

ACTION TRANSMITTAL No. 2019-39

DATE: August 12, 2019

TO: TAC Funding and Programming Committee

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SUBJECT: 2020 Regional Solicitation: Funding Categories

REQUESTED ACTION: Approval of the funding categories for the 2020 Regional Solicitation.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That TAC Funding and Programming recommend to TAC the weighting of the criteria and measures for the 2020 approval of 12 funding categories.

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE OF ACTION: In 2014, the Regional Solicitation was modified to include ten funding categories. While a few names of the categories have changed to better-reflect the Transportation Policy Plan (TPP), these categories were used in the 2014, 2016, and 2018 Regional Solicitations. They are:

- Roadways:
 - Traffic Management Technologies (originally titled Roadway System Management)
 - Strategic Capacity (Originally titled Roadway Expansion)
 - Roadway Reconstruction and Modernization
 - Bridges
- Transit and TDM:
 - Transit Expansion
 - Transit Modernization
 - Travel Demand Management (TDM)
- Bicycle and Pedestrian
 - Multiuse Trails and Bicycle Facilities
 - Pedestrian Facilities
 - Safe Routes to School

Three new funding categories are proposed for 2020. First, under the Roadways category, a new “Spot Mobility & Safety” category is proposed. This would focus on lower-cost intersection projects meant to enhance mobility and safety. Examples of project types include at-grade intersection improvements, turn lanes, roundabouts, and reduced conflict intersections that can serve as cost-effective improvements to regional mobility and tie directly to the TPP.

Second, within the Transit modal category, there is a new Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) program. A proposal will be made to TAB on the project(s) to be funded. Between \$25M and \$28M will be allocated for this program. Along with the BRT program a Transit New Market guarantee was also established to ensure that at least one transit expansion project is funded that serves suburban areas (i.e., Transit Market Areas 3, 4, or 5, Emerging Market Area 2 or 3, or a Freestanding Town Center).

Third, unique projects are proposed as a recognized category with specific funds attached for the first time. Unique projects are defined as projects that do not fit into the established categories. The process of setting aside funding is discussed in item 2019-40.

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

ROUTING

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