

**COURT ORDER
2018-1526**



Dallas County Mobility Plan – MCIP Criteria development

On a motion made by Commissioner Dr. Elba Garcia, District 4, and seconded by Commissioner Dr. Theresa M. Daniel, District 1, the following order was passed and adopted by the Commissioners Court of Dallas County, State of Texas:

BRIEFING DATE: 12/18/2018
FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

Be it resolved and ordered that the Dallas County Commissioners Court does hereby approve and authorize the new MCIP selection criteria that will enable the completion of the Mobility Plan and be used for evaluating projects submitted to Dallas County in the 7th Call for projects and other future Call for projects as long as the criteria appropriately reflects projects that are beneficial for the future of Dallas County.

Done in open court December 18, 2018, by the following vote:

IN FAVOR: Honorable Clay Lewis Jenkins, County Judge
Commissioner Dr. Theresa M. Daniel, District 1
Commissioner Mike Cantrell, District 2
Commissioner John Wiley Price, District 3
Commissioner Dr. Elba Garcia, District 4

OPPOSED: None

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: None

Recommended by: Alberta Blair
Originating Department: Public Works

COMMISSIONERS COURT BRIEFING



DATE: 12/18/2018

SUBMITTING DEPARTMENT: Public Works

THROUGH:

SUBJECT: Dallas County Mobility Plan – MCIP Criteria Development

BACKGROUND:

In 1999, the Dallas County Commissioners Court replaced its traditional bond-financing approach to funding infrastructure improvements with a Major Capital Improvement Program (MCIP). Dallas County Public Works implements the MCIP periodically, typically every two to four years, through a county-wide call-for-projects that evaluates transportation infrastructure improvement projects that improve capacity and safety on regional roadways and multi-modal pathways within Dallas County that have been submitted by Dallas County cities. Since 1999, six calls for projects have been issued that have utilized a similar prioritization criteria.

Beginning in 2015, Dallas County with support from Kimley-Horn, began coordination with all municipalities and transportation agencies within the county to develop a unified thoroughfare plan, now appropriately renamed as a “mobility plan”, that considers each of the different multi-modal networks (thoroughfares, transit, bicycle/pedestrian, and trails). Throughout a process of outreach, data collection, and a series of workshops in 2017 and 2018, Dallas County staff and Kimley-Horn worked together to develop updated County demographic maps, modal transportation maps, and MCIP selection criteria methodology with a projection year of 2045. This update to the MCIP selection criteria will better encourage and evaluate multi-modal and innovative transportation system improvements.

OPERATIONAL IMPACT:

Assessment of Previous MCIP Call for Projects

Kimley-Horn reviewed the list of submitted projects and scoring criteria used during the 6th Call for Projects (2014) (see Appendix). While a significant number of submitted projects were related to thoroughfare capacity improvements, many of the projects either included multi-modal elements or were projects entirely focused on non-vehicular connectivity (bicycle, pedestrian, or transit-related improvements). This range of project types includes trails, road diets, sidewalks, improved transit access, and planning studies. The current scoring criteria are structured so that each project regardless of project type is scored equally using the same set of prioritization measures. This approach, however, produced limitations when comparing one project type to another. The current scoring criteria places a large emphasis on traffic operations, roadway capacity, and project delivery.

RECOMMENDED BY:	Public Works	PREPARED BY:	Kasem Elkhaid
		APPROVED BY DEPT HEAD:	Alberta Blair

City Workshop Feedback

During the series of workshops held in July-August 2018, many of the cities indicated increased interest in multi-modal and innovative transportation solutions, in addition to traditional thoroughfare connectivity needs. The following is a summary of potential projects that cities may be interested in submitting in future calls for projects:

- Bike/trail connectivity
- Pedestrian connectivity
- Transit station studies
- Transit alternatives
- Industrial-area connectivity
- Innovative intersection improvements

Based on the review of previously submitted projects and the feedback received from the cities and transportation agencies within Dallas County, Dallas County staff and Kimley-Horn recommends a category-based approach to prioritizing projects, where projects would be grouped based on common transportation mode or mobility improvement type. Each mode specific category would have its own independent prioritization processes, which are based on quantitative and qualitative measures that are unique to the specific mode/program.

