

Greenville Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization's (GUAMPO) Prioritization Process

The following local input methodology has been developed by the Greenville Urban Area MPO for the purpose of determining regional priorities for transportation funding, as carried out through the State of North Carolina's Strategic Transportation Investments (STI) law and the associated Strategic Prioritization Office of Transportation (SPOT) Prioritization Process. This methodology is intended to incorporate both measurable, objective data and information about priorities from local jurisdictions, to ensure a process that is both data-driven and responsive to local needs. STI as summarized on the NCDOT website:

"Passed in 2013, the Strategic Transportation Investments law allows the N.C. Department of Transportation to use its funding more efficiently and effectively to enhance the state's infrastructure, while supporting economic growth, job creation and a higher quality of life. This process encourages thinking from a statewide and regional perspective while also providing flexibility to address local needs.

STI also establishes the Strategic Mobility Formula, which allocates available revenues based on data-driven scoring and local input. It is used to develop NCDOT's State Transportation Improvement Program, which identifies the transportation projects that will receive funding during a specified 10-year period.

Federal law requires the State Transportation Improvement Program to be updated at least every four years. NCDOT, however, updates it every two years."

The subsequent local input methodology has been developed to meet the requirements of Session Law 2012-84 (Senate Bill 890), which requires that MPOs and RPOs have a process including both quantitative and qualitative elements for determining project prioritization. The output of this process will generate a point assignment per project.

Transportation projects are divided into highway, bicycle-pedestrian, rail, aviation and transit projects, and sorted based on eligible Strategic Transportation Investment categories. Each mode has a series of measurable criteria and weighting in each criteria category.

Quantitative criteria are based on measurable data available from local and state sources. Qualitative criteria are based on staff knowledge of local conditions, public comment and suggestions from TCC and TAC members. Data measurements were chosen based on TCC and TAC knowledge of evaluation measures.

Regional projects scored using Division Points

The STI law provides for the use of points from a lower-level project on a higher-level project. For example, Division Needs points may be used on a Regional Impact or

Statewide Mobility project. The MPO may choose to do this for some projects that may have an improved chance of being funded in this manner.

Public Comment and SPOT Schedule

Public input opportunities are available at all TCC and TAC meetings. All TCC and TAC meetings have designated public comment periods. The Greenville Urban Area MPO will advertise a minimum 30-day public comment period to solicit public input regarding the proposed prioritization process described within this document. Additionally, all TCC and TAC meetings are advertised and open to the public.

Public comment on the MPO prioritization process will be available according to the timeline shown below. The criteria will be presented at a scheduled TCC and TAC meeting so that residents can understand how the projects will be ranked and selected. The information will also be posted on the City of Greenville's website and on the MPO home page, to assure wider dissemination of the points criteria. During the preliminary point assignment phase, for Regional and Division level projects, the public will have at least 10 days, as outlined below, in which to comment on the proposed point assignment. Comments can be given by phone, mail, fax and/or by dropping off written comments to the Greenville Urban Area MPO. The address and contact information to be used during the comment periods is as follows:

*The Greenville Urban Area MPO
c/o Greenville Public Works Department
1500 Beatty St. Greenville, NC 27834
Phone: 252-329-4476
Fax: (252) 329-4535*

Online:

http://www.greenvillenc.gov/departments/public_works_dept/information/default.aspx?id=510

Email: Rpurtle@GreenvilleNC.gov

All comments received regarding the Division and Regional preliminary point assignment phase will be recorded and taken into account by Staff, the TCC and the TAC before finalizing and formally adopting point assignments for each project. The comments will be presented and discussed before committee action is taken regarding point assignment and posted to the MPO's website until the final 2020-2029 State Transportation improvement Program (STIP) is adopted. Public hearings for Divisional and Regional point assignments will be held during the respective TCC and TAC meetings in which point assignment is listed and advertised as an agenda item. Should additional public involvement opportunities be requested or advised by the TCC or TAC, the MPO will advertise said opportunity in the local newspaper and on the MPO website.

