

AGENDA ITEM #10: HRTPO CMAQ/RSTP PROJECT SELECTION PROCESS: UPDATE
Mike Kimbrel, HRTPO

In response to new programs and requirements included in the federal Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA), the HRTPO developed and approved evaluation methodologies, policies, and procedures used to select projects to be funded under two programs under the act – the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) and the Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP). In the years since the original CMAQ/RSTP Project Selection Process was approved, HRTPO staff and the Transportation Programming Subcommittee (TPS) have periodically reviewed the methodologies, policies, and procedures to ensure they remained applicable and current.

In the interest of improving the project selection process, during the TPS meeting on February 19, 2016, the Subcommittee approved a recommendation to utilize the HRTPO Project Prioritization Tool to evaluate and rank highway projects proposed to be funded with RSTP funds. Because the Project Prioritization Tool cannot currently be used to evaluate and rank all types of non-highway RSTP project proposals, the TPS has recommended the continued use of the current RSTP project selection methodologies for non-highway projects. In addition, due to air quality focus associated with CMAQ, the TPS has recommended the continued use of the current CMAQ project selection methodologies for all CMAQ project proposals.

Mr. Mike Kimbrel, Principal Transportation Engineer, will brief the TTAC on this item.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Recommend HRTPO Board approval of the use of the HRTPO Project Prioritization Tool for the evaluation and ranking of highway projects proposed to be funded with RSTP funds.