

Transportation Management Organization (TMO) Support Grant

Colorado Fiscal Year (CFY) 2022-2023 Program

Rules, Selection and Evaluation Criteria

Overview

The Transportation Management Organization (TMO) Support Grant was released on Monday, July 19th, 2021. Applications are due Monday, August 9th, 2021. Please submit your applications to lisa.streisfeld@state.co.us.

Program Purpose

The transportation sector now represents the largest single source of Colorado's greenhouse gas emissions. If the state is to meet its ambitious goals for tackling climate change - and for reducing the criteria pollutant emissions and congestion that impact so many Coloradans' health outcomes and livelihoods - the promotion and facilitation of cleaner travel behaviors, work practices, and mobility options will continue to be essential.

Transportation Management Organizations (TMOs), through their specialized local knowledge, capacities, and partnerships with businesses and communities, have a crucial role to play in this effort. The TMO Support program was developed in order to help TMOs expand and adapt existing and innovative transportation demand management (TDM) strategies that both address the emerging transportation challenges following the COVID-19 emergency and draw from the lessons learned during the pandemic and past TDM work.

Program Goals

- Foster the creation of innovative solutions and technologies that meet the intent of TDM and address emerging challenges to traditional trip reduction strategies.
- Provide safe access to economic opportunity and mobility for people of all ages, incomes, and abilities.
- Reduce greenhouse gas and criteria pollutant emissions by reducing vehicle miles travelled by personal vehicles.
- Improve the function and reliability of the state travel network by reducing single occupancy vehicle (SOV) trips.
- Develop replicable outreach and TDM strategies for efforts statewide.
- Protect public health and welfare by encouraging work practices and TDM strategies consistent with social distancing and improved quality of life.

Applicant Eligibility Requirements

Applicants must be defined by CDOT as a Transportation Management Organization or Area (TMO or TMA):

A TMA is a non-profit membership organization made up of employers, developers, and property managers working together to address transportation, air quality and commuter issues in a defined geographic area.

CDOT currently recognizes nine TMOs and TMOs around the state:

- Boulder Transportation Connections
- Commuting Solutions
- Denver South
- Downtown Denver Partnership
- I-70 Coalition
- Northeast Transportation Connections
- Smart Commute Metro North
- Transportation Solutions
- West Corridor Transportation Management Association

Program Eligibility Requirements

Funding Background

Funds for these programs will be provided by the Office of Innovative Mobility (OIM).

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Eligible Project Locations

Funding is eligible for TDM programs statewide.

Ineligible Expenses:

Ineligible expenses include: cash incentives, “gift cards,” merchandise, and “swag.” Similarly, projects and programs outside of the state of Colorado are ineligible expenses for the grant support program.

Project Funding Evaluation and Selection Process

CDOT will establish an internal scoring and selection panel to assist with scoring and evaluating projects. Participants may include staff from various CDOT divisions:

- CDOT Office of Innovative Mobility
- CDOT Division of Transportation Development

Each member of the panel will review the applications and assign points to the criteria based on information contained in the project application forms. Projects meeting the minimum criteria and scoring by all reviewers will be approved for funding.

Evaluation Criteria

| Category | Weight (%) |
|--|------------|
| Trip Reduction and Transportation Demand Management | 30 |
| Performance Evaluation | 30 |
| Equity and Access for Low-Income and Disadvantaged Users | 20 |
| Innovation and Scalability | 10 |
| Regional Coordination | 10 |

Award Conditions

- All eligible and funded projects must be able to begin activities within 30 days of an executed contract.
- Individual applications shall not request more than \$60,000.
- Applicants should itemize budgets related to the amount that they are requesting.
- Awarded funds shall be expended by the end of Colorado Fiscal Year 2022 on or before June 30, 2022.
- All program scopes of work are subject to review and approval by CDOT.
- CDOT is the ultimate steward of these state funds. CDOT will specify requirements for status reporting and reimbursement requests.
- Approved applicants will be required to report data as specified to CDOT on a quarterly basis.

EVALUATION CRITERIA:

The complete application will include, but not be limited to, evaluation using the factors listed below. Applicants must score at 70% of the available points in order to be considered for award.

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| Category | Summary | Point Criteria (0-5) | Weight (%) |
|---|---|---|------------|
| Trip Reduction | The extent to which the applicant demonstrates and justifies clear strategies for reducing single occupancy vehicle trips and expanding mobility in their service area. | <p>5 - Applicant clearly identifies and fully justifies an overall strategy for reducing trips and expanding mobility options in their service area, and thoroughly connects their identified tasks to this strategy.</p> <p>3 - Applicant satisfactorily identifies a strategy for trip reduction, but fails to connect to the identified tasks or provides unclear or insufficient justification.</p> <p>0 - No evidence of a program-wide strategy for trip reduction or reasoning provided for the identified tasks.</p> | 30% |
| Performance Evaluation | Extent to which the applicant identifies reasonable performance metrics, data collection methodologies, and evaluation disciplines to measure their program's success. | <p>5 - Applicant clearly identifies appropriate performance metrics for their program consistent with the outlined goals, a thorough methodology for data collection, and a timeline and protocol for evaluating program strategies.</p> <p>3 - Applicant provides satisfactory detail for the identified performance measures, data collection methodology, and protocol for evaluation, but the reasoning provided is unclear or the evaluation does not sufficiently address the program goals.</p> <p>0 - The performance metrics identified are unclear, unachievable, and/or inappropriate.</p> | 30% |
| Equity and Access for Low-Income and Disadvantaged Users | The extent to which the applicant considers and addresses the transportation needs and challenges of disadvantaged populations in their service area. | <p>5 - Applicant clearly identifies the primary, relevant transportation challenges and needs of the disadvantaged populations within their service area and thoroughly discusses appropriate strategies to consider and address these within the program work.</p> <p>3 - Applicant adequately discusses the relevant transportation challenges and needs of their service area's disadvantaged populations, but does not clearly or sufficiently discuss appropriate strategies to integrate these considerations into the program work.</p> <p>0 - Applicant does not address the disadvantaged populations of their service area.</p> | 20% |
| Innovation Scalability | The extent to which the program incorporates, and identifies strategies to share, innovative or replicable technologies, approaches, or resources. | <p>5 - Applicant clearly identifies and discusses any innovative or scalable technologies, resources, or approaches involved in their program and thoroughly discusses reasonable and appropriate strategies/opportunities to either share them or facilitate access or replication.</p> <p>3 - Applicant satisfactorily discusses innovative or scalable elements within their program, but the strategies to make these accessible or replicable are unclear, unexplained, or inappropriate.</p> <p>0 - Applicant does not discuss innovation, scalability, or strategies to share relevant elements or make them accessible/replicable.</p> | 10% |

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| Regional Coordination | The extent to which the applicant identifies strategies to utilize new or existing partnerships, resources, or approaches to maximize the impact of the requested grant funding. | <p>5 - The applicant clearly and thoroughly discusses appropriate opportunities to utilize new or existing partnerships, resources, programs etc. to maximize the impact of grant funding and the identified program tasks.</p> <p>3 - The applicant's discussion provides insufficient detail or does not sufficiently connect the identified resources to identified program work.</p> <p>0 - Applicant does not discuss opportunities to leverage existing resources or to maximize the impact of grant funding.</p> | 10% |
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