

### **Approach to Programming Competitive Set-Asides in the 2007-12 TIP**

**Overview:** During the 2007-12 TIP update, CDTC set aside funds in four competitive regional set-asides (RG102, RG103, RG104, and RG105, which are described in more detail below). Normally, a set-aside in the CDTC TIP refers to funds reserved for programming on a first-come first-served basis for qualified projects subject to Planning Committee approval. However, the four new set-asides created during the 2007-12 update reserve funds for projects chosen through a competitive programming process that would normally be accomplished during a TIP update. During the 2007-12 update, CDTC decided to defer solicitation, review and selection of projects for these set-asides until after TIP adoption.

**Current Status:** At the November 7, 2007 Planning Committee meeting, a tentative approach and schedule was distributed and discussed. Members were asked for advice regarding the sequencing of the set-aside solicitations. Members acknowledged that it would be advantageous to solicit for all the set-asides at one time, with the possible exception of diesel retrofits, to afford municipalities a degree of latitude in determining which program to apply for.

**Approach:** The programming of these set-asides would follow the proposed accompanying schedule. The four new set-asides are as follows:

- 1) **RG102, Alternative Fuel Retrofit:** This funding is for Non-CDTA fleets and off-road vehicles. There is a total of \$2.0 M programmed in the five years. \$0.500 M will be programmed in this effort for two reasons: a) since retrofits are inexpensive, it is anticipated that enough projects can be funded with \$0.500 M that there is no need to program more than that at this time, and b) since retrofit technology changes rapidly, greater benefits can be realized by funding projects with tomorrow's technology using funds held in reserve. Since these projects address a different group of potential sponsors than the other set-asides do, and require a different justification package than the typical TIP project justification package, it makes sense to conduct the solicitation separately from the others and possibly ahead of the enclosed schedule.
- 2) **RG103, Bicycle/Pedestrian Network Set-Aside:** This project provides funds for implementation of actions recommended in Linkage studies. To have a sufficient group of candidate projects, staff suggests programming the total five-year funding of \$1.0 M at this time.
- 3) **RG104, Intersections, Queue Jumpers & Roundabouts Set-Aside:** This project provides funds to implement some of the many roundabout candidates and similar concepts. Because of the potential costs of these projects, staff suggests programming the total five-year funding of \$5.0 M at this time.
- 4) **RG105, Safety Set-Aside for Non-State Roads:** This project provides funds for safety improvements to non-state federal-aid roads. Because of the large number of candidate projects, staff suggests programming the total five-year funding of \$7.520 M at this time. Options for solicitation, evaluation and programming are presented in a separated enclosure.