

PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

Denver Subregional Forum

On **December 13th, 2018 from 2:00pm-4:00pm**, the public is invited to attend and provide comment at the Denver / Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG) Subregional Forum Meeting. The purpose of the Subregional Forum is to develop and implement a process to provide a recommended package of projects to the full DRCOG Board for funding from the 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The meeting location shall be in the Denver City and County Building, 1437 Bannock Street, Room 391, Denver, CO 80202.

AGENDA

- 1) Public Comment
- 2) Review of Minutes from 11/1 SRF Meeting
- 3) Regional Share Process Update
- 4) Subregional Share Process Update & Scoring Recommendation
- 5) Other Business

ADJOURN

Visit <https://www.denvergov.org/content/denvergov/en/denver-department-of-public-works/projects/subregional-forum.html> for a link to the full agenda packet posted for December 13th as it becomes available, and any future Denver Subregional Forum meetings as they are scheduled.

If you are unable to attend this or any future meetings of the Denver Subregional Forum and would like to provide feedback, written comments will be accepted and may be sent to:

City and County of Denver
ATTN: Justin Begley, Project Manager
201 W Colfax Avenue, Dept. 509
Denver, CO 80202
DenverTIPpublicworks@denvergov.org

Special Accommodations:

Any person requiring special accommodations to attend or participate, pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, or those who may require translation services, should contact the City and County of Denver within at least three (3) business days prior to the meeting at 720-913-1743.

Minutes from Denver Subregional Forum (SRF) on 11/1/2018

Background

The Denver Subregional Forum met on November 1st, 2018 from 2-4pm in the Denver City County Building in Room 391. The minutes are a summary representation of the attendees, activities, and discussion of that meeting.

Action Requested

Suggest revisions, if any, and approve the 11/1/18 minutes.

DRCOG TIP Subregional Forum Minutes

Thursday, November 1, 2018 2:00-4:00 PM
CCD City and County Building, Room 391
1237 Bannock St., CCD, CO

The sixth CCD / Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG) Subregional Forum Meeting was held on November 1st, 2018 and was open to the public. The purpose of the Subregional Forum is to develop and implement a process for recommending a package of projects to the full DRCOG Board for funding from the 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Attendees

Denver City Council: Jolon Clark, Kevin Flynn (Chair)

DRCOG: Todd Cottrell, Ron Papsdorf

PW: Nicholas Williams, Justin Begley, Janice Finch

CPD: David Gaspers

RTD: Bill Van Meter

- I. **Public Comment:**
 - a. No public comment
- II. **Review of Minutes**
 - a. Minutes from 9/14 SRF discussed and adopted by the Forum
- III. **Review & Discussion of Subregional Approach**
 - a. Begley introduced the proposed Subregional Application, Process & Near-Term Schedule
 - i. Proposals include up to 20 applications to be scored by the Subregion or DRCOG
 - ii. The Forum asked about what pros and cons were of either staff or DRCOG conducting the scoring
 - iii. Pros of Denver scoring were being closer to the City priorities, cons include how to remove vested interest in outcome on subjective scoring
 - iv. Pros of DRCOG scoring are external review but con of lacking control over outcomes
 - v. Issue not to be decided today at Forum but additional discussion will be needed
 - b. A Checklist for Federalization was introduced
 - i. This form will ask questions regarding certain federal NEPA triggers
 - ii. Should produce better project schedules in applications so Denver can hit its targets on on-time delivery of projects
 - c. A Cost Proposal Worksheet will also be required with construction applications so IPM staff can review and validate accuracy of cost estimation
 - d. \$110 million or more must be ranked by the Forum
 - i. Possibility more money could come into the Region and a waiting list must be developed

- e. Formal Subregional Call is January 2nd through February 27th.
- f. Project ask limits were proposed at \$5 million-\$25 million for Capital Construction, \$150,000 - \$5 million for studies and \$150,000 minimum for non-capital programs
 - i. Clark asked by we had a maximum for capital construction and that it seemed arbitrary
 - ii. Motion was made and approved to remove all upper project size limits for application and only have minimums
- g. No additional restrictions on eligibility were proposed beyond what is federally eligible
 - i. It was clarified transit pass subsidy and operations are eligible activities
- h. Criteria were added to better reflect Denver's Plans goals and objectives
- i. Criteria reweighting resulted in 30% Regional/Subregional Significance, 30% TIP Focus Areas, 30% Metro Vision and Denver objectives and 10% leverage
- j. A soft call for projects will open November 5 and close two weeks later, this will allow staff to understand how many and which projects will be applied for to ensure we hit the 20 or fewer target
- k. All of the above was unanimously approved by the Forum

