



MEMORANDUM

TO: CRCOG Board
FROM: Stephen Allen, AICP, Senior Planner
DATE: May 14, 2020
SUBJECT: Transportation Program Update

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) New TIP 2021-2027 Window

In November 2019, the SC Department of Transportation (SCDOT) advised the 11 Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO) and 10 Councils of Governments (COG) that the South Carolina Department of Transportation will be pursuing an update to the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). The current STIP window reflects the fiscal years 2017-2022. The SCDOT is now proposing a new STIP window, as required by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), to be adopted by October 1, 2020. The new STIP window is for the fiscal years 2021-2027. This new window serves two purposes: one it will better align with the State Transportation Asset Management Plan; and two it will align with the state's 10-year funding plan. The horizon of the STIP will now be seven years instead of six years. After 2027, the STIP/TIP will follow a 10 year horizon.

To be concurrent with the STIP, all MPOs and COGs are required to adopt their own Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to match the horizon year of the STIP. Additionally, the SCDOT has asked that all MPOs and COGs adopt the amended TIP window by June 1, 2020.

The draft TIP includes all existing projects from the 2017-2022 TIP that are active, programmed, obligated for funding, and/or planned. The TIP also includes a narrative document containing descriptions of its purpose, relation to the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), performance management, TIP amendment process, current list of projects, and financial statement.

The draft TIP was presented to the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) on April 23, 2020. No objections or issues were raised. At the meeting, CRCOG staff presented the TIP narrative and Financial Statement noting that no additional projects will be programmed into the new TIP window (2021-2027), beyond those that are already approved, until a new projects list is vetted during the LRTP update process set to commence the Summer/Fall of 2020 with each of the four counties in the Catawba Region.

A list of the projects are provided as an attachment to the TIP narrative to include the existing 2017-2022 TIP, the proposed 2021-2027 TIP, and a summary financial sheet. As the financial summary indicates, the TIP is fiscally constrained. The CRCOG has requested advanced

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Guideshare funding in 2020 and 2021 in order to achieve an overall program balance and will be paid back in full in 2023. This action is pending approval by the SCDOT.

The current active and planned TIP projects equate to over \$18.7 Million in investments through fiscal year 2027. Assuming the current annual Guideshare allotment of \$4.9 Million continues through 2027, the projected Guideshare allocation will total \$34.3 Million. The current active and planned Guideshare exempt projects; these are projects initiated by the SCDOT, total approximately \$70.1 Million.

Long Range Transportation Plan Update

The update of the 2015-2040 LRTP will commence later this summer and hopefully be completed by late fall. We will work closely and engage with our regional partners, stakeholders, and agencies during this update process. As part of the plan update, we will also be revising our rural transportation public participation plan (PPP) to reflect any changes in the SCDOT PPP and revising our master projects list.