

ACTION TRANSMITTAL – 2019-63

DATE: December 6, 2019

TO: Transportation Advisory Board

FROM: Technical Advisory Committee

PREPARED BY: Elaine Koutsoukos, TAB Coordinator (651-602-1717)
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SUBJECT: Release of 2020 Regional Solicitation for Transportation Projects

REQUESTED ACTION: Release of the 2020 Regional Solicitation.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Transportation Advisory Board release the 2020 Regional Solicitation for Transportation Projects inclusive of the following changes:

- Addition of the following language: “and certify that they will provide funding, if the service or facility project continues beyond the initial three-year funding period for transit operating funds” to the qualifying criterion that transit applicants must have the capital and operating funds necessary to implement the entire project.
- A \$5.5 million maximum in the Multiuse Trails and Bicycle Facilities category.
- A \$10 million minimum “target” in the Bridge category to replace the \$10 million funding minimum.
- Replace bridge sufficiency rating with National Bridge Inventory Condition rating in the bridge qualifying criterion and the 300-point measure within the Infrastructure Condition criterion of the Bridge application.

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE OF ACTION: The Regional Solicitation for Federal Transportation Projects is part of the Metropolitan Council’s federally required continuing, comprehensive, and cooperative transportation planning process for the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area. The Twin Cities Metropolitan Area selects projects for funding from two federal programs: the Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program and the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) Program. Following completion of the 2018 Regional Solicitation, staff worked with the TAC Funding & Programming Committee, TAC, and TAB on updating measures and scoring guidelines. A draft Solicitation with approved changes was subsequently released for public review. The attached materials include the applications, introduction, forms, and qualifying criteria for the 2020 Regional Solicitation. Approximately \$180 million is expected to be available in this solicitation. Most of the funding

is for fiscal years 2024 and 2025. The exception is for the travel demand management application, which will solicit about \$1.2 million for 2022 and 2023.

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

COMMITTEE COMMENTS AND ACTION: At its November 21, 2019, meeting, the TAC Funding & Programming Committee unanimously recommended release the 2020 Regional Solicitation for Transportation Projects inclusive of the following change: Addition of “and certify that they will provide funding, if the service or facility project continues beyond the initial three-year funding period for transit operating funds” to the qualifying criterion that transit applicants must have the capital and operating funds necessary to implement the entire project.

At its December 4, 2019, meeting, the Technical Advisory Committee unanimously recommended release the 2020 Regional Solicitation for Transportation Projects inclusive of the following changes:

- Addition of “and certify that they will provide funding, if the service or facility project continues beyond the initial three-year funding period for transit operating funds” to the qualifying criterion that transit applicants must have the capital and operating funds necessary to implement the entire project.
- A \$5.5 million maximum in the Multiuse Trails and Bicycle Facilities category.
- A \$10 million minimum “target” in the Bridge category to replace the \$10 million funding minimum.
- Replace bridge sufficiency rating with National Bridge Inventory Condition rating in the bridge qualifying criterion and measure 4.A. of the Bridge application as follows:

1) Edits to Roadway Bridge qualifying criterion #6 (page 33 of Solicitation packet)

The bridge must have a National Bridge Inventory Condition rating of 6 or less for rehabilitation projects and 4 or less for replacement projects. The lowest score can come among Deck, Superstructure, and Substructure will be used as the National Bridge Inventory Condition rating.

2) Replace Bridge Measure 4.A. and scoring guidance (page 152 of Solicitation packet)

4. A. MEASURE: Identify the lowest National Bridge Inventory_condition rating among Deck, Superstructure, and Substructure from the most recent Structure Inventory Report. Attach the report to the application.

RESPONSE:

- Lowest National Bridge Inventory Condition Rating: ____
 - Deck Rating: _____
 - Superstructure Rating: _____
 - Substructure Rating: _____

SCORING GUIDANCE (300 Points)

The lowest National Bridge Inventory (NBI) Condition Rating among Deck, Superstructure, and Substructure will be used as the NBI rating. The ratings will be scored as follows:

- Rating of 3 or lower: 300 points
- Rating of 4: 250 points
- Rating of 5: 150 points
- Rating of 6: 100 points

ROUTING

TO	ACTION REQUESTED	DATE COMPLETED
TAC Funding & Programming Committee	Review & Recommend	11/21/2019
Technical Advisory Committee	Review & Recommend	12/4/2019
Transportation Advisory Board	Review & Approve	
Transportation Advisory Board	Review & Approve	
Transportation Committee	Review & Recommend	
Metropolitan Council	Approve	