Regional Priorities for SPC Discretionary Funding Programs

Mapping the Future: The Southwestern PA Plan

REGIONAL PLACES

- Revitalization and redevelopment of existing communities is a priority.
- Investment in infrastructure improvements will be coordinated and targeted at the corridor level to optimize impact.
- The region will focus on identification and development of industrial sites, especially well-situated brownfield locations.

THE REGIONAL VISION:

Transportation and land use that supports and enhances the regional economy and the communities within it.

REGIONAL CONNECTIONS

- Maintenance of the existing transportation system will be a regional priority.
- Transportation and development choices will prioritize safe and secure multimodal and intermodal networks for people and goods.
- The region's transportation system will be actively managed and operated to function at its full potential.
- The transit system will connect people with resources throughout the entire region.
- The entire region will have access to broadband communications infrastructure.
- The region's infrastructure system will be designed to protect and enhance public health and the environment.

REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

- The region will prioritize business development with a focus on existing business retention and expansion.
- The region will support initiatives designed to improve workforce quality and quantity to meet emerging industry demands.
- The region will support identified strategic industry clusters.
- The region will prioritize programs and services to attract and retain a diverse population with a particular focus on young adults and immigrants.
- The region will proactively support the emerging role of colleges and universities in economic development.
- The region will preserve, promote and develop the tourism and hospitality industries by capitalizing on historic, cultural, recreational and ecological assets.
- The region will preserve and develop its agricultural industry.

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Regional Priorities for SPC Discretionary Programs Overview

- These competitive funding programs often have broad eligibility guidelines that in many cases overlap, this can result in a portfolio of projects that could be better coordinated.

- Effort to encourage more results-oriented planning and programming of projects.

- Project eligibility remains the same for all programs.

- Intended to establish a transparent link between the policies in the Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and the implementation of the LRTP through the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Congestion Mitigation Air Quality Program (CMAQ)

- Provides federal funds for transportation projects that ease congestion and contribute to the attainment and maintenance of air quality standards.

- Regional priority for CMAQ funding is to identify projects that provide the best congestion and air quality benefits for the investment.

- Examples include Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) deployments (both highway and transit), park-n-ride lots, travel demand management activities, traffic signal improvements, geometric/operational upgrades, and bottleneck mitigation projects.

- Program opens to solicit projects every two years, typically a 5-6 month process.

- Approximately $18M in CMAQ funds to the region per year .

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Congestion Mitigation Air Quality Program (CMAQ)

Plan Policy Focus

- The region's transportation system will be actively managed and operated to allow the system to function at its full potential.

- The region's transit system will connect people with resources throughout the entire region.

- The region's infrastructure system will be designed to protect and enhance public health and the environment.

Plan Implementation Focus

- Regional Operations Plan

- Regional Freight Plan

- Transit Development Plans

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Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)

- Provides funds for non-highway and bridge transportation projects that enhance the transportation system, increase mode choice and mitigate transportation related environmental impacts.

- Regional priority for TAP is to continue to enhance mobility, accessibility, and safety for pedestrians and bicyclists, and secondarily, to mitigate transportation-related storm water impacts.

- Examples include multiuse trails, on-street bike lanes, sidewalk connections, and Safe Routes to School projects. Projects that incorporate bicycle and/or pedestrian improvements with innovative storm water treatments will be the highest priority for this type of funding.

- Program opens to solicit projects every two years, typically a 4-5 month process.

- Approximately $1.8M in TAP funds to the region per year.

Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)

Plan Policy Focus

- Transportation and development choices will reflect a priority on safe and secure multimodal and intermodal networks for both people and goods.

- The region's infrastructure system will be designed to protect and enhance public health and the environment.

Plan Implementation Focus

- Regional Active Transportation Plan

- County Greenways Plans

- Local Municipal Plans

- Regional Trail Plans

Livability Through Smart Transportation Program (SMART)

- Provides funds to encourage collaborative projects that link multimodal transportation investments with land use planning to create transportation facilities that are safe, sustainable, responsive to the needs of all users, and supportive of community planning goals.

- Often derived from County and municipal planning efforts and provide multimodal connections and community livability enhancements beyond traditional asset management-focused projects.

- Examples include roundabouts, which can provide traffic calming and safety benefits while enhancing aesthetics and providing community gateways; transit accessibility projects that improve multimodal connections to transit facilities; and corridor improvement projects.

- Program opens to solicit projects every two years, typically a 4-5 month process.

- Approximately $2.0M in SMART funds available per year.

Livability Through Smart Transportation Program (SMART)

Plan Policy Focus

- Revitalization and redevelopment of the region's existing communities is a priority.

- Investment in infrastructure improvements will be coordinated and targeted at the corridor level to optimize the impact of the investment.

- Transportation and development choices will reflect a priority on safe and secure multimodal and intermodal networks for both people and goods.

Plan Implementation Focus

- County Comprehensive Plans

- Transit Development Plans

- Local Municipal Plans

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Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP)

- Provides funds for projects that advance the goals of the federal HSIP program to achieve a significant reduction in traffic fatalities and serious injuries on all public roads.

- Federal regulations require a data-driven, strategic approach to improving highway safety, thus, project selection processes are focused on quantitative analyses of existing safety problems as well as the potential safety benefits of proposed mitigation measures.

- SPC's Regional Safety Action Plan outlines regional safety focus areas based on analyses of historic crash data.

- The regional HSIP program is still under development and its project solicitation timeline is undetermined.

- Approximately $10.0M in HSIP funds to the region per year.

Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP)

Plan Policy Focus

- Transportation and development choices will reflect a priority on safe and secure multimodal and intermodal networks for both people and goods.

- The region's infrastructure system will be designed to protect and enhance public health and the environment.

Plan Implementation Focus

- Regional Safety Action Plan

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Questions?