Regional Solicitation Policymaker Workshop

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METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

December 18, 2024

Introductions

Facilitation Team

Group	Lead Facilitator	Co-facilitator
1	Cole Hiniker (Met Council)	Sam Gallagher (Zan)
2	Bethany Brandt (Met Council)	David Almaer (Zan)
3	Steve Peterson (Met Council)	Julia Nicholson (Zan)
4	Molly Stewart (SRF)	Joe Widing (Met Council)
5	Lydia Statz (SRF)	Heidi Schallberg (Met Council)
6	Robbie King (Met Council)	Amy Vennewitz (Met Council)
7	Dan Edgerton (Zan)	David Burns (Met Council)
8	Katie Caskey (HDR)	Joe Barbeau (Met Council)

Introductions

Policymaker Working Group

- **Jim Hovland (Chair),** City of Edina
- **Deb Barber (Vice Chair),** Met Council
- **Glen Johnson,** Citizen Rep
- **Chris Vaughan**, Transit Rep
- **Chris Geisler,** Citizen Rep
- **Peter Dugan**, Citizen Rep
- **Khani Sahebjam**, MnDOT
- **Mark Steffenson,** City of Maple Grove
- **Mary Liz Holberg,** Dakota Co
- **Brian Martinson**, Non-Motorized Rep

- **Aurin Chowdhury**, City of Minneapolis
- **Debbie Goettel**, Hennepin Co
- **Victor Lake**, Prior Lake
- **Reva Chamblis**, Met Council
- **Toni Carter**, Met Council
- **Anjuli Cameron**, Met Council
- **Jess Robertson**, City of Blaine
- **Jon Ulrich**, Scott County
- **Mark Windschitl**, City of Chaska

Housekeeping

Project Introduction

Regional Solicitation Evaluation

- Met Council conducts an evaluation of the Regional Solicitation process every 10 years (previous occurred 2012-2013)

- Previous study revised structure and funding allocation beginning with 2014 application cycle

- This study will:
  - Examine the processes and impacts of the 2014-2024 application cycles
  - Solicit feedback from the general public and a wide variety of stakeholders
  - Develop recommendations for funding structure, application categories, project selection criteria
  - Develop new applications for the 2026 funding cycle

Current solicitation structure (since 2014)

Roadways
- Bridges
- Roadway Modernization
- Spot Mobility and Safety
- Strategic Capacity
- Traffic Management Technologies

Transit & TDM
- Arterial Bus Rapid Transit Project
- Transit Expansion
- Transit Modernization
- Travel Demand Management

Bike/Ped
- Bicycle Facilities and Multiuse Trails
- Pedestrian
- Safe Routes to School

What are we trying to achieve?

Overarching goal of the Regional Solicitation Evaluation:

To align the allocation of the region's federal transportation funds through the Regional Solicitation project selection process to help achieve **the goals, objectives, and policies** of Imagine 2050 and the 2050 Transportation Policy Plan.

