



MEMORANDUM

To: Primary Jurisdictional Members of the RTA Technical Management Committee (TMC)

Chuck Huckelberry, Pima County
Michael Ortega, City of Tucson
John Vidaurri, City of South Tucson
Jamsheed Mehta, Town of Marana
Mary Jacobs, Town of Oro Valley
Kelly Udall, Town of Sahuarita
Rod Lane, Arizona Department of Transportation
Billman Lopez, Tohono O'odham Nation
Artemio Hoyos, Pascua Yaqui Tribe

From: Tom Mc Govern, Citizen Advisory Committee Chairman

Date: December 5, 2019

CC: Farhad Moghimi, Jim DeGrood, Dave Atler and Citizens Advisory Committee

Re: Call for Proposals for development of next RTA plan

Background and Overview

We all share a desire to meet our region's transportation needs and to seek the highest and best use of our limited transportation revenues. Regional collaboration is critical to encourage the public to invest in our communities and in our future.

We recognize that the region's long-range transportation needs far exceed available revenues, even with the future revenues that an RTA tax extension would provide. As we continue the process to develop the next RTA plan, we will seek extensive public input along the way to obtain broad views and perspectives from the public that will inform the RTA Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) and the RTA Board on how to prepare an investment program that will be broadly supported by voters in the region.

This is CAC's official Call for Projects for development of the next RTA plan and request that all jurisdictions prepare and submit a list of their respective regional transportation infrastructure improvement projects to meet the goal of the RTA Board for the CAC to develop a citizen-driven

plan that will be regionally supported at the ballot. **The deadline for these submittals is no later than noon on June 30, 2020, as established by the RTA Board.** Please read the entire memo to get full instructions for this Call for Projects.

The projects submitted will be presented to the members of the CAC. They will review the projects, start plan development and seek extensive public and stakeholder feedback of draft versions as they work to develop a final recommendation for RTA Board consideration.

The CAC is fully committed to working collaboratively with stakeholders throughout the region and understands the goal to develop a multimodal investment program that best uses projected RTA tax revenues to meet regional transportation priorities.

Call for Projects Instructions

This Call for Projects is intended to identify regional transportation **projects to be listed by name** in the RTA plan that is presented on a future ballot to the voters. A named project is one that addresses multiple modes of transportation needs. Costs related to multimodal improvements on identified projects will be paid out of that project budget and will not qualify for additional funds from the final RTA plan categorical budget.

Generally, named projects are not spot improvements, or a package of spot improvements. Submittals need to be standalone projects of a scale that is well beyond the typical project size for a categorical project and worthy of being **identified clearly on the ballot.**

Categorical Funding

The CAC will concurrently recommend classifications of categorical funding as part of the plan development process. Regardless of what categorical classifications are recommended by the CAC, future specific funding of categorical improvements will be programmed as part of Pima Association of Governments' (PAG's) biennial Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) programming process. **Projects that can be considered for categorical funding should not be submitted as part of this Call for Projects**, since individual categorical projects will not specifically be listed on the RTA ballot.

Period 4 Projects

The current 20-year RTA investment program includes four, 5-year periods from fiscal years 2006 to 2026. To provide budgeting continuity and predictability, the next RTA investment program would recognize Period 4 (i.e., FY 2022 to FY 2026) of the current RTA program as the same Period 4 in the next RTA program with the addition of three new 5-year periods: 5, 6 and 7.

Since projects in Period 4 of the current RTA plan are already voter-approved and will seamlessly transition from one plan to the next, there is no need to re-submit those projects for consideration by the CAC.

Based on anticipated RTA funding, the primary focus of this Call for Projects is to identify new projects that can potentially constitute periods 5, 6, and 7 in a proposed continuation of RTA project delivery. At this time, Period 5 is assumed to be FY 2027 to 2031, Period 6 to be 2032 to 2036, and Period 7 to be FY 2037 to 2041.

Performance Measures

The RTA enabling legislation and federal transportation policy require performance monitoring and reporting on the overarching goals and objectives of the plan. Therefore, the CAC will review information on performance-based programming -- a quantitative, data-driven planning approach -- for the development of the next RTA plan. Performance-based planning establishes clear linkages between investments made and expected performance outputs as well as outcomes that are required by state and federal law.

Fiscal Considerations

For the purposes of this Call for Projects, PAG staff assumes that RTA revenues for periods 5, 6, and 7 will be roughly equivalent to RTA revenues generated in recent years. Each project sponsor therefore should submit no more than \$200 million for named projects in each of those new periods.

The CAC will determine the actual fiscal constraint used for the development of the next RTA plan at a later date. That determination will be based not only on professionally developed cost estimates, but also on anticipated tax revenue update and the CAC-recommended categorical budget.

Project sponsors should identify the period for which the project is being requested. This request should take into consideration project readiness, capacity to deliver and anticipated financial cashflow of proposed funding sources.

If a jurisdiction's request for each period exceeds \$200 million in total project costs, project submittals must clearly identify the additional committed local revenue sources that will be required for project delivery.

Application Process

Project requests will be submitted through the following online portal hosted by Pima Association of Governments: <https://gismaps.pagnet.org/RTANext>

PAG staff will follow up with details and schedule a pre-submittal meeting and to walk through the application submittal process.

Each jurisdiction's primary member of the RTA Technical Management Committee (TMC) is responsible for officially submitting the requests on behalf of their respective jurisdiction. For each project submittal, the jurisdiction must certify that:

- the agency has the capacity to deliver the project,
- that the project is or will be ready in the indicated RTA period, and
- that any local funds committed to the project will be available for project delivery.

The primary TMC member can assign portal access to other staff to provide project submittal information. However, only the primary TMC member is authorized to certify the submittal.

Please submit your jurisdiction's project list at your earliest convenience but no later than June 30, 2020.