



January 5, 2024

Revised February 13, 2024

## **Strategic Transportation Management Organization (TMO) Seed Funding Grants Calendar Year 2024 Round 1 Projects Rules & Selection Criteria**

### **Program Purpose**

Transportation Demand Management (TDM) - defined broadly as strategies that maximize travelers' choices and, in doing so, allow them to make more efficient use of existing transportation infrastructure - is an increasingly crucial tool in meeting Colorado's commitment to a reliable transportation network and the ambitious goals for tackling climate change outlined in House Bill 19-1261 Climate Action Plan to Reduce Pollution.

However, while there are strong, existing examples of successful TDM programming in Colorado, many areas and groups across the state have not been as well-served by traditional TDM efforts.

The **Strategic Transportation Management Organization (TMO) Seed Funding Grant** was developed by the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) to establish new transportation management organizations (TMOs) in currently un-represented areas of the state, and to add new perspectives to the TDM conversation that have the potential to increase TDM success in non-urban areas.

### **Program Goals**

- Foster the creation of innovative solutions and technologies that reduce single occupancy vehicle trips and encourage the use of alternative modes of transportation.
- Support the creation of financially sustainable TMOs that enhance the capacities and efficiencies of their local and regional transportation networks and support stakeholders in voluntary efforts to reduce trips, emissions, and travel impacts.
- Support economic development by normalizing and encouraging telecommuting as a best work practice for employers.
- Provide safe access to economic opportunity and mobility for people of all ages, incomes and abilities, including vulnerable users.
- Reduce greenhouse gas and criteria pollutant emissions by reducing vehicle miles traveled by personal vehicles.

### **Applicant Eligibility Requirements**

Eligible applicants include governmental agencies, transit agencies, and non-profit organizations. Nonprofits must provide affirmation/letters of support from the local government entities within their proposed area of service.

### **Project Eligibility Requirements**

#### [Funding background](#)

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



### Eligible Project Locations

Funding is available for the creation of programs statewide that do not overlap with the service area boundaries of existing Transportation Management Organizations (TMOs).

### Eligible Project Types

Funding is available for the creation of new, dedicated Transportation Management Organizations (TMOs).

### Funding Requirements

Eligible projects must request a minimum of \$20,000 and a maximum of \$100,000, excluding match. A local cash or in-kind match of 20% of the request grant funds is optional. Preference will be given to larger matches and programs that identify sustainable funding commitments and/or commitments from multiple partners.

### Application Process

Applications should be submitted along with letters of support from impacted or participating entities.

### Project Funding Evaluation and Selection Process

The **Strategic TMO Seed Funding Grant** was released **January 5, 2024**. **Applications are due by March 29, 2024**. Please submit your application to [dot\\_innovativemobility@state.co.us](mailto:dot_innovativemobility@state.co.us) with the subject "2024 TMO Seed Funding Grant Application".

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

- CDOT Office of Innovative Mobility
- CDOT Division of Transportation Development
- Colorado Department of Public Health & the Environment
- Regional CDOT Planning Partners, where applicable

Each member of the panel will review the applications and assign points to the criteria based on information contained in the project application forms. Awards will be selected based upon maximum awarded points until funds are exhausted.

### Evaluation Criteria

Category	Weight (%)	What are we assessing?
Need & Existing Transportation Challenges	35	To what extent does the proposed service area have a demonstrated need and audience for a dedicated TMO? (e.g. congestion, mobility issues, planning precedent)
Applicant Readiness	30	What is the program's likelihood of success given the applicant's readiness, plan, timeline, budget, and partnerships?
Equity	15	How does the program consider and address underserved populations in the area,



		especially those underserved by traditional TDM practice?
Long-Term Sustainability	20	To what extent does the applicant demonstrate a plan and capacity for financial self-sustainability beyond the initial grant period?

## Award Conditions

- All project scopes of work are subject to review and approval by CDOT. The submitted and approved project scope becomes the work that the applicant at a minimum must complete.
- New awardees must be willing to provide relevant business and tax documentation for completion of the CDOT Vendor ID creation process where each vendor will be provided a unique numerical identifier.
- Each applicant awarded funds will provide a signed scope of work and be issued a purchase order from the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) to implement the project depending on the type, location and other characteristics of the project. CDOT is the ultimate steward of these state funds. CDOT will specify requirements for status reporting and reimbursement requests.
- Costs cannot be incurred until awardee has received a purchase order and notice to proceed from CDOT. Funds will be dispersed through reimbursement with applicable documentation provided showing purpose of cost incurred, proof of payment, and labor rates/hours.
- Approved applicants will be required to report data based on the application scoring criteria.
- Select applicants may be required to attend a pre-project training and post-project debrief with CDOT and other state agency staff.
- Select applicants may be invited to present their projects to the Statewide Transportation Demand Management work group, Statewide Transportation Demand Management Conference, or other platform upon completion.

## Revisions

2/13/2024: Grant application due date corrected to reflect March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024. A correction is made to state that matched funding is optional for this grant award although the weighted scoring still applies to higher matches.