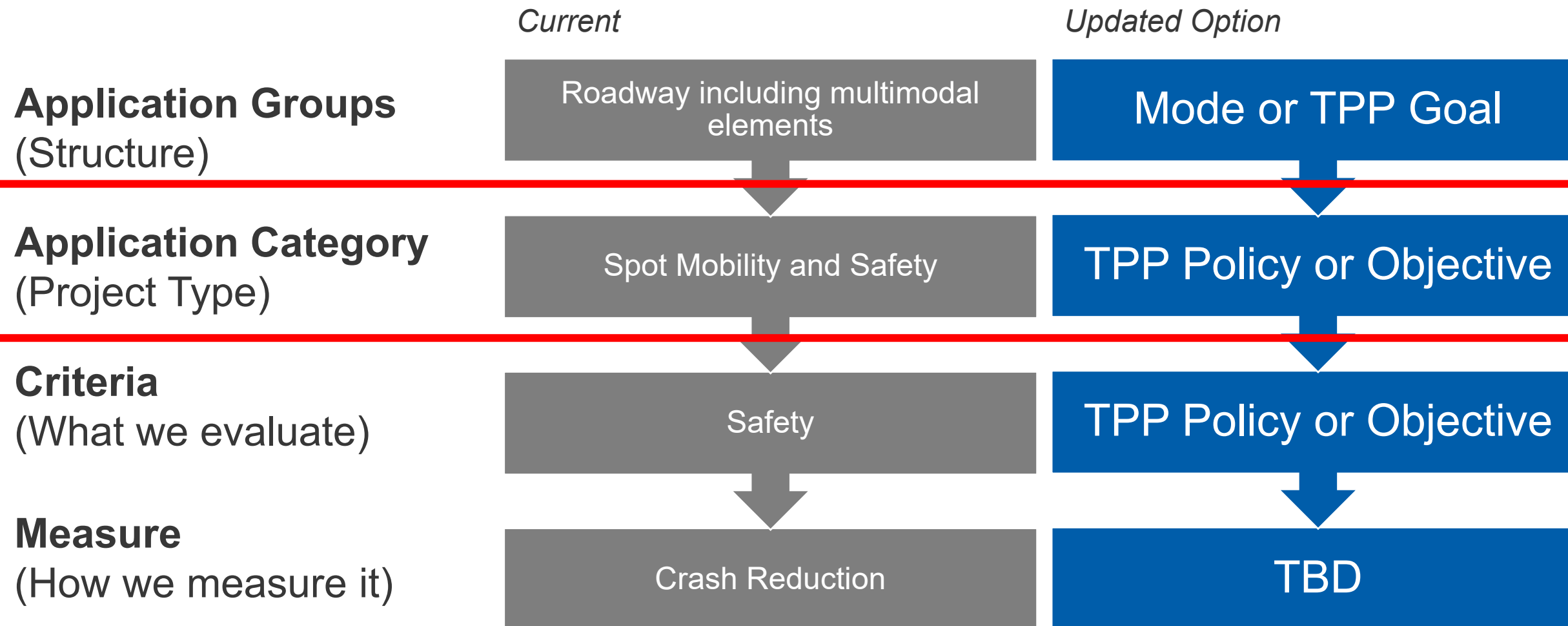| Imagine 2050 TPP Goals				
Equitable and Inclusive	Healthy and Safe	Dynamic and Resilient	Climate Change	Natural Systems

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Today's Focus

Background Information

- Peer regions tend to have a modal-focused structure or a goals-focused structure

- Modal-focused—we know what that looks like for our region (current solicitation structure)

- Goal-focused—policymaker working group wants to explore what this could look like for our region (focus of today)

Today's Focus

Regional Solicitation Application Structure

	Current	*Updated Option*
Application Groups (Structure)	Roadway including multimodal elements	Mode or TPP Goal
Application Category (Project Type)	Spot Mobility and Safety	TPP Policy or Objective
Criteria (What we evaluate)	Safety	TPP Policy or Objective
Measure (How we measure it)	Crash Reduction	TBD

Today's Discussion

Today's Focus

- Which TPP Policies should become application categories?

- Which should be included in some other way?

- Which should not be included at all?

Note: Group activity assumes inclusion of both federal funding and Active Transportation sales tax funding

Group Activity

Design Your Solicitation

Work with your group to determine **whether or how** each TPP Policy or Objective should fit in the application.

Should the policy or objective:

- Become an **application category?**
- Be included in **some other way such as a scoring measure or qualifying requirement?**
- **Not be included** in the solicitation?

Note: Group activity assumes inclusion of both federal funding and Active Transportation sales tax funding

Example Cards

Card 1 (Climate Change)

Climate Change

Reduce greenhouse gas emissions

OBJECTIVE

The region's transportation system minimizes its greenhouse gas emissions.

POLICY/ACTION

Evaluate and mitigate the greenhouse gas (GHG) impacts of transportation plans and projects.

Card 2 (Dynamic and Resilient)

Dynamic and Resilient

Build out the regional bicycle transportation network (RBTN)

OBJECTIVE

People have better travel options beyond driving alone to meet their daily needs, with a focus on improving travel times, reliability, directness, and affordability.

POLICY/ACTION

Plan and implement a complete bicycle system including local networks that connect to the Regional Bicycle Transportation Network alignments to provide connections between regional destinations and local bicycle networks.

Card 3 (Health and Safety)

Health and Safety

Reduce deaths and life changing injuries

OBJECTIVE

People do not die or face life-changing injuries when using any form of transportation.

POLICY/ACTION

Work to eliminate fatalities and serious injuries from traffic crashes and incidents on the transportation system by 2050 using the Safe System approach.

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Place the Card in One of Three Categories

Application Categories

Place cards that deserve their own distinct application caetgory.

These are the primary, standalone categories that should have a clear, independent funding.

Health and Safety

Reduce deaths and life changing injuries

OBJECTIVE

People do not die or face life-changing injuries when using any form of transportation.

POLICY/ACTION

Work to eliminate fatalities and serious injuries from traffic crashes and incidents on the transportation system by 2050 using the Safe System approach.

