for projects needing only a short extension after the June 1st deadline
    • Second deadline = no more than one additional year (to June 1 of following year), for projects needing more time; requires PSRC Board approval
  • Enhanced education and monitoring
Project Tracking Proposal

• Extensions would *not* be granted for the following reasons:
  
  • Shifting agency priorities, insufficient funding, lack of CA sponsor, and/or work was not begun in a reasonable time
  
  • At a minimum, if preliminary requirements not begun six months prior to June 1 obligation date, no extension would be granted
  
  • *E.g.*, construction phase due June 1 but preliminary engineering phase not begun prior to December 1 of the previous year

**DISCUSSION**

*Is there consensus for feedback to the Project Selection Task Force?*
Project Tracking – Additional Proposal

- Work with WSDOT on implementing a “first come / first served” process within the first two years of the TIP
  - Would allow any project in the first two years of the TIP to obligate at will
  - Would still hold Year 1 projects to June 1\textsuperscript{st} deadline
    - May impact a Year 1 project by having to use Advance Construction, if Year 2 projects utilize available funding

DISCUSSION

\textit{Is there consensus for feedback to the Project Selection Task Force?}
Project Tracking – Hardship Proposal

- Board requested staff prepare a “hardship” proposal for incorporation into the project tracking policies
  - Intent was to limit special exceptions needing to be addressed
- Staff conducted analysis and prepared a modest revision (*refer to pages 23-24*)
  - Existing exceptions parameters in policies seem adequate
  - Propose adding a clause for requests for emergency / additional funding that ties these requests to current contingency or supplemental funding actions

**DISCUSSION**

*Is there consensus for feedback to the Project Selection Task Force?*
PSRC Funding

- FHWA and FTA funds have been used to assist in funding PSRC’s work program since 1993 and 2004, respectively
- Since 2016, the amounts have been approved at $1 million of STP funds and $1.25 million of FTA funds per year
- The Task Force will be reviewing and recommending these amounts for FFY 2023-2024
Criteria

- Specific criteria depending on if the project is located within a Regional Growth Center, Manufacturing / Industrial Center or on a Connecting Corridor

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<td>STP</td>
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<td><strong>Part 1: Policy Criteria (Category Specific Questions)</strong></td>
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<td>Category A: Designated Regional Growth Centers</td>
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<td>Regional Growth Center Development</td>
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<td>Benefit to the Regional Growth Center</td>
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<td>Circulation within the Regional Growth Center</td>
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<td><strong>Category B: Manufacturing / Industrial Centers</strong></td>
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<td>E: Project Readiness / Financial Plan</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
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Criteria

• Main elements addressed =
  • Support for housing/employment densities of the center
  • Support for the development/redevelopment plans for the center
  • Support for the establishment of new jobs/businesses or retention of existing
  • Remedies a current or anticipated problem
  • Benefits a variety of users, including seniors, people with disabilities, people of color, people with low-income, etc.
Criteria

• Accessibility, circulation, mobility
  • completion of gaps
  • provision of essential links
  • provision of a range of modes or a missing mode
  • removal of barriers
  • active transportation

• Safety and security

• Reduction of emissions – focus on fine particulates and greenhouse gas emissions

• Project readiness / feasible financial plan
Criteria

- Guidance materials provided related to:
  - Populations served
  - Areas of opportunity
  - Emissions reduction
  - Financial constraint
  - Basic eligibility requirements

- Task Force discussion in November and December
  - Specific interest in safety, equity and tying to regional outcomes

DISCUSSION