

MEMORANDUM

DIVISION OF ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE

Office of Financial Management and Budget

4201 East Arkansas Avenue, Room 235
Denver, Colorado 80222
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DATE: September 9, 2011

TO: Representatives and Alternates of the Statewide Transportation Advisory Committee

FROM:  Laurie Freedle, Manager, Office of Financial Management & Budget

SUBJECT: Changes to STIP Amendment Process for STIP Pool Projects

OFMB has been reviewing the STIP amendment guidelines as they relate to pooled projects, and have a proposal to minimize the number of policy amendments necessary. Federal guidelines require policy amendments for STIP pools when a pool is first established or when funding is added to a pool. The current CDOT process is more stringent; requiring policy amendments when adding or deleting any project from a STIP pool.

The following proposal will allow more flexibility in amending established STIP pools. This proposal would not affect amendments in TIP areas, as they go through the MPO process. These changes will be considered for adoption by the Transportation Commission at their meeting on September 22.

Attached is a copy of the process guidelines for you to review in whole. The proposed changes are summarized below.

- Except for the following funding programs, all amendments of projects into or out of STIP pools are administrative:
 - 7th Pot – all need to be policy (not currently in pools)
 - Earmarks – all need to be policy (normally most are regionally significant anyway)
 - Bridge On System
 - Any new project \$2.5M or more is a policy amendment
 - Any funds added to an existing project that makes the total \$2.5M or more is a policy amendment (this will eliminate the practice of STIPping \$2M as admin and then STIPping \$1M the next day, for example)
 - RPP
 - Any new project \$2.5M or more is a policy amendment
 - Any funds added to an existing project that makes the total \$2.5M or more is a policy amendment (this will eliminate the practice of STIPping \$2M as admin and then STIPping \$1M the next day, for example)

- Faster Safety
 - Any new project \$2.5M or more is a policy amendment
 - Any funds added to an existing project that makes the total \$2.5M or more is a policy amendment (this will eliminate the practice of STIPping \$2M as admin and then STIPping \$1M the next day, for example)
- The \$2.5M threshold would be the total of the project cost in the 6 STIP years
- The regions are still able to make any project a regionally significant project that they choose regardless of project cost
- All amendment guidelines for regionally significant projects and addition of funding to pools remain unchanged
- If a STIP pool project is close to the \$2.5M threshold, we strongly recommend that you initially STIP it as a policy amendment to avoid delays that could occur if the bid comes in over \$2.5M

If anyone has any questions, feel free to contact Jamie Collins of my staff at 303-757-9092, or email jamie.d.collins@dot.state.co.us. We will also be discussing this item at the STAC meeting on September 16.

Thank you.