

# Next Regional Solicitation Schedule and Issues with 2017 Funds

# Background

- Regional Solicitation Evaluation (RSE) originally scheduled for completion late spring/early summer 2013
- RSE now scheduled for completion Feb. 2014
- Past solicitations required 20-21 months start to finish
- RSE goal is to streamline new process
- Working assumption of 16-18 months for next solicitation process

# Proposed Schedule

- March - Sept. 2014 Solicitation package development
- Late Sept. - early Oct. 2014 Solicitation release
- Mid-late November 2014 project applications due
- December - January 2015 qualifying criteria review; appeals
- February - March 2015 project application scoring
- April 2015 develop funding options/program of projects
- May - June 2015 approve option/project selection
- June 2015 amend current 2015-2018 TIP and/or add projects to draft 2016-2019 TIP
- March 2017, 2018, or 2019 projects let dependent on program year

# Issues with 2017 Funds

- Typical goal is to select projects with 3-4 years of project development lead time
- Only 35% of funded projects delivered in original program year
- Proposed schedule would allow only 20 months lead time for 2017 projects
- Roadway and TE type projects require most lead time
  - Develop detailed design
  - Complete federal and state reviews and approvals
- Other project types, i.e. bus purchases, system management, operations do not require significant lead time



# 2017 TAP Funding

- \$6 M available in 2017, approximately \$1 M less than full amount due to past program year extensions
- MnDOT releasing a model TAP application in October 2013 for TAP solicitations in Greater MN (for 2018 funds)
- MnDOT direction to ATPs is that Safe Routes to School infrastructure projects should be eligible for TAP funding

# TAP Allocation Options

- Conduct a TAP solicitation in late 2013/early 2014 using the MnDOT TAP application model
- Conduct a TAP solicitation in late 2013/early 2014 using the TE application from the 2011/2012 solicitation
- Delay the TAP solicitation until the new 2014/2015 solicitation process
- Other options?

# TAP Recommendation

- Request TAB to direct staff to begin preparing a 2013/2014 solicitation to bring to TAB/TAC for review and approval in November – December 2013.
- Use the past solicitation as a base model but revise to include eligibility for Safe Routes to School infrastructure projects.

# 2017 STP Funding

- Approximately \$6.4 M estimated to be available of \$41 M annual metro allocation
- Amount available is about \$34 M less than the full amount due to existing projects with approved program year extension dates
- Spring 2014 local program review could change this estimate up or down



# STP Allocation Options

- Allocate available funds to counties for pavement preservation projects
- Explore options for including cities in preservation allocation options
- Add funding to existing projects that are overmatched or that have had cost increases
- Allocate the funding to one or more regionally significant MnDOT projects
- Explore potential of MnDOT spending 2017 funds and providing increased regional STP in 2018
- Include the 2017 funding in the 2014/15 solicitation
- Other options?

# STP Recommendation

- TAB continue discussions, identify potential additional options and determine preferences through March 2014
- Council and MnDOT staff provide information on potential regionally significant MnDOT projects
- TAB decision on 2017 STP allocation be delayed until after spring local program review and available level of funding is adjusted

# 2017 CMAQ Funding

- Approximately the full amount of CMAQ funding \$27M available in 2017
- Funding TMO and Metro Transit TDM base activities “off-the -top” will require approximately \$2.9M
- 2017 System Management project funding can be allocated in 2014/2015 solicitation (assume \$4M)
- Assuming the above set asides, \$20 -\$21M of 2017 CMAQ funding is available for transit projects

# CMAQ Allocation Options

- Conduct a special solicitation in late 2013/early 2014 using the previous CMAQ solicitation
- Include 2017 CMAQ funds in the 2014/2015 solicitation process
- Award some amount of the 2017 funds to one or more regionally significant transit projects
- Combination of options 2 and 3 above
- Other options?



# CMAQ Recommendation

- TAB continue discussions, identify potential additional options and determine preferences through March 2014
- Council staff provide information on potential regional transit projects and level of funding required
- TAB decision on 2017 CMAQ allocation be delayed until spring 2014

# Questions

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