



MEMORANDUM

To: Council of Mayors Executive Committee

From: CMAP Staff

Date: July 11, 2023

Subject: Staff Recommended FFY 2024 - 2028 CMAQ, Carbon Reduction, TAP-L, and STP Shared Fund Programs for Public Comment

Purpose: On July 13, 2023, the Project Selection Committees for STP and CMAQ/CRP/TAP-L will be meeting to discuss the staff recommended programs for the FFY 2024-2028 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ), Carbon Reduction (CRP), locally programmed Transportation Alternatives (TAP-L) and STP Shared Fund regional transportation funding programs. It is anticipated that the Project Selection Committees will release program recommendations for a Public Comment Period from July 13 to August 11, 2023.

Action Requested: Information

A joint call for projects was issued in January 2023 for the FFY 2024 – 2028 Surface Transportation Program (STP) Shared Fund, FFY 2024 - 2028 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) program, Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) and Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP-L). A total of 129 applications were received across all four funding programs. Staff evaluated the applications according to the methodologies approved by the respective project selection committees (PSCs) contained in the application booklets published with the [call for projects](#) to determine eligibility for funding and final scores. Staff then developed recommended programs of projects to be funded with each fund source. These programs will be reviewed by the PSCs on July 13, 2023 and released for public comment through August 11, 2023.

This memo contains an overview of the staff recommended programs to be considered by the PSCs and links to detailed documentation for the committee's information. Committee members are encouraged to discuss the proposed programs with their councils and interested constituents and submit comments to staff. Following the public comment period, the PSCs will consider comments and any recommended changes to the programs and are scheduled to consider final approval on August 31, 2023. Following PSC approvals, staff will prepare TIP amendments reflecting the approved programs for consideration by the Transportation Committee on September 22, 2023 for a recommendation that the CMAP Board and MPO

Policy Committee approve the TIP amendments containing the approved programs at their joint meeting on October 11, 2023.

Combined Transportation Investments

Within the three funding programs, over \$593 million is recommended to fund more than 65 bicycle and pedestrian, bridge, emissions reduction, highway, and transit projects throughout northeastern Illinois:

Project Type	Proposed Projects	Proposed Funding
Access to Transit	6	\$2,563,641
Bicycle Facilities	19	\$98,537,664
Bike/Ped Barrier Elimination	1	\$2,033,824
Bridge Repair/Rehab	1	\$20,000,000
Direct Emissions Reduction	3	\$238,347,815
Intersection Improvement	1	\$9,568,320
Other	2	\$4,626,164
Rail-Highway Grade Separation	3	\$16,465,715
Road Expansion	5	\$20,290,111
Road Reconstruction	6	\$38,540,624
Safety	3	\$2,769,911
Signal Interconnect	12	\$4,645,312
Transit Facility Improvement	4	\$135,137,334
Grand Total	66	\$593,526,435

These recommended projects are from a variety of project sponsors:

Sponsor Group	Proposed Projects	Proposed Funding
Chicago	4	\$97,300,000
Counties	10	\$48,310,300
IDOT	12	\$7,410,164
Mayors/Other Local	36	\$90,940,822
Transit Service Boards	4	\$349,565,149
Grand Total	66	\$593,526,435

The recommended programs include nearly \$335 million for 17 projects located in the region's highest need (Cohort 4) communities.

FFY 2024 – 2028 CMAQ/CRP/TAP-L Program

Ninety-one (91) unique applications ([CMAQ/CRP](#) and [TAP-L](#)) were submitted for funding consideration under the CMAQ, CRP, and TAP-L programs.

CMAQ/CRP applications were evaluated for their air quality benefits, transportation impact, and equity to develop a [staff recommended program](#) that includes \$399.5 million for 30 projects, of which two (2) are bicycle facilities, sixteen (16) are highway projects, and twelve (12) are transit projects. The transit projects account for 92% of the programmed funds (\$375M). Two (2) of the transit projects will be funded at 100% using Transportation Development Credits (TDCs) and four (4) projects will be funded at 100% using Transportation Development Credits -Highways (TDCHs), including one (1) project that received funding for phase 1 engineering only.

TAP-L applications were evaluated for their ability to help complete the Regional Greenways & Trails Plan as well as encourage non-motorized transportation and equity.

The [staff recommended program](#) includes \$93.7 million for 17 bicycle facility projects that will further completion of the Regional Greenways & Trails Plan. Five (5) of the projects will be funded at 100% using Transportation Development Credits - Highways (TDCHs), including three (3) projects that received funding for phase 1 engineering only.

FFY 2024 – 2028 STP Shared Fund Programs

Staff reviewed 60 [applications](#) for compliance with the program's eligibility rules and determined that eleven (11) ineligible projects would be eliminated from further consideration. Because shared fund applicants have the option of requesting consideration in more than one of nine (9) project type categories, staff conducted 80 evaluations of the 49 eligible projects, to determine the highest score for each project in the categories it was eligible for. During this step of the evaluation process, seven (7) projects were eliminated from consideration because they did not meet the minimum need threshold(s) in the category or categories that they requested consideration under. Details of the evaluation process are described in a [memo](#) to the STP PSC.

In addition to the ten (10) projects currently programmed in FFYs 2024 – 2026, the recommended [Active Program](#) includes \$20.2 million for cost increases for two (2) existing projects in FFY 2024, \$14.9 million for nine (9) new projects in FFYs 2025 and 2026, and \$65 million for eight (8) new projects in FFYs 2027 and 2028. \$40 million is recommended for two (2) projects located within the City of Chicago, \$33.6 million for nine (9) projects within suburban Cook County, and \$26.5 million for eight (8) within the collar counties. Over \$20 million is proposed for six (6) projects in communities with the highest need (Cohort 4), including \$1.7 million in Transportation Development Credits and \$4.8 million for phase 1 engineering only. One-third of the projects recommended (7 of 19) are within municipalities with populations of less than 25,000. The facilities selected serve over 19.7 million jobs and households combined. More than one-third of the projects improve facilities where more than 10% of the users are minorities below the poverty line. All recommended projects include complete streets elements or are within jurisdictions with complete streets policies. Of the projects evaluated for resilience, three (3) of seventeen (17) have policies in place, and thirteen (13) included resilience elements in the project scope. Eight (8) of the sixteen (16) projects

evaluated for freight impacts are within jurisdictions with freight supportive policies and procedures and six (6) projects are located on a regional freight network.

All eligible projects that applied for the STP Shared Fund that were not recommended for full funding through the Shared Fund, CMAQ, CRP, TAP-L or other programs (such as ITEP and RAISE) are recommended by staff for inclusion in the staff recommended [Contingency Program](#), where they may be considered for funding that becomes available through September 30, 2025 according to the region's [Active Program Management](#) policies. More detailed listings of final project scores and recommended funding can be found on the call for projects [web page](#) in both PDF and Excel format.

Next Steps

Following the public comment period (July 13 through August 11, 2023), staff will present a summary of comments and any recommended changes to the programs to the respective PSCs on August 31, 2023. Upon approval of final programs by those committees, TIP amendments will be prepared for consideration by the Transportation Committee on September 22, 2023 for a recommendation that the CMAP Board and MPO Policy Committee approve the TIP amendments containing the approved programs at their joint meeting on October 11, 2023.