



**COLORADO**  
**Department of Transportation**  
Division of Transportation Development

Multimodal Planning Branch  
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**DATE:** August 21, 2014  
**TO:** Transportation Commission  
**FROM:** Debra Perkins-Smith, Director, Division of Transportation Development (DTD)  
Mark Imhoff, Director, Division of Transit & Rail (DTR)  
**SUBJECT:** Project Selection and Senate Bill (SB) 09-228

Purpose

To obtain input on the process for identifying and selecting projects to be funded with anticipated SB 09-228 funds.

Action

Discussion and input on project selection for SB 09-228 funds.

Background

Henry Sobanet of the Office of State Planning and Budgeting (OSPB) provided the TC with an update on SB 09-228 at the July TC meeting. Recent forecasts suggest that, beginning in FY 2016, CDOT may receive annual General Fund transfers under SB 09-228 in the amount of approximately \$200 M per year for five years. SB 09-228 provides funds for "the implementation of the strategic transportation project investment program." The strategic project investment program is currently defined by the TC as the 28 strategic corridors, also known as "7<sup>th</sup> Pot". As shown in Attachment A, six of these corridors have not been completed. Strategic projects also include strategic transit projects. Ten percent (10%) of SB 09-228 revenues to CDOT must be expended for transit purposes or for transit-related capital improvements.

Details

Staff has identified several questions relating to the selection of projects for SB 09-228 for which your input is requested. These include:

I-70 Viaduct

Previous TC discussions on the I-70 Viaduct have assumed SB 09-228 funding of approximately \$275 M. *Is the I-70 Viaduct at this level of funding the first priority?*

Definition of Strategic Projects

Strategic projects are currently defined by the TC as the "7th Pot" Strategic Corridors plus strategic transit. The remaining six corridors were originally identified nearly twenty years ago and may not reflect the current priorities. In addition it should be noted that due to potential TABOR limitations, projects identified should take into consideration the potential fluctuation in funding. Therefore, the Commission may want staff to take a fresh look at identifying projects that best represent current priorities and are the strongest candidates for funding under SB 09-228. Based on this assumption, a process for project identification is presented below.



### Project Selection

The process outlined in Attachment B could be used to identify the best potential projects and evaluate those projects for possible funding under SB 09-228. Under this approach the Regions would be asked to identify candidate projects. Project identification by the Regions could be supported by the use of GIS data to compare projects within each Region. Those candidate projects identified by the Regions could then be evaluated based on criteria related to TC goals (similar to the RAMP process). Examples of potential criteria include mobility, economic benefits, infrastructure condition, safety, multimodal elements, geographic equity, and project readiness. Since there are other programs/funding sources that address infrastructure condition and safety, an approach that emphasizes mobility and economic benefit may be appropriate. The results of evaluation could be used to support final project selection by the TC. *Does this represent a reasonable approach to project identification, evaluation, and selection?*

### Transit Projects

As noted, 10% of SB 09-228 revenues must be expended for transit purposes. Senate Bill 1 "Strategic Transit Projects" are largely completed using those funds, FASTER transit funds, and other sources. Past projects from the "Strategic Transit Program" list, from FTA requests, and from FASTER Transit requests have included projects at different geographic scales (local, regional, interregional, and statewide), of different types (demand-response bus, fixed-route bus, rail studies, and highway enhancements), for different purposes (capital, operating, and administrative/technical assistance), and requiring different levels of partnerships (local matching dollar shares and various performance criteria/requirements). *What types of transit projects should be considered and what process should be followed with respect to project selection?*

### Other Issues

*Are there any other issues that should be considered in identifying potential projects?*

### Next Steps

Based on input from the TC, staff will return for a workshop to identify SB 09-228 projects.

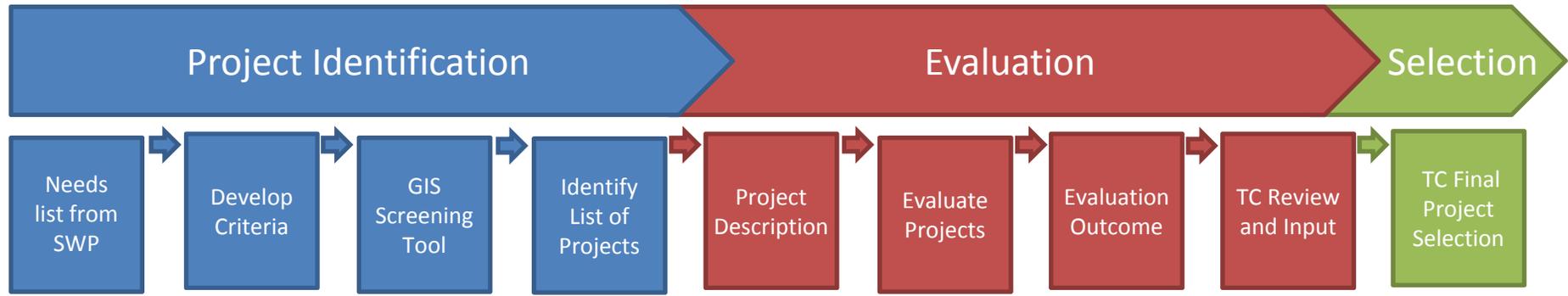
### Attachments

Attachment A - Status of 28 Strategic Corridors as of June 30, 2014

Attachment B - SB09-228 Project Selection Framework







- 7<sup>th</sup> Pot List
- A & B List
- Region Input
- TPR Plans
- Hot Spots identified from data

- Develop criteria related to TC goals (Mobility, Safety, Economic Benefit, Project Readiness, Multi-modal Enhancement, etc.)

- Regions use data to identify projects

- Greatest Need Projects from Regions

- Refine projects/ detailed project descriptions

- Evaluate individual projects based on criteria

- Projects by Tiers

- Review of evaluation outcomes

- TC Identification of projects to be funded with estimated SB 09-228 revenues