IV. Status Update of Regional Review Panel

- a. TIP Policy Regional Share intent was reviewed and Begley provided update that 3 of 4 meetings were complete
 - i. 16th Street Mall and Broadway Station projects were presented at the request of the Panel
- b. Begley stated that while the scoring showed Denver projects performed well, the meetings to date indicated the scoring may not end up being used as a basis for decision making
- c. Papsdorf stated the Panel would decide on November 8th what the final recommendation for projects and funding would be
- d. Forum members expressed displeasure with the potential for the Regional Share to be diluted among many, potentially non-Regional projects
- e. The Panel's recommendation will come back before the DRCOG Board at a later date

V. Other Business

ADJOURN

TIP Regional Share Process Update & TSC Recommended Action

Background

The DRCOG 2020-2023 TIP Policy Regional Share Policy states:

The intent of the Regional Share is “to select a limited number of regional, high priority projects, programs, or studies that play a crucial role in shaping and sustaining the future of individuals, cities, and counties in the DRCOG region consistent with DRCOG’s Metro Vision Plan and 2040 Regional Transportation Plan. Regional project selection should directly be guided by the established TIP Focus Areas (which supports the implementation of the policies and programs established in Metro Vision and the MVRTP) and should connect communities, greatly improve mobility and access, and provide a high return on investment to the region.”

A project review panel met and unanimously recommended the project in order found in Attachment 1. This was later unanimously recommended to the DRCOG Board by the TAC & RTC.

On Wednesday November 28th, the DRCOG Board met and extensively debated the recommended TIP project list for funding, with particular attention and questioning of the merits of the 16th Street Mall Rehabilitation project. The DRCOG Board voted to retain the 16th Street Mall project on the list for funding based on the recommended reduced award of \$9,071,xxx. Counter to the recommendations from the committees, The Board voted to remove the Mall for consideration of any funds on the waitlist in the forthcoming TIP.

Current Status

The Board vote means the RTC will have to meet and take up discussion of the results of the Board vote for another vote by the RTC on the revised Regional Share projects for the TIP. The Denver TSC met on 11/29 and voted to request the Denver Subregional Forum send notice of a request to reaffirm the original recommendations of the committees.

