



September 26, 2022

To: Metropolitan Policy Committee
From: Daniel Callister
Subject: Recommended MPO Funding Package for 2023-2027

Action Recommended: Approve Resolution 2022-07 Programming MPO Discretionary Federal Funding

Issue Statement

The Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) received several eligible proposals for use of roughly \$24M of anticipated federal transportation funding through federal fiscal year 2027. Metropolitan Policy Committee (MPC) relies on the Transportation Planning Committee (TPC) to provide a recommendation for how these funds will be used based on those proposals.

Discussion

The MPO’s discretionary federal funds for transportation projects are programmed roughly every three years through a formal project solicitation process. The current solicitation is for up to \$23,741,295 through federal fiscal year 2027. This amount reflects conservative estimates (final amounts are released each year for the current year only) for each of the four federal funding programs regularly provided to the MPO on an annual basis. These programs are:

- Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG)
- Transportation Alternatives Program (TA)
- Carbon Reduction Program (CRP)
- Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ)

Additionally, a special allocation of funding from the federal Highway Infrastructure Program (HIP) is included. The table below summarizes the funding anticipated.

Program	FFY 2022	FFY 2023	FFY 2024	FFY 2025	FFY 2026	FFY 2027	Total
STBG	--	--	--	\$4,171,023	\$4,485,937	\$4,595,973	\$13,252,933
TA	--	--	--	\$251,236	\$249,812	\$248,006	\$749,054
CRP	\$608,208	\$611,271	\$623,497	\$635,967	\$648,686	\$661,659	\$3,789,288
CMAQ	--	--	--	\$776,031	\$1,824,501	\$1,860,991	\$4,461,523
HIP	--	\$1,488,497	--	--	--	--	\$1,488,497
Total	\$608,208	\$2,099,768	\$623,497	\$5,834,257	\$7,208,936	\$7,366,629	\$23,741,295

Federal amounts only, no match amounts included in these figures

In preparation for the project selection process, on May 5, 2022 MPC approved eight primary funding considerations drawn from the 28 objectives of the recently adopted 2045 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). These priority considerations helped direct applicants in planning which projects to propose. They are:

- Eliminate fatal and serious injury crashes for all modes of travel.
- Preserve and maintain transportation system assets to maximize their useful life and minimize project construction and maintenance costs.
- Eliminate barriers that people of color, low-income people, youth, older adults, people with disabilities and other historically excluded communities face meeting their travel needs.
- Reduce the transportation system's vulnerability to natural disasters and climate change.
- Improve public health by providing safe, comfortable, and convenient transportation options that support active living and physical activity for all ages and abilities to meet daily needs and access services.
- Increase the percentage of trips made using active and low carbon transportation modes while reducing vehicle miles traveled within our region.
- Strive to reduce vehicle-related greenhouse gas emissions and congestion through more sustainable street, bike, pedestrian, transit, and rail network design, location, and management.
- Complete gaps in the regional bicycle and pedestrian networks, including paths.

Proposals for the use of these funds that would satisfy the approved primary funding considerations were submitted to MPO staff in the form of funding applications and were reviewed to confirm eligibility. One-page summaries of these applications are included as Attachment 3. The complete funding applications including the one-page summaries and supplemental items are available on the MPO's website to view and download at this address: <https://www.lcog.org/thempo/page/call-projects>

At their August 18, 2022 meeting, TPC finalized their funding recommendation for MPC to consider. Attachment 2 (Exhibit A) lists each of the funding proposals and includes both the original requested amounts and the amount of federal funding that TPC recommends for each proposal. The recommendation would program \$22,852,460 of federal funding and allow the MPO to retain \$888,835 of the available funds for contingencies.

Arriving at this fiscally constrained funding recommendation required reconciling \$17.8M of requested funds. Attachment 2 identifies (in shaded cells) differences between requested and recommended funding levels for each proposal. This recommendation is a result of detailed review and discussion by the Technical Advisory Subcommittee (TASC) focused around how well each project supports the regional primary funding considerations, the federal performance targets, air quality

conformity, and other considerations. Through these discussions, some applicants elected to modify their proposals to better align with these considerations, competing projects and the limited funding available, and in some cases proposals' scopes were combined.

Public Involvement

While accepting funding applications, the MPO utilized social media to publicize this upcoming opportunity to provide public input on how the MPO should direct spending of federal transportation funding. Once received and reviewed by staff, the complete and summarized applications were made available to the public on the MPO website. An email was sent July 18 to the MPO's interested parties list to inform them of the project selection process that would be taking place and providing instructions on how to participate.

At their public meeting on July 21 TPC heard public comments on this topic and approved releasing their funding recommendation for 30-day public review July 29–August 28 and recommended a public hearing, which took place at the August 4 MPC meeting. TPC finalized their funding recommendation at the August 18 public meeting.

Public comments received through this process are included as Attachment 4.

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Attachments:

- Attachment 1 – Resolution 2022-07
- Attachment 2 – Exhibit A – Funding Recommendation
- Attachment 3 – Compilation of Funding Proposal Summaries
- Attachment 4 – Public Comments