

STPMM Category 7 Call for Projects Questions-October 7, 2015

Community Support Scoring Criteria:

1) **What is the scoring criteria?**

TAC has approved the criteria and it is listed on the KTMPPO website and in the STPMM Category 7 Call for Projects packet.

2) **How do we define community partner?**

A community partner is defined as anyone that provides any material value towards a project, for example, funds and/or labor.

3) **Could funding include right of way dedications?**

Yes, funding does include right of way dedications as a monetary value can be determined.

4) **What values are going to be used to right of way designation?**

CAD and/or certificate from a certified appraiser.

5) **When will you have the right of way acquired for a project to be eligible?**

Per TxDOT: Since these are federal funds, Category 7 is a project that would follow the 1 + 3 year rule. Therefore, the project selected in FY 15, would have until FY 18 to get constructed.

Below is the general development process for a project anticipating ROW acquisition (not donated or dedicated) and is generally a 3 year process:

- *Survey of project area*
- *Schematic/Route Development*
- *Begin ENV survey*
 - *Public Involvement*
- *ROW Map developed/approved*
 - *ROW deeds searched*
 - *ROW appraisals completed*
- *Upon ENV clearance, ROW purchases can begin*
- *Utility adjustments*
- *P&E (Plans) development (6 months to 1 year depending on complexity)*
- *Letting (Plans must be finished and submitted to Austin 2 months prior to letting)*
- *Construction (it takes 4-6 weeks from letting to get a contract issued and for the contractor to start work)*

It is generally common for ROW and utility responsibilities to be shared with the local government, so they would be involved during those steps. If a project is selected in FY 15, the above mentioned process would be finished in FY 17, which leaves one year for construction.

Technically, ROW does not need to be acquired to be an eligible project; however based on the foregoing, timely/easily acquired ROW is important.

Furthermore, projects that have ROW acquisition completed will receive 2 points under the project readiness section.

6) **How does the Uniform Act play in with ROW dedication and timing?**

Per the Uniform Act—ROW dedication is the process of reserving a parcel of land for a future public use; this is usually made as a part of the subdivision or zoning approval process. Thus if the ROW has been dedicated through this process, it should not affect timing because the city/county should not have to acquire it.

However, donated properties must still adhere to the Uniform Act. An owner whose real property is being acquired may, **after being fully informed by the acquiring entity** of the right to receive just compensation for such property, donate the property or any part thereof, any interest therein, or any compensation paid therefore, to the entity as the owner shall determine. Therefore, donated ROW could have the same timeline as ROW that is acquired through payment.

Regional Benefit Scoring Criteria:

7) **How do communities define Principal Arterial, Minor Arterial, Major or Minor Collector and other roadways?**

Roadways are classified by the Federal Functional Classification through the Federal Highway Administration. The following link is for the TxDOT map that shows the roadways with the right classifications. <http://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/division/transportation-planning/maps/statewide-planning.html>

8) **Will credit be given to a project if a project is partially in an entity's approved plan?**

Staff will evaluate each project's application on a case by case basis as they evaluate the project on the objective criteria.

Administration Budget:

9) **How much should we include for TxDOT administration?**

For locally let projects, TxDOT will charge 3% for direct cost related to administration.

10) **Is there a spot in the application budget for TxDOT administration?**

There is a spot in the application budget in Exhibit C1.

Project Readiness Scoring Criteria:

11) **What is needed to confirm utility coordination?**

To confirm utility coordination, any information showing that utility coordination is in progress or completed will be needed. Maps, contracts, and other vital information will be helpful in confirming utility coordination.

12) **What are the qualifications for PE to receive points?**

The PE stage must be completed to receive points. No points will be awarded for partial completeness.