Transportation Alternatives Program

January 11, 2013

Statewide Transportation Advisory Committee

MAP-21 TAP

- New Grant Program

- Competitive Process Required

- Combines former Transportation Enhancement (TE), Safe Routes to School (SRTS), and Recreational Trails

- TAP is less than programs added together and less than former TE program

- Obligation of funds – 50% by population areas; 50% anywhere in State

- Urbanized areas over 200,000 – funds suballocated to TMA's

Questions

- How should this limited amount of funding be used?

- Should there be a focus to the program?

- How should SRTS be addressed?

- How should the program be administered?

- How to deal with projects already selected under former programs?

Proposed CDOT Program Focus

- **Bike/Pedestrian project focus** but other types of eligible projects considered on case by case basis (majority of TE projects have been bike/ped).
- **Support Bike/Pedestrian Plan goals** of increased mode usage and/or improved bike/ped safety.
- **Structure criteria** for urban areas and for rural areas.
- **SRTS** - **no specific set aside**, infrastructure would be a bike/ped project. Education/outreach would not be funded by TAP.

Program Administration Options

- Options for statewide funds and for funds to areas less than 200,000 (Over 200,000 area funds to TMA's)
  - Administer from a Statewide Pool
  - Allocate funds to Regions based on a formula
  - Other?

SW Pool Option

- Process
  - Applications to Regions for cost, scope, schedule review
  - Criteria for rural – criteria for urban
  - Ranking of area applications by MPO's or TPR's for submittal to SW Pool
  - SW Committee selects projects based on criteria that support Bike/Ped goals (Example committee: CDOT HQ, CDOT Regions, Law Enforcement, SW Bicycle Rep.)
  - Obligate in population areas as required by MAP-21

SW Pool Option

- Review projects from all areas together –
  - compare all rural
  - compare all urban
- Consistency in evaluation
- Select 'best' projects to meet program goals and criteria
- Larger project could be funded
- Competition at statewide level
- Funds go to Grantees (no set amount per region/per year)
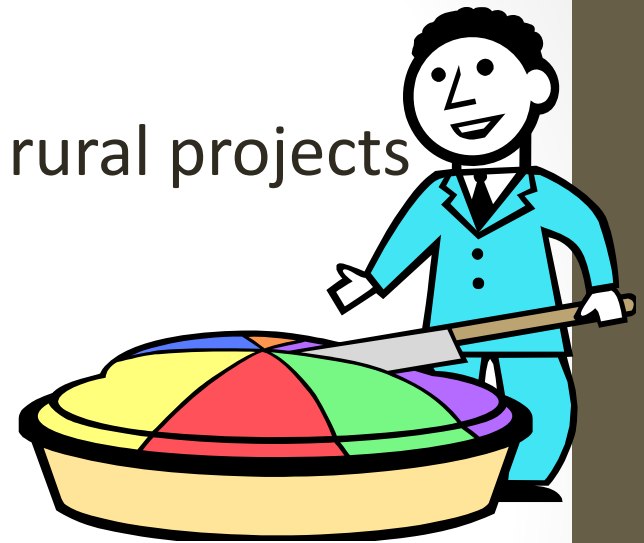
Region Allocation Option

- Process
  - Determine formula
  - Divide funds among Regions
  - Regions review applications for cost, scope, schedule
  - Regions and TPR's or MPO's review and select projects based on established evaluation criteria and program goals
  - Obligate in population areas as required by MAP-21

Region Allocation Option

- Does not have comparison of all rural projects or all urban projects together
- Multiple evaluation approaches
- Hard to fund larger project
- Competition at region level
- Identified region amount each year
- Funds divided into smaller pieces
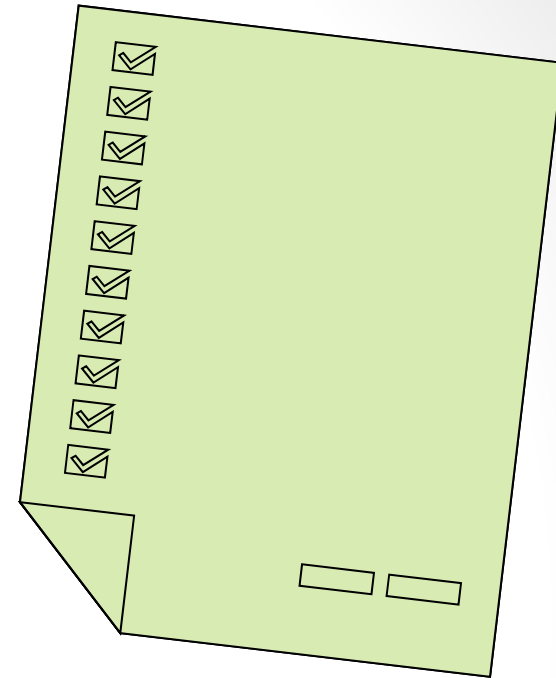
FY 14 Program

Transition

- TAP funds slightly less than former TE resource allocation estimate
- Suballocate funds to TMA's for urbanized areas over 200,000 per MAP-21
- Suballocate funds to Regions to approximate resource allocation TE amounts (regions work with MPO's)
- Regions verify competitive process used and evaluate projects to ensure compliance with MAP-21 eligibility
- SW evaluation to ensure compliance with MAP-21 population area obligation requirements
- Develop program criteria and process for future years

Discussion

- Program focus
- Program administration options
- Other ideas
- FY 14 procedure
- General comments/recommendations

Additional comments to:

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Next Steps

- Gather and review comments
- Develop staff recommendation
- Present comments and recommendation to STAC
- Present comments and recommendation to Commission