

Eligibility Requirements for the DRCOG Call for Projects Using Anticipated Federal Transportation Economic Recovery Funds

**Applicable Eligibility Requirements from the TIP Policy
(See the end of this document for “Additional Eligibility Criteria” and “Clarifications”)**

Roadway Capacity Projects

- Only regionally-funded roadway widening, new road, new interchange, interchange reconstruction, and Bus/HOV/BRT projects identified in the adopted networks of the fiscally constrained *2035 Metro Vision Regional Transportation Plan* are eligible for implementation funding.
- Submittals can only be for “next meaningful phase” of the project jointly defined by applicant, CDOT, and DRCOG.
- Within the urban growth boundary, arterial roadway projects must adhere to urban design standards and must demonstrate that sidewalks are present and will be maintained and replaced or will be added as part of the project.
- Outside the urban growth boundary, roadway projects must adhere to non-urban design standards and incorporate a high degree of access control.
- Any current bicycle or transit infrastructure must as a minimum be retained in kind.

Roadway Operational Improvement Projects

- Projects on any roadway shown on the fiscally constrained 2035 Metro Vision Regional Roadway System are eligible.
- Grade separations of any at-grade railroad crossing on the Metro Vision Regional Roadway System are eligible.
- Within the urban growth boundary, arterial roadway projects must adhere to urban design standards and must demonstrate that sidewalks are present and will be maintained and replaced or will be added as part of the project.
- Outside the urban growth boundary, roadway projects must adhere to non-urban design standards and incorporate a high degree of access control.
- Any current bicycle or transit infrastructure must as a minimum be retained in kind.

Roadway Surface Treatment Projects

- Projects on any roadway shown on the fiscally constrained 2035 Metro Vision Regional Roadway System are eligible.
- Projects must reconstruct the travel way.

- Within the urban growth boundary, roadway projects must adhere to urban design standards and must demonstrate that sidewalks are present and will be maintained and replaced or will be added as part of the project.
- Outside the urban growth boundary, roadway projects must adhere to non-urban design standards and incorporate a high degree of access control.
- Any current bicycle or transit infrastructure must as a minimum be retained in kind.

Transit Construction Projects

- Any fixed guideway, stations, transfer facilities, or park-n-Ride lots identified in the fiscally constrained 2035 Metro Vision RTP are eligible.

Bicycle/Pedestrian Projects

All Projects

- Pedestrian and bicycle projects must be on facilities contained in an adopted local or regional plan.
- Any new or reconstructed pavement must be designed and constructed to withstand occasional vehicle travel (emergency vehicles).
- If project consists of multiple, non-contiguous elements, all elements must either be a) on the same facility (primary corridor) OR b) within ¼ mile of the largest element of the project.

New Construction Projects Only

- New construction projects are defined as projects that will result in a new facility where pedestrian and/or bicycle infrastructure does not currently exist.
- New construction projects must accomplish connectivity. Examples of connectivity include, but are not limited to:
 - Closing a gap between two existing bicycle facility sections
 - Improving access to transit
 - Providing pedestrian and bicycle facilities connecting to schools, parks, shopping, and/or employment
 - Eliminating barriers
 - Linking a bicycle facility to a 2035 Metro Vision RTP roadway that serves bicyclists

Upgrade/Reconstruction Projects Only

- Upgrade construction projects are defined as projects that are an upgrade or operational enhancement to an existing facility that does NOT currently meet ADA/AASHTO design standards.
- Reconstruction projects are defined as projects that reconstruct the total pavement of a facility due to pavement deterioration.

Other Enhancement Projects

- Any transportation construction and/or design-related projects meeting FHWA eligibility rules are eligible. The following types of projects contained in Appendix B of the TIP Policy are eligible but MUST be transportation construction or transportation-related design ONLY :
 - Provision of facilities for pedestrians and bicycles.
 - Scenic or historic highway programs (including the provision of tourist and welcome center facilities).
 - Landscaping and other scenic beautification.
 - Historic preservation.
 - Rehabilitation and operation of historic transportation buildings, structures, or facilities (including historic railroad facilities and canals).
 - Preservation of abandoned railway corridors (including the conversion and use thereof for pedestrian or bicycle trails).

Sponsor Eligibility

- Eligible applicants for projects to be selected by DRCOG as part of this call for funding requests are:
 - County and municipal governments
 - Regional agencies; specifically, RTD, RAQC, and DRCOG
 - The State

Additional Eligibility Criteria Established for this Call for Projects

For Roadway Projects

- Only roadways categorized as principal arterials and above are on the regional roadway system. Roadway projects on major collectors and above are eligible for recovery funds.
- Roadway surface treatment - Overlay projects are eligible for recovery funds in addition to reconstruction projects.
- Roadway capacity projects - “100% locally-funded projects” on the fiscally constrained 2035 Metro Vision RTP are eligible for recovery funds in addition to regionally-funded projects.

For Any Eligible Projects

- Design-only projects are also eligible.

Clarifications (updated 2/11/2009):

Q.1. In the call for projects email, does "only construction projects and design projects" apply to projects currently in the 2008-2013 TIP that might want to request recovery funds?

A.1. Board action on February 4 is inconclusive on this matter. ASSUME any project in the current TIP can be submitted for recovery funds. Insert the project type under which the project is identified in the current TIP in the "type of project" field in the spreadsheet.(2/11 AM)

Q.2. Can local governments request recovery funds for construction projects in categories for which DRCOG does not typically make funding available? For example, a safety project or a bridge project, which are normally selected by CDOT?

A.2. The Board did not discuss this on February 4. ASSUME any project that is eligible for Surface Transportation Program funding per [Title 23, Chapter 1, Section 133\(b\)](#) of the United States Code can be submitted for construction or design activities. (2/6 PM)

Q.3. Will the TIP Policy's "project submittal limitations" (for number of submittals) and "financial requirements" (for minimum amount of federal funds requested) apply to the call for projects?

A.3. The Board did not discuss this on February 4. ASSUME those limitations and requirements do not apply to this call. (2/6 PM)

Q.4. Are overlays the only kind of improvement that can be requested on major collectors and minor arterials?

A.4. The Board did not limit the types of improvements to those roads that could be requested. As in A.2., ASSUME that any project that is eligible for Surface Transportation funding is eligible. For widening for additional through lanes, check with your CDOT representative as to what type of NEPA clearance would be appropriate. (2/10 AM)

Q.5. For projects in the current TIP considering applying for "additional" funds, could the "additional" funds be obligated through a separate PSE package (or separate consultant acquisition) from the current project?

A.5. DRCOG staff presented to the Board that allowing requests for "additional" funds was a motivation to get current projects out to bid (or a consultant under contract). ASSUME that work necessitating "additional" funds MUST be included in the current project PSE package or consultant acquisition solicitation. (2/11 AM)