Regional Solicitation Unique Projects Development Process – Meeting #5

TAB Unique Projects Policy Work Group – July 9, 2021

How are we going to operate?

BE ACTIVE — Come prepared to engage (you all volunteered!)

RESPECT OUR TIME — Limit the side chatter, stay focused on topic

KEEP AN OPEN MIND — Be considerate of others' opinions

ALLOW FOR EVERYONE — Don't dominate the conversation

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

USE TECHNOLOGY — Use Webex tools and Mentimeter to communicate
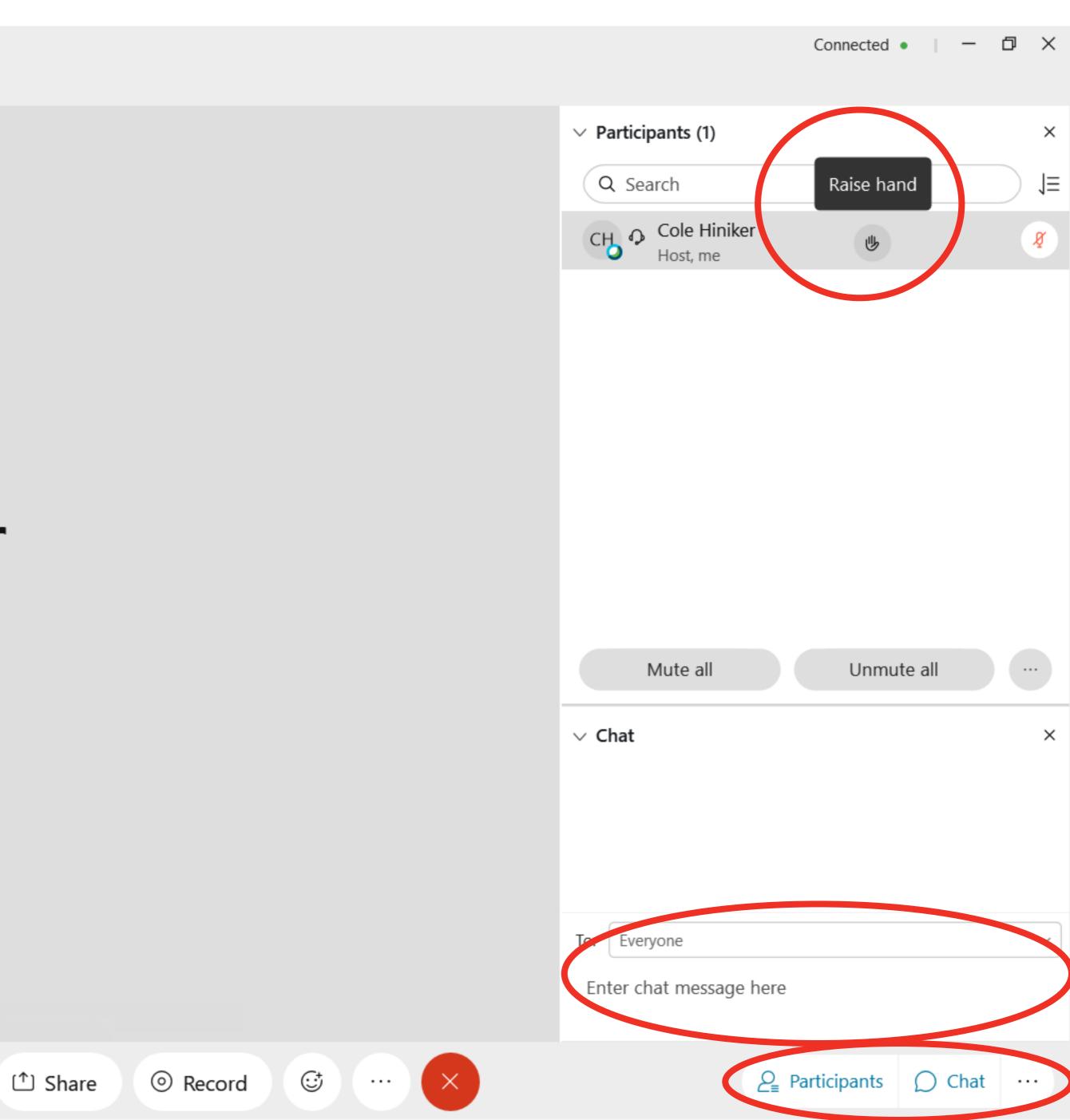
Will improve monitoring chat and hand raising

OTHERS?

