

ACTION TRANSMITTAL No. 2017-34

DATE: November 1, 2017

TO: Transportation Advisory Board

FROM: Technical Advisory Committee

PREPARED BY: Joe Barbeau, Senior Planner (651-602-1705)

SUBJECT: 2018 Regional Solicitation: Funding Category Minimum and Maximum Funding Amounts.

REQUESTED ACTION: Approval of minimum and maximum funding amounts for the 2018 Regional Solicitation.
That TAB approve minimum and maximum funding amounts for the 2018 Regional Solicitation reflective of the 2016 Regional Solicitation with two changes:

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

- an increase of the Travel Demand Management maximum federal award from \$300,000 to \$500,000
- a decrease in the Multiuse Trails and Bicycle Facilities maximum federal award from \$5,500,000 to \$3,500,000.

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE OF ACTION: Shown below are the minimum and maximum federal funding awards used for the 2016 Regional Solicitation. Prior to that Solicitation, TAC recommended reducing the Multiuse Trails and Bicycle Facilities maximum to \$3.5M, which would enable the funding of more projects. The \$5.5M was retained by TAB because some applicants had applied for the maximum of \$5.5M indicating that were project requests of this size. Feedback following the 2016 Solicitation included sentiment to reduce the maximum to \$3.5M to be able to fund more trail projects (only about one-third of the trail applications were funded).

Modal Categories	Application Categories	Minimum Federal Award	Maximum Federal Award
Roadways Including Multimodal Elements	Roadway Expansion	\$1,000,000	\$7,000,000
	Roadway Reconstruction/ Modernization and Spot Mobility	\$1,000,000	\$7,000,000
	Traffic Management Technologies	\$250,000	\$7,000,000
	Bridge Rehabilitation/Replacement	\$1,000,000	\$7,000,000
Transit and TDM Projects	Transit Expansion	\$500,000	\$7,000,000
	Transit Modernization	\$100,000	\$7,000,000
	Travel Demand Management (TDM)	\$75,000	\$300,000 500,000
Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities	Multiuse Trails and Bicycle Facilities	\$250,000	\$5,500,000 3,500,000
	Pedestrian Facilities	\$250,000	\$1,000,000
	Safe Routes to School	\$150,000	\$1,000,000

STAFF ANALYSIS: Staff recommends increasing the maximum federal award for Travel Demand Management (TDM) to \$500,000. In 2016, all TDM applications were funded including applications that only scored 343 and 350 points. In 2015, 11 applications were submitted, with 8 projects funded. The lowest funded project received 569 points. The unfunded projects received 552, 548, and 355 points. Increasing the maximum would create a more competitive solicitation while still enabling at least three projects to be funded through the \$1.2M TDM allotment.

Staff also recommends reducing the maximum federal award for Multiuse Trails and Bicycle Facilities to \$3.5M, which is 80% of just under \$4.4M, an ample amount for most trail bridges, and allows for more projects to be funded in this high-demand category (only 12 of 39 projects were funded last cycle).

RELATIONSHIP TO REGIONAL POLICY: TAB develops and issues a Regional Solicitation for federal funding.

COMMITTEE COMMENTS AND ACTION: At its October 19, 2017, meeting, the Funding & Programming Committee voted unanimously to recommended adoption of the maximum and minimum federal awards as shown in the table.

At its November 1, 2017, meeting, the Technical Advisory Committee voted unanimously to recommended adoption of the maximum and minimum federal awards as shown in the table.

ROUTING		
TO	ACTION REQUESTED	COMPLETION DATE
TAC Funding & Programming Committee	Review & Recommend	10-19-2017
Technical Advisory Committee	Review & Recommend	11-1-2017
Transportation Advisory Board	Review & Adopt	-
Transportation Committee	Review & Recommend	-
Metropolitan Council	Concurrence	-