Action	Date*
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Public input meeting and 30-day comment period on candidate projects	July/August 2017
Candidate projects identified by MPO	August, 2017
Draft MPO prioritization methodology conditionally approved by NCDOT	October, 2017
Advertise for public comments on prioritization methodology (this document)	October, 2017
TCC meeting to receive public comments, and recommend TAC adopt prioritization methodology	October, 2017
TAC meeting to receive public comments and adopt prioritization methodology.	November, 2017
10-day Public comment period to receive input on Regional projects preliminary point assignment	April, 2018
TCC meeting to recommend final point prioritization (for Regional projects).	April, 2018
TAC meeting to adopt final point prioritization (for Regional projects).	April, 2018
10-day Public comment period on Division Needs projects preliminary point assignment	September, 2018
TCC meeting to recommend final point prioritization (for Division Needs projects)	September, 2018
TAC meeting to adopt final point prioritization (for Division Needs projects)	September, 2018
Alternative scenario (depending upon availability of data, as released by NCDOT) Public comment period on both Regional and Division Needs projects preliminary point assignment	Potentially: April, 2018
Alternative scenario (depending upon availability of data, as released by NCDOT)	Potentially: June, 2018

TCC meeting to recommend final point prioritization for both Regional and Division Needs projects.	
Alternative scenario (depending upon availability of data, as released by NCDOT) TAC meeting to adopt final point prioritization for both Regional and Division Needs projects.	Potentially: July, 2018

**Actual dates depend upon the date NCDOT releases information to the public, and are presented here based upon the information available at the time this document was developed, and thus are subject to change.*

*** All TCC and TAC meetings are advertised and open to the general public.*

In addition to the above SPOT schedule, the Greenville Urban Area MPO's TCC and TAC have tentatively scheduled meetings, with consideration to holidays and the SPOT schedule, for the following dates:

<u>TCC</u>	<u>TAC</u>
April 4, 2018	April 18, 2018
June 27, 2018	July 11, 2018
September 12, 2018	September 26, 2018
October 31, 2018	November 14, 2018

The Chairperson for each the TCC and TAC reserves the right to call a meeting in addition to the dates above, or reschedule a meeting should the need arise.

Scoring Criteria

The Greenville MPO will locally rank Regional and Division level projects according to the criteria and matrix below and assign local input points according to that rank. The maximum points a single project can receive cannot exceed 100.

STI Safety Score: a calculated scoring based on crash frequency and severity along a specified road section. This calculation is based on critical crash rates, density, severity and safety benefits to be gained. The crashes are then normalized based on traffic volumes to establish rates. These rates are compared to statewide averages for similar facilities to determine how the road performs compared to its peers.

STI Connectivity Score: a calculated score based on increased mobility and/or access to destinations from improving/constructing a connection from one facility to another or connecting between different transportation modes. The County economic indicator and level of mobility improvement are the data sets used in this score.

Plan Consistency: a qualitative yes or no question to establish whether a proposed project is found in any currently adopted plan (Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP); Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP); or any locally adopted plan).

Multi-Modal Support: a qualitative yes or no question to establish whether a project incorporates and/or connects bicycle, pedestrian or transit accommodations, and is based on the project description.

Economic Development Support: a qualitative measure of a project's support within the transportation network of local/regional economic development goals or objectives; or a connection of two or more economically significant areas or routes in the project vicinity that will support local/regional economic development goals or objectives. This category will assign points based on no support (0 points), moderate support (2 points), or significant support (4 points). Level of support, if any, shall be determined by the TCC and TAC.

