



Timeline for the 2022-2023 SACOG Funding Round

Information

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Attachments: No

Approved by: Kristina Svensk

Referring Committee: Not Applicable

1. Issue:

Staff has prepared a timeline for the 2022-2023 SACOG Funding Round.

2. Recommendation:

None, this item is for information only.

3. Background/Analysis:

SACOG's Regional Funding Round is an important source of transportation investment in the region. Over the last 15 years, competitive funding rounds have occurred every two or three years. Projects are selected to receive funding for road, transit, bicycle, and pedestrian projects primarily within the four-county region (Sacramento, Sutter, Yolo, and Yuba counties).

In 2020, staff worked with a broad range of stakeholders from across the region to design the policy framework of the 2021 Funding Round. In addition to many individual and group meetings across all four counties, SACOG held a series of workshops to seek input under the themes of investment priorities, project identification, and overall application process. This extensive effort resulted in the policy framework for the 2021 Funding Round that was adopted in September 2020. The board acted in October 2020, on the budget for the 2021 Funding Round and its individual programs.

The board's funding round policy framework set four primary programs to meet the objectives of the 2021 Funding Round: Regional Program, Community Design, Innovative Mobility, and the new Engage, Empower, and Implement program (originally titled the Disadvantaged Communities Pipeline Projects program). The Regional Program is split into the following sub-programs: Maintenance and Modernization, Transformative programs, and Community Design. In April 2021, the board adopted the staff recommendations for funding projects in the Regional Programs, approving \$198.6 million in project awards throughout the four counties.

4. Discussion/Analysis:

Due to the extensive engagement that went into the creation of the 2021 Funding Round and the overall success of the program, staff is recommending utilizing the same policy framework for the 2022-2023 Funding Round. While the overall framework will be the same, amendments will be made to bring the programs into alignment with the state's Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure (CAPTI) which leverages discretionary state transportation funds meet the state's climate goals. Additionally, equity will remain a

priority for SACOG as we seek to meet the critical needs of our disadvantaged communities, as well as align the funding round programs with equity initiatives that guide newly established and ongoing state and federal grant programs.

SACOG staff's intent is to foster a collaborative approach for the 2022-2023 Funding Round, particularly as we begin to realign framework with key priorities. While a complete stakeholder outreach plan has yet to be finalized, staff envisions engaging with the SACOG board and local partner agencies early and often, in order to maintain the momentum and intent of the previously developed framework that will be utilized.

The next funding round will stand up various proposed programs that will help SACOG be more strategically positioned to react to both the state discretionary funding programs and the upcoming competitive funding programs that are expected from the recently signed federal Infrastructure and Investment Jobs Act (IIJA). The programs implementation will be staggered throughout the year minimize the impact of the programs on local agency staff. It is expected that the funding estimate for the next funding round will be brought to the board for adoption in March 2022.

Below are program descriptions (as presented to the board in December 2021) for the various programs under the funding round along with the anticipated timing for each.

Funding Round Estimate

March 2022: Review and Board of Directors Approval

Staff will present the latest revenue forecast for the 2022-2023 Regional Funding Round along with a draft budget for the programs for the boards review and approval.

Revolving Local Match Fund

March 2022: Board of Directors Review & Approve Guidelines

April 2022: First Call for Projects

This new program will commit a strategic amount of regional funding towards local match needs on competitive federal and state grants. This will enable our regional partners to leverage regional funding, leading to more competitive grant applications to fund projects that implement the MTP/SCS. This will be an important resource for our partner agencies with upcoming federal and state competitive grant programs.

Empower, Engage, and Implement

April 2022: Framework Development Process to Begin

November 2022: Call for Applications

Engage, Empower, and Implement will create a framework that establishes a planning process and funding stream approach that meets the needs of Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) and low-income communities and leads to the development of just and equitable projects in the Sacramento region, developed by, with, and for the communities. Program awards are expected to be released in late fall of 2022. As mentioned, SACOG will work with community-based organizations and stakeholders to develop the framework for EEI with equity at the center.

Innovative Mobility

June 2022: Board of Directors Review & Approve Guidelines

July: 2022: Call for Projects

The Innovative Mobility program supports efforts by SACOG and external stakeholders to complete a broad range of activities. As the program matures it will continue to advance Transportation Demand Management

programs, telecommuting incentives, and Civic Lab, in addition to advancing strategies within the Next Generation Transit program. The Innovative Mobility program will be split between SACOG-led activities and competitive grants.

Regional Programs

Fall 2022 or Winter 2023: Board of Directors Review & Approve Guidelines and Call for Projects

The Regional Programs have been the largest SACOG source of transportation investment in the region. It is envisioned that stakeholder outreach for these programs will begin in summer and staff will bring the updated guidelines for the programs for board adoption and a call for projects in either Fall 2022 or Winter 2023. Due to the recently unveiled timelines for state funding programs and the undetermined timeline for new federal competitive programs staff is seeking committee input on this timing, to determine what is most appropriate. The details of the programs are listed below.

Maintenance & Modernization

This core Funding Round program is for cost-effective non-expansion projects less than \$5 million that improve the management and condition of existing transportation assets, demonstrating “state of good repair” benefits while supporting the MTP/SCS performance objectives. Typically, these projects have fewer implementation risks but provide localized performance benefits that are more difficult to measure.

Transformative

This core Funding Round program is for all system expansion projects and for larger (\$5 million+) non-expansion projects that have significant regional benefit and realize the performance benefits of the MTP/SCS, as well as promote effective and efficient use of limited state and federal funding resources. Typically, the project implementation risks are higher, but these projects often provide notable regional benefits, and the performance benefits can be measured with more confidence.

Community Design

The mainstay Community Design program supports placemaking that improves or enhances the livability of a community and is consistent with the seven Blueprint Project Principles (transportation choices, housing diversity, compact development, mixed land uses, use of existing assets, natural resource protection, and quality design). The 2020 framework added elements to Community Design that align with the Green Means Go initiative and leverage state funding to accelerate projects in Green Zones.

5. Fiscal Impact/Grant Information:

Staff work is reflected in the current Overall Work Program. The fund estimate for the program will be determined and brought to the board early in 2022.

6. This staff report aligns with the following SACOG Work Plan Objectives:

Goal 1 : Advance Economic Prosperity

Objective 1: Invest in and protect the transportation infrastructure needed to implement the region’s economic prosperity plan.

Objective 3: Improve people’s ability to get to jobs, schools, and other economic opportunities.

Objective 5: Begin sustained effort to address the racial inequities related to economic prosperity indicators associated with housing, transportation, and opportunity.

Goal 2 : Connected Communities

Objective 1: Develop more sustainable sources of future transportation funding while winning new competitive state and federal transportation grants.

Objective 2: Support innovative mobility options that develop equitable, accessible transportation options for all residents.

Objective 3: Prioritize cost-effective transportation investments that enhance mobility while improving safety, air quality, and the condition of transportation infrastructure and assets.

Goal 3 : Vibrant Places

Objective 1: Develop tools and funding to help revitalize older commercial and retail corridors throughout the region.