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Agenda

1. Recap of Recommendations to Date
2. Evaluation Metrics and Technical Committee Recommendations
3. Criteria Weighting Exercise
4. Next Steps

Recap of Recommendations to Date

Recommendations to Date

Two-Step Application Process

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

Overlap public comment period with initial project interest form

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Recommendations to Date

Evaluation Process

- First Step – Applicants provide:
  - 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: multiple responses with short word limit

- Staff review for eligibility and provide technical feedback to potential applicants
- Share information with Regional Solicitation Policy Work Group

Recommendations to Date

Evaluation Process

- Second Step – Applicants provide:
  - Detailed description of project, including documented need and approach
  - Detailed list of project elements
  - Line-item budget and confirmed match sources
  - Detailed description of project location and affected populations
  - Responses to criteria and metrics, both qualitative and quantitative

- Staff review for errors and provide technical input to evaluators
- Regional Solicitation Policy Work Group members evaluate metrics and rank projects

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Recommendations to Date

Rules

- Minimum and maximum funding limits
    - Maximum Recommendation: no limit for this round, 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

- TDM innovation funding
    - Recommend keeping pot separate until TDM Study complete in 2023

Recommendations to Date

Evaluation Criteria

- Red text represents from technical feedback on the criteria titles

Criteria
Reduce Adverse Environmental Impacts
Improve Racial Equity
Support Multimodal Communities
Innovation
Regional Impact / Scalability (Expandability)
Partnerships / Collaboration

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Evaluation Metrics and Technical Committee Recommendations

Metrics Introduction

- Technical recommendation was to keep the questions qualitative in format but encourage applicants to use data and numbers to make their case; i.e., quantified answers likely get more points

- Within each criteria, the metrics are currently equally weighted
  - Do you agree with the relative importance of each metric for each of the criteria?
  - Should some be combined?
  - Should additional metrics be added?

- Are there additional considerations to add under any of the metrics that would help guide applicants and scorers?

Evaluation Metrics #1

How does the project reduce adverse environmental impacts of transportation?

- Improve air quality
  - Reduce single-occupant vehicle (SOV) trips
  - Access to charging stations
  - Reduce peak hour trips
- Contribution to climate change improvement
  - Reduce greenhouse gas emissions
- Reduce noise or light pollution
- Improve surface or ground water quality
  - Reduction in stormwater runoff; onsite stormwater management
- Other environmental improvements
  - Wildlife
  - Natural vegetation

How does the project improve racial equity?

- Improve connectivity and access for BIPOC communities
  - Connecting people to places, but also demonstrating an understanding of the places they want to go
  - Connecting communities where known gaps exist (document why connection is needed and source of info)
  - Outreach to, and involvement from these communities in project selection, development, or delivery.
- Removing barriers
  - Physical barriers being addressed (directly or indirectly)
  - Cultural barriers being addressed (language, etc.)
  - Engagement barrier being addressed (improving systemic outreach issues)
- Contributions to quality-of-life improvements
  - Placemaking
  - Safety
  - Job creation, economic development
  - Access to green space
  - Public health

Evaluation Metrics #2

How does the project support multimodal communities?

- Improve multiple non-SOV modes within the system (e.g., transit, biking, walking)
  - Creating interconnectivity between modes
  - Creating "bridges" that serve all modes
  - Multimodal trip planning

- Land use and development strategies that are conducive to multimodal transportation
  - Supporting growth of dense, mixed-use communities or neighborhoods
  - Reducing demand or need for parking

- Support first and last mile solutions for people connecting to places they need to go
  - Mobility hubs and centralized connections for multiple modes
  - Increasing shared trips/shared mobility

How is the project innovative?

- New approach to existing and/or emerging challenge(s)
  - Solving problems that have been a long-term challenge
  - New idea that hasn't been piloted or deployed in Minnesota/Twin Cities/State/Upper Midwest or uses new technology
  - Leveraging connected and automated (CAV) vehicle technology
  - Integrating new technologies or practices into existing infrastructure
  - Risk assessment, mitigation strategy to management innovation/risks (and identify who mitigates)

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Evaluation Metrics #3

How does the project have regional impact or how could it be expanded to more of the region?

- Regional impact
  - How many people does the project impact?
  - Percent of people (in a given community/area) impacted?
  - Project's geographic reach
- Expandability
  - How can the idea be used regionwide?
  - Is it a replicable project (i.e., could it be adapted elsewhere)?
  - (Full credit if it already covers the whole region)

How does the project build partnerships or collaboration?

- Number of stakeholder groups that helped develop the project
  - How many involved in the project? (The more partners, the more points awarded)
  - Public/private (or 4P; Public, Private, Philanthropic, and People)
  - Percent or number of partners that are small/minority-owned business (DBE/TGB/MCUB).
- Match contribution
  - More points for high amount or percentage (e.g., % of partnership contributions compared to total dollar amount)

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Questions?

Evaluation Criteria Weighting

Mentimeter Evaluation Metrics Discussion Exercise

www.menti.com
Code: 2851 8725

Meeting Reflection

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

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