

Regional Solicitation Unique Projects Development Process – Meeting #4

TAB Unique Projects Policy Work Group – June 4, 2021



How are we going to operate?

BE ACTIVE

RESPECT OUR TIME

KEEP AN OPEN MIND

ALLOW FOR EVERYONE

HAVE FUN

USE TECHNOLOGY

OTHERS?

Come prepared to engage (you all volunteered!)

Limit the side chatter, stay focused on topic

Be considerate of others' opinions

Don't dominate the conversation

This is an exciting topic, let your creative side loose!

Use Webex tools and Mentimeter to communicate

Will improve monitoring chat and hand raising

Cole Hiniker

Host, me

Participants (1)

Search

Raise hand

CH Cole Hiniker
Host, me

Mute all Unmute all ...

Chat

Everyone

Enter chat message here

Unmute Start video Share Record ...

Participants Chat ...

Proposed Schedule

Meeting Date	Topic #1	Topic #2	Info Items
April 23	Introduction and History	Goals, Purpose, and Outcomes	
May 7	Prioritize Goals	Evaluation Metrics and Eligibility	Funding Program Insights – MnDOT and CD
May 21	Goals Wrap-up and Process Concept	Evaluation Metrics	
June 4	Policymaker Involvement Discussion	Mix/max, match expectations, TDM discussion	
June 18	SKIP MEETING	SKIP MEETING	
July 9	Evaluation Metrics – Technical Recommendations	Eligibility	

Agenda

1. Recap of Meeting #3
2. Policymaker Involvement and First-step Application Questions
3. Program Structure: Minimum and Maximum Funding, Match Expectations, TDM Innovation Funding
4. Reflection and Next Steps

Meeting #3 Recap – Key Themes

Criteria	Feedback
Reduce Environmental Impacts	Consider noise and light
Improve Racial Equity	Include connectivity and access, Consider senior and disability community
Support Multimodal Communities	Include connectivity and access
Innovation	Is cost-effectiveness important factor?
Regional Significance/ Scalability	Regional significance = broad impact; scalability = ability to expand
Partnerships/ Collaboration	

Meeting #3 Recap – Key Themes (cont.)

Metrics Brainstorm

- Congestion was a controversial environmental impact metric, technical staff will try to narrow this down
- Connectivity and access were major themes for metrics
- Public/private partnership or private sector involvement important for collaboration

Next step to get technical input and bring back in July

Policymaker Involvement and First-step Application Questions



Application Process

Regional Solicitation	Timeframe
Release draft for public comment	September 2021
Adopt solicitation	November 2021
Release solicitation	February 2022
Applications due	April 2022
Evaluation	May – August 2022
Project selection	Sept – Nov 2022

Unique Projects	Timeframe
Adopt unique projects application	September 2021
Initial project interest due	November 2021
Consultation w/ applicants	Nov – Jan 2022
Release solicitation	February 2022
Applications due	April 2022
Evaluation	May – August 2022
Project selection	Sept – Nov 2022

How to handle public comments on Unique Projects application process?

Polycymaker Input

- July/August 2021 – **Info item to TAB**: Feedback on work group proposal
- November – December 2021 – **Workgroup role**: Staff review and overview and feedback on initial proposals
- May – August 2022 – **Workgroup role**: Evaluate proposals and present rankings to workgroup, supported by staff
- August – September 2022 – **Info item to TAB**: Workgroup presents evaluation summary to TAB for consideration in funding scenarios

Initial Project Submittal Information

- Project title and description
- List of project tasks or elements
- Approximate budget and potential match sources
- Description of project location or impacted areas
- Brief description of how project will advance Unique Project goals
 - One response with a word limit?
 - Multiple responses with shorter word limit?

Detailed Project Submittal Evaluation

- Technical Scoring Committee Approach
 - Policy Workgroup members as scorers, supported by staff
 - 1 criteria per scorer, could be 2 scorers per criteria for balance
 - Meet as a group to go over scores and provide feedback, revisions
- Final evaluation at a subsequent meeting, if needed
- Possibility for structured meeting with applicant interviews

- Up to 3 meetings in summer 2022

Unique Projects Program Structure



Program Structure

- Minimum and maximum funding limits
 - Maximum Recommendation: no limit for this round (default limit is total funding available), could be revisited for future solicitations
 - Minimum Recommendation: \$500k to ensure cost-effectiveness for federal requirements
- Match requirements
 - Considered as part of scoring for partnerships and collaboration
 - Minimum of 20%, should it be higher?
- TDM innovation funding
 - Recommend keeping pot separate until TDM Study complete in 2023
- Thoughts, concerns, questions?

Meeting Reflection

- What worked?
- What didn't work?
- Any meeting rules to add or revisit for next time?

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