



MEMORANDUM

To: UWP Committee

From: Dolores Dowdle
Deputy Executive Director, Finance and Administration

Date: January 5, 2015

Re: FY 2016 UWP Call for Projects

The FY 2016 UWP Call for Projects for the CMAP region is issued today with both the Core and Competitive proposals due to CMAP by January 30, 2015.

The following approved priorities for the FY 2016 are aligned with the regional priorities described in the GO TO 2040 Plan.

- *Modernization of the Public Transit System.* GO TO 2040 recommends an enhanced focus on prioritizing planning work for the modernization of the existing transit system. Actions include work on coordinating services and fares, including pursuit of a universal fare payment system, work on traveler information systems, and technological improvements including transit signal priority and ART. Project proposals, especially from the transit agencies, should feature these elements as a primary component.
- *Financial Planning Including Innovative Financing Strategies.* GO TO 2040 also stresses an array of recommendations related to transportation finance, including improved financial planning. Actions include strengthening transit financial oversight, planning for efficiencies that reduce transit operating costs, the identification of funding sources for CREATE, and continued planning/policy work on other important issues of fiscal policy to improve the transportation system.
- *Improving Decision-Making Models and Evaluation Criteria for Project Selection.* GO TO 2040 also emphasizes improving decision-making processes for transportation projects, as well as the overarching importance of prioritization for making investments given constrained funding. This includes constructing improved models for answering the most pressing questions about major projects and designing appropriate and regionally-vetted evaluation criteria for judging projects.

- *Planning Work Toward Implementation of GO TO 2040 Major Capital Projects, Including Supportive Land Use.* The continuation of near-term work to further GO TO 2040's short list of fiscally constrained major capital projects is also a high priority. Potential work includes planning for the inclusion of transit components as part of major highway projects, advancing recommended transit projects through the New Starts program or other discretionary funding programs, and planning for supportive land use around transportation, including active technical assistance to local governments.
- *Local Technical Assistance and the Formation of Collaborative Planning Efforts.* A major emphasis area of GO TO 2040 is providing targeted technical assistance to local governments, information sharing, and formal planning efforts that focus on transportation and other interconnected issues of livability.

The process for review and approval of the FY 2016 UWP programs is as follows:

- Both Core and Competitive proposals are due on January 30, 2015.
- All proposals will be forwarded to the UWP Committee on February 5 with presentations of the proposals at the Committee meeting on February 11.
- The Competitive proposals will be scored by the UWP Committee as in years past, based upon the alignment with the regional priorities listed above. The scoring of the competitive proposals will be due on Friday, February 20. CMAP staff will calculate the Committee's rankings of the Competitive proposals.
- Based on the available monies for the FY 2016 UWP program, CMAP staff will develop a proposed program recommendation to the UWP Committee which considers (1) how the Core proposals meet the federal requirements; alignment with the proposed priorities in GO TO 2040; the requested level of funding; and if applicable, previous years' expenditure level of Core project and (2) the rankings of the Competitive proposals.
- The Committee will meet on March 5 to adopt the FY 2016 program.
- After approval by the UWP Committee of the FY 2016 program, CMAP will draft contracts for the approved programs according to the following schedule (these dates should be considered with developing proposals):
 - Programs supporting staff and operating costs (normally core proposals) will be available during the State FY 2016. All funds will need to be expended by June 30, 2016.
 - Programs supporting consulting contracts and the competitive programs will be available for a period of three years—July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2018.

The apportionment of federal funds for FY 2016 has not been released, though it is estimated that it will be similar to FY 2015. The FY 2015 UWP allocated \$12,355,162 of PL funds and \$4,422,563 of FTA funds, for a total of \$16,777,725 of federal funds.

The schedule for the approval of the FY 2016 UWP process is as follows:

Call for Proposals

Call for Proposals	January 5, 2015
All Proposals Due (Core and Competitive)	January 30, 2015

Proposal Presentations

UWP Meeting – Presentation of Proposals	February 11, 2015
UWP Committee members rank proposals	Due to CMAP February 20, 2015
CMAP prepares proposed funding allocation of both Core and Competitive proposals	February 26, 2015

Committee Approval

UWP Committee – Adopt FY 2016 Program	March 5, 2015
Transportation Committee considers approval of FY 2016 UWP to MPO Policy Committee	April 17, 2015
Regional Coordinating Committee approval of FY 2016 UWP to CMAP Board	June 10, 2015
CMAP Board considers approval of proposed FY 2016 UWP	June 10, 2015
MPO Policy Committee considers approval of proposed FY 2016 UWP	June 11, 2015
UWP Document Released	June 2015

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