

ACTION TRANSMITTAL No. 2019-45

DATE: August 26, 2019

TO: Technical Advisory Committee

FROM: TAC Funding & Programming Committee

PREPARED BY: Joe Barbeau, Senior Planner (651-602-1705)
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SUBJECT: 2020 Regional Solicitation: Guaranteed Funding

REQUESTED ACTION: Decision on whether to continue to fund at least one roadway project in each functional classification and to fund at least one “new market” transit project.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That Technical Advisory Committee recommend to TAB to continue to fund at least one roadway project in each functional classification and to fund at least one “new market” transit project.

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE OF ACTION: Following the 2014 Regional Solicitation, TAC and TAB discussed the difficulty that applications along some roadway classifications, specifically A-minor connectors, had in scoring high enough to be funded. Therefore, for the 2016 Regional Solicitation, a policy was added stating that at least one project from each of the five eligible functional classifications must be funded to ensure that all parts of the system receive investment. This was continued in the 2018 funding cycle. In both Solicitations, the result was that an A-minor connector project was funded despite not being ranked high enough to be funded based on its score. The five eligible roadway classifications include:

- Non-freeway principal arterials
- A-minor augmentors
- A-minor connectors
- A-minor expanders
- A-minor relievers

During the Policy Work Group Process, a bus rapid transit (BRT) program was discussed. Along with this new program would come a **new market guarantee to fund at least on transit project that is outside of market areas 1 and 2 for a least one end of the project.**

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

COMMITTEE COMMENTS AND ACTION: At its August 22, 2019, meeting, the TAC Funding & Programming Committee voted unanimously to recommend continuation of funding at least one roadway project in each classification and the addition of funding at least one “new market” transit project.

Concern was expressed that the definition of “New Market” and the process for arriving at a new market guarantee was not adequately vetted by technical staff.

ROUTING

TO	ACTION REQUESTED	COMPLETION DATE
TAC Funding & Programming Committee	Review & Recommend	8/22/2019
Technical Advisory Committee	Review & Recommend	
Transportation Advisory Board	Review & Adopt	
Transportation Committee	Review & Recommend	
Metropolitan Council	Concurrence	
