The attached TIP/STIP Policy Guidance and Instructions are provided for your use in developing October 2013 to September 2018 TIPs which will be incorporated into the October 2013 to September 2017 STIP. This guidance should be considered an addendum to the 2011 Capital Program Update Instructions you received last September. As you know, the 2013 TIP/STIP update must be consistent with MPO Long Range Plans and we ask that it also reflect the State’s “forward four” guiding principles:

- preservation first
- system not projects
- maximize return on investments
- make it sustainable.

As you develop the TIP/STIP update, please review the ten Regional Economic Development Council Strategic Plans and consider how the TIPs and STIP can incorporate consistency with the goals and direction of the Councils, all of whom have recognized support for existing transportation infrastructure as an important priority for continued economic growth.

Additionally, NYSDOT will continue to work with the NY Works Task Force to maximize opportunities to plan, coordinate, leverage and accelerate capital investment in our transportation infrastructure.

Also attached are your planning targets for the TIP/STIP update. Through the end of Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2014 the dollar amount of your planning targets remain unchanged from the targets you received with the 2011 Comprehensive Program Update (CPU) Instructions. Federal fund sources were converted to reflect changes in new surface transportation legislation (MAP-21).
Beginning in FFY 15, Regions are receiving a Planning Target to address their relative preservation need and a Planning Target for small capital system renewal projects. Funding priority for major capital infrastructure investments will be determined on a statewide basis from a pool of candidate projects submitted by the Regional Offices. Information on the process and schedule for submitting candidates for this statewide prioritization program is included in the guidance. We anticipate providing additional information sessions and assistance on the statewide prioritization process in the future.

The focus of Regional planning targets as well as the statewide prioritization of major capital needs will be on maintaining our existing infrastructure in a state of good repair. During FFY 13 there will be several special programs that will require additional solicitations for projects. For example, we anticipate a solicitation for the Transportation Enhancements Program (TEP), a solicitation for HSIP funded safety projects reflecting high benefit/cost ratios and a solicitation for Exemplary Sustainability Projects. We will soon be developing and discussing with you criteria and scheduling for these special programs.

We realize you will have questions and may need clarification on items in this guidance. We will be discussing the guidance with you at our regularly scheduled RPPM and MPO Directors’ teleconferences. You may also direct questions to stip.update.2013@dot.ny.gov. Thank you.

cc: J. McDonald, Commissioner
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