



CAPITAL DISTRICT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

One Park Place, Main Floor · Albany, NY 12205-2676

www.cdtcmpto.org

e-mail: cdtc@cdtcmpto.org

Phone: (518) 458-2161

Fax: (518) 729-5764

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Dear Local Government Colleagues and Other Interested Parties:

The Capital District Transportation Committee (CDTC), as the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization for Albany, Rensselaer, Saratoga and Schenectady Counties, has the responsibility under federal law to adopt a Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). On June 6, 2013, CDTC's Policy Committee adopted the current TIP (found at <http://www.cdtcmpto.org/tip.htm>), which includes all federal-aid transportation projects for the 2013-18 period. This TIP contains regional set-aside projects, which are blocks of funding for which projects had not yet been programmed at the time of TIP adoption, with the intention of soliciting projects at a later date. With this letter we are now soliciting projects for the RG126 Bridge Preservation for Non-State Roads set-aside. This solicitation includes two years of the set-aside, funded within the TIP as follows:

<u>Fund Source</u>	<u>2014-15</u>	<u>2015-16</u>
NHPP	\$9.185M	\$2.443M
STP-Flex	\$0	\$2.101M

Eligible project sponsors (bridge owners and maintainers) should consider candidates and submit those of greatest priority and best fit to CDTC's adopted principles and plans. Candidate projects must be preservation projects of non-state bridges on the Federal-Aid system. Preservation treatments may include cyclical work, single element-specific repairs, corrective repairs, and rehabilitations. Bridge replacement does not qualify as preservation. In order to be eligible for NHPP funding, a bridge must also be on the National Highway System (NHS). In order to be eligible for STP-Flex funding under this solicitation, a bridge must also have a State Condition Rating (CR) of 5.5 or below, a Red/Yellow Flag, or element(s) deemed to be in near term risk (5 years) of failure. Non-state bridges off the Federal Aid system are currently under review and may be eligible for funding under a future solicitation.

To guide and clarify the submission process and the potential project candidates, CDTC has made available the following supplemental information:

1.) Project Justification Package

(<http://www.cdtcmpo.org/tipdoc13/RG126/pjp.pdf>)

This streamlined and condensed package explains and guides the process of submitting projects for consideration.

2.) Potential candidate list

(<http://www.cdtcmpo.org/tipdoc13/RG126/candidates.pdf>)

This spreadsheet lists non-state bridges on the Federal-Aid system in the region. Potential candidates based on eligibility criteria defined in the project justification package are highlighted in green.

3.) Bridge data file (<http://www.cdtcmpo.org/tipdoc13/RG126/data.xls>)

This electronic spreadsheet provides additional detail on bridge and repair characteristics to assist bridge owners in identifying candidates and treatments, and completing the project justification package. This file will only be available on the CDTC website unless requested.

4.) Merit Evaluation Procedure

(<http://www.cdtcmpo.org/tipdoc13/RG126/merit.pdf>)

This document gives details of the process CDTC uses to calculate cost-benefit within merit evaluation. (Note that, within the project justification package, bridge owners also have the opportunity to explain a proposed project's consistency with the long range transportation plan, and to provide supplemental qualitative information.) The results of the analysis are given to the planning committee for consideration in forming a balanced program that makes progress toward meeting regional goals. This file will only be available on the CDTC website unless requested.

If you have candidate projects that meet the federal and CDTC eligibility criteria (highlighted in green on the spreadsheet), and wish to submit candidate projects for CDTC to consider adding to the TIP, please submit the following two items.

1.) A cover letter which addresses the items below:

a. An affirmation of local ability and willingness to pay up to 20% of project costs and to maintain the project after

construction. Depending upon the availability of state "Marchiselli" funds, the local contribution may be reduced to 5% of project cost. Note that state procedures will require the local jurisdiction to "front" money for future reimbursement during the project development process.

b. The name of a contact person for further information. CDTC staff will rely on this individual during the process of clarifying project details and evaluating project merit.

2.) Completed project justification packages for each project submittal. If a given candidate project was submitted in an earlier project solicitation but not programmed for funding, you will still need to complete and submit a project justification package for that project. Multiple projects proposed to be bundled into one construction contract should be submitted as individual projects, noting intent to bundle in the cover letter.

In order to receive consideration, your application **must be received by Friday, December 19, 2014**. If you have any questions, please call or email us and we will direct you to the appropriate CDTC staff.

For those committee members who do not have bridge preservation candidates listed on the enclosed spreadsheet this letter is being sent for information only.