



# Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

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## M E M O R A N D U M

To: CMAQ Project Selection Committee

From: Jose Rodriguez, Chair, Transit Focus Group

Date: October 30, 2012

Re: **Transit Focus Group Evaluation Criteria and Performance Measurement –  
Guidance for the Upcoming CMAQ Program Development Process**

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Beginning with the FFY 2012-2016 CMAQ Program, the Transit Focus Group is one of four program focused groups charged with conducting an initial review of CMAQ proposals and identifying proposals that help implement GO TO 2040, the comprehensive regional plan. The overall CMAQ program goals of improving air quality and reducing traffic congestion are expected to be advanced by implementation of several GO TO 2040 action areas. The effectiveness of these projects will be measurable through the application of route-based, corridor-based or subregional performance measures.

The Transit Focus Group is tasked with reviewing proposals submitted in the Parking Deck, Transit Facility Improvement, Transit Service and Equipment, and Transit Transfer categories. The TFG may also review and recommend projects in the Other and Demonstration categories that have transit components in them.

Please see the following attached page for the applicable Transit Focus Group Evaluation Criteria and Performance Measurement for prospective projects. This information will be included in the upcoming CMAQ Call for Projects Application Packet.

**TRANSIT FOCUS GROUP for CMAQ**  
**Information for Prospective CMAQ Applicants**  
**October 30, 2012**

The Transit Focus Group will be using the following criteria and evaluation measures in its GO TO 2040 focused program work supporting development of the upcoming CMAQ Program.

**Evaluation Criteria and Performance Measurement for Prospective Projects**

The TFG expects CMAQ transit proposals to advance GO TO 2040 action areas by:

- Implementing Major Capital Transit Projects,
- Including transit components of major highway projects,
- Featuring transit service increases, extensions, or new service that has been prioritized using regionally consistent criteria,
- Investing in modernization,
- Adopting best practices in new technologies,
- Implementing traveler information systems,
- Establishing seamless coordination between modes, or
- Considering user perception in vehicle purchases and station design

Projects can score from a low of 1 point to high of 4 points for each action area.

Transit proposals will be assessed on a route, corridor, or sub-regional basis with the following performance measures:

- Ridership
- On-Time Performance
- Service Speed
- State of Good Repair

Performance measure data should be adequate to depict the existing transit performance needs addressed by the project and provide a basis for post-implementation evaluation of the project's effectiveness. Performance data should be consistent with the published performance measures used by the RTA service boards.

For further information about the Transit Focus Group, contact:

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