<u>Criteria</u>	0 Points	1 Points	2 Points	3 Points	4 Points
STI Safety Score	0-19	20-39	40-59	60-79	80 or above
STI Connectivity Score	0-19	20-39	40-59	60-79	80 or above
Plan Consistency	No, project not contained in an adopted plan				Yes, project is contained in an adopted plan
Multi-Modal Support	No, project does not include or connect any bicycle, pedestrian or transit facilities				Yes, project does not include or connect any bicycle, pedestrian or transit facilities
Economic Development Support	None		Moderate		Significant

Project Scoring Based on Ranking

The Greenville MPO has a total of 1,300 points to distribute to Regional Projects, and 1,300 points to Division Projects. Projects will be ranked using the above local scoring matrix. Projects will receive a total criteria score of 0-20 (see above for weighting and

scoring criteria). The top 11 Highway Projects and top 2 Non-Highway Projects based on the local scoring matrix's total criteria score will be assigned 100 local input points. Should the Regional or Division Project's list not contain a Non-Highway project, the top 13 ranked Highway Projects will be assigned 100 local input points.

Should more than one project have the same score utilizing the local scoring matrix, those projects shall be ordered according to their total STI total Quantitative score.

A project not entirely located within the MPO's planning boundary may only receive that amount of points correlating to the percent of the project that lies within the MPO. For example, a roadway project that is 20% within the MPO may only receive a maximum score of 20 points. In this case, the remaining points (80) will be distributed to other projects according to their rank. Any points remaining after the top 11 Highway Project and top 2 Non-Highway Projects, or top 13 Highway Projects should a Non-Highway Project not be available, shall be assigned to the next highest ranked project according to the total criteria score based on the local scoring matrix.

If TAC moves to assign points in a manner not consistent with this process, those point assignment and rationale why will be publically documented and disclosed and posted on the MPO website, under "Transportation Priorities" titles "Deviations from Adopted Local Methodology," for public review. These preliminary point assignments will be distributed for public comment outlined with how the scoring matrix was applied and a description of any deviation should one exist. Following the public comment period, the TCC/TAC will make the final point assignments (any deviations included), taking into consideration any public input received. If any additional changes are made to the point assignments between the preliminary assignment stage and the final assignment stage, the reasons will be publicly documented and disclosed on the MPO's website.

Final scores and project ranking will be posted on the Greenville MPO home page after TAC consideration and adoption. Additionally should the need arise, for any reason, to change the finalized point assignment after. The URL link to the Greenville Urban Area MPO's web page is <http://www.greenvillenc.gov/government/public-works/engineering/greenville-urban-area-metropolitan-planning-organization>.

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-07-GUAMPO
ADOPTING THE GREENVILLE URBAN AREA MPO LOCAL INPUT METHODOLOGY,
BASED ON THE NORTH CAROLINA STRATEGIC TRANSPORTATION INVESTMENT
LAW

WHEREAS, the Strategic Investment Session Law 2012-84 requires NCDOT to approve MPOs and RPOs local input methodology; and

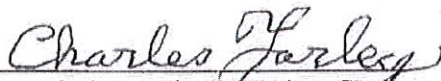
WHEREAS, according to the adopted law, the methodology will describe the MPO's ranking process for all modes of transportation that identifies at least one quantitative and one qualitative criteria to be used in the scoring process with the measures and the percentages assigned to each measure defined, described, and outlined; and

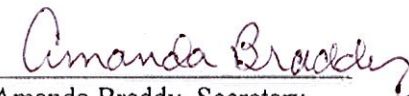
WHEREAS, NCDOT must conditionally approve each MPO's methodology by April 1, 2018; and

WHEREAS, the Greenville Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization has developed a local input methodology that has been conditionally approved by NCDOT, and has been reviewed by the Technical Coordinating Committee, and the committee recommends approval by the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC);

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Transportation Advisory Committee of the Greenville Urban Area MPO that it does hereby adopt the attached local input methodology for assigning points to transportation projects.

Today, November 8, 2017.


Commissioner Charles Farley, Chairman
Transportation Advisory Committee
Greenville Urban Area


Amanda Braddy, Secretary