



DUPAGE MAYORS AND MANAGERS CONFERENCE

an association of municipalities representing 1,000,000 people

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Founded June 19, 1962

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October 3, 2019

Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) STP Project Selection Committee
233 South Wacker Drive, Suite 800
Chicago, IL 60606

The DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference (DMMC) thanks CMAP for the opportunity to comment on the STP Shared Fund process and commends CMAP staff for their hard work in putting together this year's Shared Fund Program. DMMC reiterates its support for the stated purpose of the Shared Fund, to fund regionally significant projects that are selected with merit-based scoring criteria. Now that the first round of programming projects is nearly complete, DMMC offers the following comments for consideration when evaluating the process and in anticipation of the Call for Projects that will open in 2021:

- DMMC submitted comments opposed to partial funding during this first cycle and remains opposed to offering partial funding to project applicants. The Shared Fund should provide the funds needed to close funding gaps, and applicants should be rewarded for committing more than the locally required funding match.
- DMMC requests that the Committee consider a cap on funding of large projects. DMMC's local STP allows no more than 50 percent of available funding to be awarded to one project in a year. Given the demand for funding across the region as demonstrated in the first Call, a cap on funding of large projects would guarantee that one project does not take the entire funding in a given year and helps ensure that local agencies are financially committed to submitted projects.
- DMMC is opposed to "rotating categories" for future Shared Fund cycles. This most recent Call for Projects saw seven of the eight eligible categories receive applications for funding, demonstrating the need for funding a variety of project types at each Call. Allowing applications in all categories gives project sponsors

the flexibility to consider various projects with each Call for Projects and does not force an arbitrary timeframe on needed projects.

- Finally, DMMC asks the Committee to consider the impact of Council Bonus Points on the overall scoring process. While it is important for Councils to have the ability to indicate local support for projects, Bonus Points should not overshadow the established scoring criteria and demonstrated impact that a project will have on the region.

DMMC thanks the Committee for their hard work throughout the creation and implementation of the Shared Fund and looks forward to working together before the next Call for Projects opens in January 2021.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "STEVE CHIRICO". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Steve Chirico
President, DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference
Mayor, City of Naperville