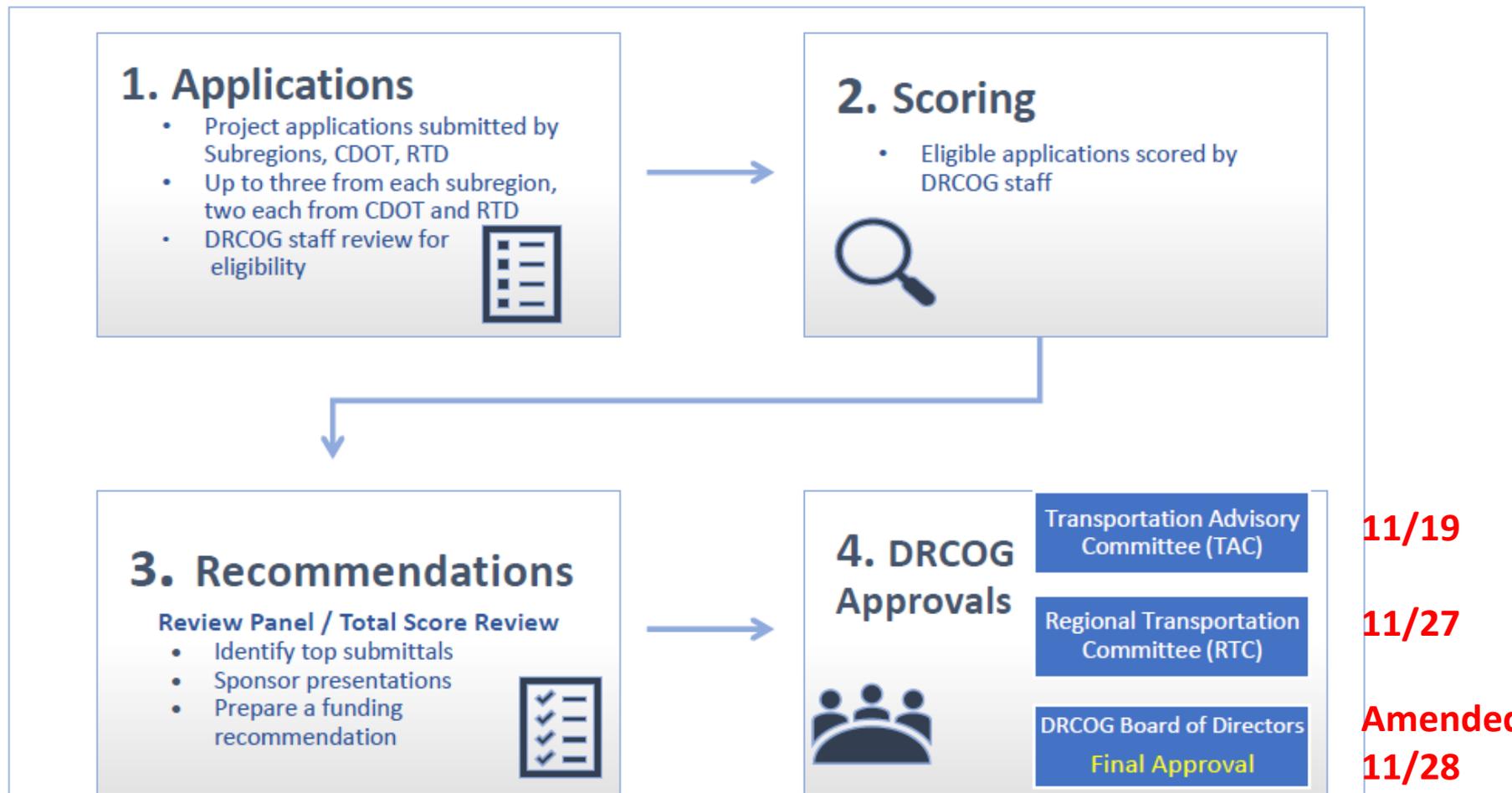
Staff Request

Consider TSC recommendation for either a letter or speaking at public comment at RTC to request reinstatement of the unfunded Regional Share amount of the 16th Street Mall award as the #1 project on the draft TIP wait list.

