

MEMORANDUM

Date: May 27, 2014

To: Fresno COG Policy Board Members

From: Melissa Garza, Senior Regional Planner

Attached are the most recent and updated DRAFT Fresno COG Regional Competitive Active Transportation Program (ATP) Guidelines that have been provided to the California Transportation Commission (CTC) for action at their June CTC meeting. These updated guidelines replace the guidelines that were included in your agenda packet. As before, we have highlighted the changes that differ from the CTC guidelines. By law, any MPO that would like to administer their own regional call for projects must submit guidelines to the CTC and the guidelines must be adopted by the June CTC meeting. The FINAL guidelines will be sent to the CTC immediately after Policy Board action. An updated resolution has also been included for your review.

The major differences found in the Fresno COG regional guidelines as compared to the CTC guidelines are:

1. No minimum project cost requirement for Fresno COG regional competitive projects.
2. ALL applicants must commit to provide a local match for each project submitted.
3. 15% of the Regional ATP funds will NOT be set-aside for the development of Active Transportation Plans.
4. Added a new criteria that would provide 10 points for projects that are shovel ready. If the project is to be considered "shovel ready", the applicant must provide copies of the fully executed NEPA document and the fully executed right of way certification.

And under the purview of the COG Policy Board, not requiring CTC approval, we are:

1. Encouraging a maximum project award of \$1 million per project due to the fact that we are only receiving \$3.9 million in Regional ATP funds. This section can be found on page 7. The multi-disciplinary advisory group (MAG), the TTC, and the PAC recommended that a maximum project award be limited to \$1,000,000 per project; however, at the CTC meeting held on May 21st, CTC staff did not recommend approval for SACOG's project maximum as a criteria but approved their guidelines without taking action on the maximum requirement section. Based on that action, Fresno COG amended the section that addressed the maximum requirement from "the maximum amount of ATP funding that can be awarded by FCOG cannot exceed \$1,000,000 per project" to "FCOG *encourages* establishing an ATP funding maximum not to exceed \$1,000,000 per project" and will be assessed by the MAG at the time of project review and recommendation for funding.
2. Requesting director delegated authority for non-substantive changes. Delegating authority to the Fresno COG Executive Director to issue the final MPO Guidelines allows staff to make any non-substantive edits that may be requested by the CTC and then issue the final MPO Guidelines and Call for the projects. Should the CTC require any substantive changes, staff recommends that the Board delegate authority to the Fresno COG Executive Director, after consultation with the Chairs and Vice Chairs of the TTC, PAC and Policy Board, to review and approve the CTC's requested changes of the MPO Guidelines. This will enable Fresno COG to provide local jurisdictions sufficient opportunity to apply to the MPO funding cycle without major delays. This delegation request is found in the resolution attached and was recommended by the TTC and PAC.
3. Establishing a contingency project list in case programmed projects fail and cannot be delivered. This contingency list of projects is only beneficial if a project is replaced before it has received CTC allocation.