Included Another Way

Place cards that have merit but should not be standalone application categories.

These are items that could be integrated as supporting elements, considered as supplemental information, or addressed within existing categories.
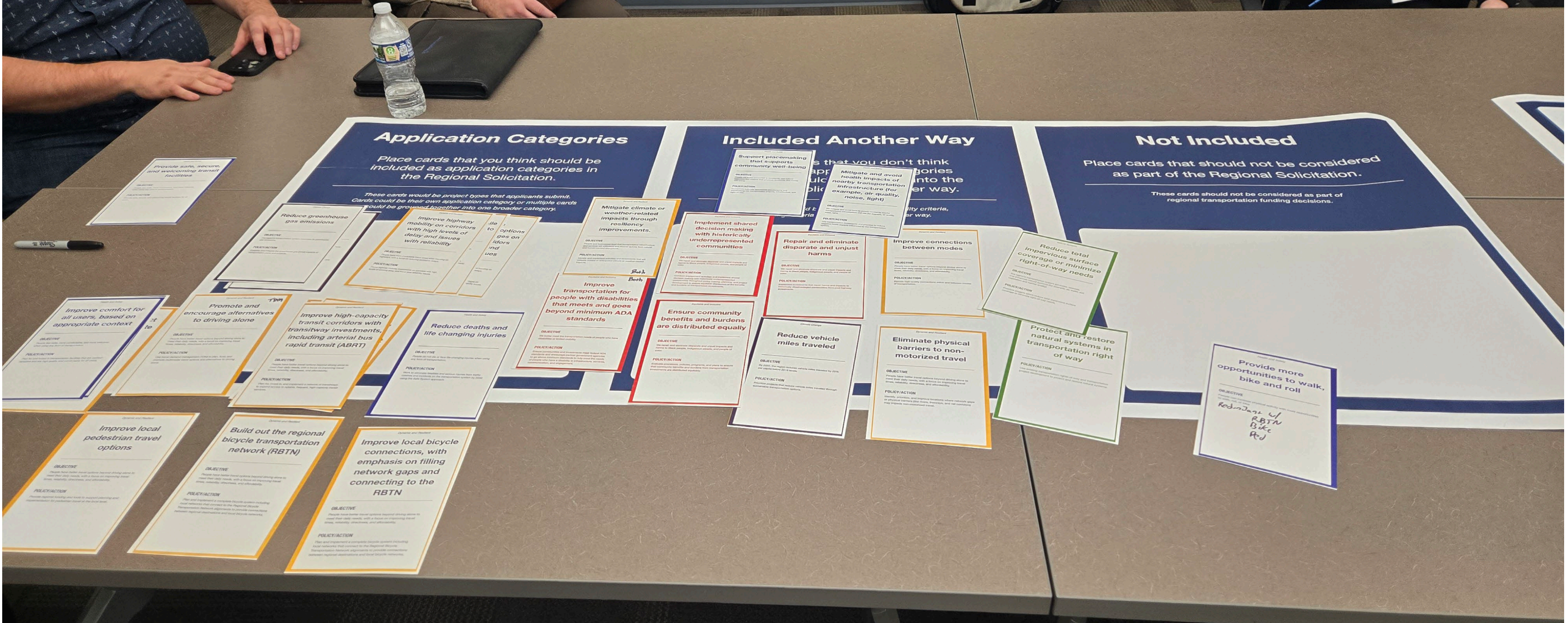
Not Included

Place cards that should not be considered as part of the funding process.

These items do not warrant any form of inclusion, or fall completely outside the scope of future funding considerations.

Small group logistics

- 85 minutes to place 33 cards (15-minute break included)

  o Suggest working through one card at a time as a group

  o Blank cards available to add new categories

  o Markers available to add notes/clarifications

  o Do not focus on correcting language; clear concepts are more important than perfect language

- 2 facilitators at each group

- Use your break to walk around to see what other groups have done, then bring those ideas back to your group

Group share out

Things to consider sharing:

- What 1-2 cards did you have the hardest time placing? Why?

- Did you create any of your own cards? If so, what category was missing?

- How many cards do you have as application categories?

- What application categories did you come up with?

- Other interesting proposals from your group?

Next steps

Next steps:

1. Technical Advisor Committee (TAC) meeting – January 8

2. Policymaker Work Group next meeting – January 15

3. Technical Steering Committee – January 28

4. Special Issue Working Groups – February through April

5. Action item on a base structure recommendation and application categories
   - F&P – February 20
   - TAC – March 5
   - TAB – March 19

Thank You

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