

2011 Regional Solicitation Schedule – Revised October 2011

DATE	PROCESS
May 12, 2011	TAB solicits for STP, CMAQ, TE and BIR projects. Staff sends announcements to local governments and other organizations and directs interested applicants to the Met Council website where all the solicitation materials are accessible. Hard copies are also available from the Met Council Data Center.
June 15, 2011	TAB voted to postpone the due date for applications by a minimum of 30 days from the published due date of July 18 if a state government shutdown occurs. (The state government shutdown did occur and the application due date was postponed.)
August 17, 2011	TAB voted to accept applications at the August 22 due date but postpone scoring the projects for a minimum of 60 days in anticipation of a new federal transportation funding Act.
August 22, 2011	STP-UG, CMAQ, TE and BIR applications are due by 5:00 PM.
September 15, 2011	Congress and the President extended SAFETEA-LU for six months to March 31, 2012.
October 19, 2011	TAB voted to direct the technical committees to score all projects submitted in the 2011 regional solicitation.
October 20 through December 2, 2011	Staff logs in all the applications and reviews the qualifying criteria responses of all applications. Staff consults with the chair of each scoring group to discuss the qualifying criteria review, and may consult with the FHWA field office. Staff prepares a report for the TAC F&PC. Staff notifies the applicants if their project appears not to meet the qualifying criteria and invites them to the TAC F&PC meeting to defend their application.
November 19, 2011	The TAC Funding & Programming Committee approves the membership of the STP-UG, CMAQ, TE and BIR scoring groups. A member of the TAC or TAC F&PC chairs each scoring group.
December 15, 2011	Staff presents the list of projects that may not meet the qualifying criteria and applicants may defend their applications. The TAC Funding and Programming Committee votes on each qualifying issue and reports their decisions to the TAC at their August meeting. The TAC F&PC votes on each qualifying issue.
December 16 through February 8, 2011	Scoring groups meet and evaluate the applications. Scorers evaluate one or two criteria for each application in their scoring group using guidelines provided by staff and a methodology agreed to by the group. The scoring groups develop ranked lists of projects in STP-UG, CMAQ, TE and BIR programs.
February 16, 2011	The TAC F&PC approve the ranked lists of projects and make them available on the Met Council website. The Met Council notifies applicants that the scores are available and requests for scoring re-evaluations of specific criteria can be submitted.
March 9, 2011	Scoring re-evaluation requests are due.
March 12 through April 6, 2011	Staff reviews all the scoring re-evaluation requests, will consult with the scoring group chair and may consult with the individual scorer, and prepares a report for TAC F&PC.
April 19, 2011	The TAC F&PC discusses the scoring re-evaluation report prepared by staff. The TAC F&PC votes on all scoring reevaluations and adjusts the project scores and rankings if necessary. The TAC F&PC forwards the final scores and ranked project lists to the TAC and TAB for information. The final scores and ranked lists are made available to the applicants and the public.
<p>In September 2011, the President approved a six month extension of the federal surface transportation funding Act, SAFETEA-LU, through March 31, 2012. The Transportation Advisory Board, along with other regional and state transportation partners, will monitor developments in the reauthorization of the Act that will provide long-term funding and likely consolidation of the numerous federal transportation programs. The TAB and its technical committees will decide how to proceed with the regional solicitation when more is known about reauthorization and the impacts on the regional solicitation process, and communicate their decision to the regional solicitation applicants and the public.</p>	