Bonus Allocation Guiding Principles
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Inclusion in Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)

Projects must be included in the MPO's Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) in order to be eligible for programming with bonus allocation (BA) funds. This requirement applies to bonus allocation funds generated from tolled projects and local contributions to projects. Operational improvements are programmatically included in the MTP and are eligible for BA funding.

Logical Nexus to Generating Source of Bonus Allocation Funds

Bonus allocation funds are generated by tolled highway projects or by local contributions to projects. Successful candidate projects for bonus allocation should have a logical nexus to the tolled project or the local jurisdiction providing the funding contribution.

Recognition of Funding Challenges with Strategic Transportation Investment (STI) law

The Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization recognizes the funding challenges presented through STI. While the STI law gives priority to the higher order facilities (interstates and highways) it presents significant funding challenges for Division Needs projects (secondary roads). The MPO's bonus allocation methodology will consider the funding challenges of all candidate projects and may give preference to programming Division Needs projects where appropriate.

Recognition of Funding Opportunities with Strategic Transportation Investment (STI) law

The Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization monitors and reviews all proposed changes to the scoring criteria in NCDOT's prioritization system (SPOT). The MPO also works closely with all three Division Engineers offices to evaluate the competitiveness of all projects and the likelihood of a project being programmed through future prioritization cycles. The MPO's bonus allocation methodology will consider the existing and draft State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), the competitiveness of each project in SPOT, and the likelihood of each project being programmed through the regular prioritization cycles. The MPO's bonus allocation methodology may give preference to programming projects that are not included in the STIP or likely to be included in the next STIP.