



Chicago Metropolitan  
Agency for Planning

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**MEMORANDUM**

**To:** STP Project Selection Committee

**From:** CMAP Staff

**Date:** October 21, 2021

**Re:** STP Shared Fund Methodology Discussion Outline

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Having completed the FFY 2022 - 2026 call for projects cycle for the STP Shared Fund, CMAP staff and the Project Selection Committee (PSC) are committed to evaluating the successes and lessons learned throughout the process in order to consider improvements for the next cycle, which will begin in January 2023.

Near term discussion items

The discussion items below have the potential to change the focus of the overall program and/or to change how applicants prepare for the next call for projects, therefore staff recommends discussion at the next STP PSC meeting in order to provide project sponsors with enough lead time to identify and prepare projects for consideration.

- Eligible project types: Comments received during the recently completed program development cycle suggested that road expansion projects should not be considered for funding. In addition, some clarification is needed for transit station projects and bicycle/pedestrian barrier elimination projects.
- Phase 1 Engineering requirements: With an increasing number of projects in the region undergoing the Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) process ahead of Phase 1 engineering, it may be appropriate to make minor modifications to the “substantially complete” definition.

Project scoring

No specific public comments or suggestions for changes to individual scoring criteria were received during the recently completed program development cycle, however staff would like to discuss consideration of ADA transition planning, climate mitigation and resilience within project evaluation. Staff also proposes walking through each existing scoring criteria at the committee’s first meeting of 2022 to confirm that no changes are needed, minor updates may be

needed, or committee discussion is needed. Staff suggests dedicating two meetings for addressing topics identified for minor updates or committee discussion.

Program Development

The Metropolitan Planning Council (MPC), in their comments regarding the FFY 2022 -2026 cycle, suggested establishing a “minimum score” for funding consideration. Staff suggests a thorough discussion of potentially establishing minimum thresholds, by scoring category or by individual criteria.

Active Program Management (APM)

Having completed two full years of Shared Fund implementation and one year of Local program implementation, staff suggests reviewing the APM policies and making minor updates where needed, such as removing references to the grandfathering of projects that applied only to the 2020 local program development cycle.

Proposed 2022 agenda items.

Staff proposes the below schedule for process and methodology review over the next year.

STP PSC Meeting (tentative dates)	Agenda items
February 10, 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Changes/additions to eligible project types</li> <li>• Changes/additions to project eligibility</li> <li>• Identify criteria that do not need further discussion</li> <li>• Identify any new criteria for discussion</li> </ul>
April 7, 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project types, continued (if needed)</li> <li>• Readiness criteria changes (if needed)</li> <li>• Planning Factor changes (if needed)</li> </ul>
June 23, 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transportation Impact criteria changes (if needed)</li> <li>• Subregional priority changes (if needed)</li> </ul>
August 25, 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continuation of prior discussions, if needed</li> <li>• Establishing minimum thresholds for funding consideration</li> </ul>
November 3, 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review topics discussed at previous meetings and confirm updated FFY 2024-2028 Application Booklet language reflects decisions made</li> <li>• Draft call for projects schedule</li> <li>• Review Active Program Management policies</li> </ul>
December 1, 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approve final FFY 2024-2028 Application Booklet</li> <li>• Active Program Management, continued (if needed)</li> </ul>

ACTION REQUESTED: Discussion