Regional Share Process Update

Denver Subregional Forum
December 13, 2018

2020-2023 Regional Share Process



4 Meetings From 10/3 – 11/8

TIP Regional Share Funding Recommendation

\$31,955,000 Available

| Subregional Forum | Project Sponsor | Project Name | Regional Share Funding Request | Total DRCOG Weighted Score H=3, M=2, L=1 | Tier | Project Activity | Regional Share Funding Level | Project Highlights | Waiting List Ranking |
|------------------------|-------------------|---|--------------------------------|---|--------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|---|----------------------|
| Boulder | Boulder County | SH-119 BRT Enhancements | \$ 8,150,000 | 2.5 | 1 | Construction | \$ 8,150,000 | 1) Center busway in Longmont on Coffman St between 1st and 9th, 2) transit bypass lanes on SH119 at SH52, and 3) Bus Access Transit (BAT) lanes in Boulder on 28th St between Iris and Valmont. | |
| Denver | Denver | 16th St Mall Rehabilitation | \$ 20,000,000 | 2.5 | 1 | Construction | \$ 9,071,916 | Reconstruct with new granite paver system, install bulb-outs, landscaping, realign transitway and sidewalks. | |
| Jefferson | Jefferson County | Peaks to Plains Trail - SH-6 Tunnel 1 to Huntsman Gulch | \$ 4,000,000 | 2.5 | 1 | Construction | \$ 4,000,000 | Build a 3-mile 10-foot ADA path along SH-6, including pedestrian bridges, parking lots, and creek access points. | |
| Arapahoe | Arapahoe County | High Plains Trail/Cherry Creek Trail Connector | \$ 2,000,000 | 2.4 | 1 | Construction | \$ 2,000,000 | New trail connecting existing High Plains and Cherry Creek Trails, including a grade separation over Parker Road. | |
| RTD | RTD | Mobility as a Service: Implementing an Open-Ticketing Platform | \$ 1,813,084 | 2.4 | 1 | Construction | \$ 1,813,084 | 1) Upgrade back-end administration of fare payment system to account-based, and 2) install new fare validators on all RTD revenue vehicles. | |
| RTD | RTD | RTD Transportation Transformation Comprehensive Plan | \$ 1,420,000 | 2.3 | 1 | Study | \$ 1,420,000 | Study will provide a vision for base transit system and maximize FasTracks investments. | |
| Arapahoe | Arapahoe County | US-85 PEL Study | \$ 1,500,000 | 2.2 | 1 | Study | \$ 1,500,000 | Planning and Environmental Linkages study on US-85, between C-470 and Alameda Ave/I-25 | |
| Broomfield | Broomfield | SH-7 Preliminary and Environmental Engineering | \$ 4,000,000 | 2.2 | 1 | Preconstruction | \$ 4,000,000 | Develop preliminary and environmental engineering, and identify ROW and utility needs on SH-7 from Folsom St in Boulder to US-85 in Brighton. | |
| | | | | | | | \$ 31,955,000 | | |
| Denver | Denver | 16th St Mall Rehabilitation (remaining unfunded balance) | \$ 10,928,084 | 2.5 | 1 | Construction | | | 4 |
| Denver | Denver | Broadway Station and I-25 Safety and Access Improvements | \$ 20,000,000 | 2.3 | 1 | Construction | | | 2 |
| Adams | Commerce City | I-270 Corridor EA and Vasquez Blvd Construction | \$ 6,000,000 | 2.2 | 1 | Construction | | | 3 |
| Jefferson | Wheat Ridge | Ward Rd and BNSF Grade Separation | \$ 1,000,000 | 2.0 | 1 | Preconstruction | | | 4 |
| Boulder | Boulder County | US-287 BRT Feasibility and Corridor Safety Study | \$ 250,000 | 1.9 | 1 | Study | | | 5 |
| Douglas | Lone Tree | I-25/Lincoln Interchange Traffic and Mobility Improvements | \$ 1,000,000 | 1.9 | 1 | Preconstruction | | | 6 |
| Arapahoe | Englewood | US-285 Congestion Management and Operations Study | \$ 900,000 | 1.8 | 1 | Study | | | 7 |
| Denver | Denver | I-25 Valley Highway Phase 2.0 (I-25 and Alameda) | \$ 15,000,000 | 2.0 | 2 | Construction | | | 8 |
| Jefferson | Wheat Ridge | Wadsworth Blvd Widening: 48th Ave to I-70 | \$ 3,300,000 | 2.0 | 2 | Construction | | | 9 |
| Adams | Commerce City | US-85/120th Ave Interchange: Phase 1 | \$ 8,819,426 | 1.9 | 2 | Preconstruction | | | 10 |
| Broomfield | Broomfield | US-36 Bikeway Realignment and Safety Improvements | \$ 1,234,000 | 1.9 | 2 | Construction | | | 11 |
| Adams | Bennett | I-70/SH79 Interchange Operational Improvements | \$ 750,000 | 1.7 | 2 | Construction | | | 12 |
| Total Requested | | | \$ 101,136,510 | | | | | | |
| CDOT | CDOT | Central 70 (Part 2 of DRCOG's previous commitment) | \$ 25,000,000 | | | | | | |

TAC - November 19, 2018

Takeaways from Regional Process

- 16th Street Mall received the highest single award, still a remaining gap to fund
- After lengthy debate on 11/28, the DRCOG Board voted 20-12 to remove the balance of the 16th Street Mall request of ~\$10 million
- First project on wait list for any new or returned Regional funding is Broadway Station
- Regional partners' projects with benefits to Denver were awarded – US 85 PEL & RTD

Recommendation from Technical Subcommittee

- The TSC was briefed on the 11/28 Board meeting
- While explanation was provided as to some Board members concerns with the Mall project (granite pavers, claims it was not regional, cost prohibitive and not transformative as it is a rehab project), no rationale was understood as to why it would be removed from the waitlist
- Therefore, the TSC voted to recommend to the Forum that it make a statement to the RTC requesting the original project list be amended into the draft TIP with the Mall rehabilitation request balance as the #1 project

Subregional Process Update, Scoring Recommendation & Schedule

Background

The DRCOG 2020-2023 TIP Policy requires Subregions to formalize criteria, an application and conduct a call for projects for TIP eligible recipients. The coordinated window to conduct the Subregional Share call is currently January 2nd through February 27th. To understand what projects could come from outside the City of Denver in the Subregional Share process, a ‘soft call’ for projects was conducted from November 5th through the 19th requesting an Expression of Interest be submitted.

Current Status

Staff will provide an update as to what was discovered in the soft call for projects. The process did not result in a significant number coming from outside the City that would require a selection process at the application stage.

Regarding process, the Denver Subregional Forum has approved the application to be used and the scoring criteria. The final issue to resolve is the scoring process. Within the previous several weeks, the Multi-Departmental Working Group and Technical Subcommittee have recommended scoring come from both the City and DRCOG. In order to proceed with the Call for Projects, a scoring methodology must be approved.

Staff Request

Approve a process that includes both review and scoring of applications by City Departments and DRCOG staff. Consolidated scoring results would be accompanied by presentations as requested and inform, not dictate the final package of projects from the Forum.

Findings from Subregional Share Soft Call for Projects

Denver Subregional Forum
December 13, 2018

Schedule

| Activity | Goal(s) | Date(s) |
|-------------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Sub-regional Forum | Approve Sub-region Process | 11/1/18 |
| Advertise a Soft Call | Learn of Forthcoming Applications, if Any ✓ | 11/5/18 through 11/19/18 |
| Multi-Departmental Work Group | Refine Project List to No More than 20 Applications ✓ | 11/12, 11/19 |
| Technical Subcommittee | Recommend Final Process ✓ | 11/29 |
| Sub-regional Forum | Finalize Process for Call | 12/13 |
| Formal Sub-regional Call | Submit Applications | 1/2/19 through 2/27/19 |
| Conduct Scoring | List of Scored Applications | 3/4/19 through 3/15/19 |
| Technical Subcommittee | Recommend Projects | 3/21, 3/28 |
| Sub-regional Forum | Presentations & Approve Sub-regional Projects | 4/4, 4/11 |

City-Based Evaluation for Applications

- Existing TIP funded or otherwise federalized project
- Lack of potential alternative options to fund
- Readiness – Project delay rules are tightening with new TIP
- Consideration of diversity in mode, geography, scale
- Begin by revisiting our Regional Share process projects

Soft Call Response

- Notification was sent to: TIP eligible recipients in Denver –
TMA, University
Regional Partners
City Departments
- Response indicates we are unlikely to have 20 applications
- The 20 application artificial limit is tied to the recommendations for a scoring process
- Result is we do not need a City-based process to reduce potential applications based on Soft Call results

Alternatives and Recommended Scoring of Subregional Applications

Denver Technical Subcommittee
November 29, 2018

Subregional Application Scoring Recap

- In previous TSC meetings, merits of either having DRCOG or City staff score applications was debated
- Issue brought to Forum, similar discussion without a clear preference for who and how applications should be scored
- Multi-departmental Working Group debated merits of several alternatives and advanced a recommendation to TSC which was advanced

Alternatives Discussed

- DRCOG only
- City Staff only
- DRCOG & City Staff and other outside parties
- Combinations of the above

Recommendation

- City Staff – Each from CPD, PW and Parks AND a DRCOG score
- Each with 1 of 4 scores to contribute
- Scores would be averaged and inform decision making to be accompanied by presentations as requested
- Forum considers this information and makes final recommendation of a minimum of \$110 million in projects to the DRCOG Board

***ACTION REQUESTED – TO MODIFY PROPOSAL OR ADVANCE AS-IS**