For additional details on the City Workshops we hosted in Summer 2017 and Summer 2018 please see the attached event dates and attendees record.

Four categories are recommended for scoring projects:

1. Roadway – This category would focus on traditional thoroughfare improvement projects that improve congestion or mitigate traffic impacts, typically through increased roadway capacity or providing new thoroughfare connections. Roadway projects that also incorporate elements to enhance or accommodate travel for other modes would also be scored under this category.
2. Safety – This category would consider projects that do not necessarily improve congestion or efficiency of the roadway network, but rather are focused on improving the safety on thoroughfares or multimodal facilities. This may include improvements related to mitigating vehicle crashes, traffic calming, intersection crossings, or other safety measures.
3. Bicycle/Pedestrian – This category would focus on projects that specifically create new connections or improve access/safety for bicycles and pedestrians. Projects may include on-street bicycle facilities, shared-use paths, trails, or sidewalks. Projects that improve bicycle or pedestrian access to transit service may also be considered as part of this category.
4. Innovative/Alternative Transportation Solutions/Transportation Studies – This category would allow cities who are interested in supporting mobility options and reducing single occupancy vehicle traffic. This category may include a wide range of transit-related improvements, including rail transit, bus transit, fixed-route shuttle service, and ride-share service. It is also intended to provide flexibility for projects that may involve future transportation technology, such as connected and autonomous vehicles, high-speed rail, Hyperloop, and “smart cities” technology. In addition, this category will allow for the submittal of transportation studies whose projects further the transportation goals of Dallas County.

Based on the input we have received from the cities and transportation agencies in Dallas County we are making updates and adjustments to the final Mobility Plan document in order to effectively meet the future transportation needs of Dallas County as a whole. Therefore, Public

Works is also briefing the Court this month with the final update to the MCIP Transportation Funding Commitments prior to the 7th Call and a letter to the cities addressing any outstanding funds that cities have not yet confirmed through commitments by entering into project or funding agreements. Then in Spring of 2019 we will brief the court again to approve the final Mobility Plan document and initiate the 7th Call for Projects.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

There are no direct financial impacts being requested through this briefing. Instead the MCIP Selection Criteria that is being proposed will guide recommendations that Dallas County Public Works makes to the Commissioners Court for future MCIP project funding allocations such as the proposed 7th Call for Projects. The 7th Call for Projects is tentatively scheduled to be briefed and commenced in Spring 2019.

LEGAL IMPACT:

N/A

PROJECT SCHEDULE:

- October 22, 2015 Mobility Plan Kickoff Meeting
- October 7, 2016 Sent Letter Requesting City & Partner Agency Participation and City Transportation Plans
- December 2, 2016 Presented Project Update at SAME Infrastructure Forum
- June 29, 2017 Held Phase 1 Mobility Plan Workshop for Cities and Partner Agencies
- October 3, 2017 Began Phase 2 of Mobility Plan
- July 17, 2018 Began Phase 2 City Meetings Workshop
- September 15, 2018 Completed City and Partner Agency Comment Period
- Pending items:
- Spring 2019 Briefing Final document for the Dallas County Mobility Plan
- Spring 2019 Send letter to Cities announcing the 7th Call for Projects

SBE PARTICIPATION:

N/A

ADMINISTRATIVE PLAN COMPLIANCE:

This action models the Dallas County Administrative Plan and embodies four of the strategic goals:

Dallas County is operationally a model governmental entity - The Dallas County Mobility Plan is both the first of its kind in Dallas County history, and also one of the first of its kind for many of the local governments in our region.

Dallas County is a proactive regional partner - This Plan will serve as a guide for future transportation needs in Dallas County and in the Cities that make up Dallas County. The new Mobility Plan is meant to

improve on the way that we partner with cities, regional councils, state agencies and federal administrations.

Dallas County is safe, secure, and prepared – The new MCIP selection criteria will help guide the selection of future MCIP projects; helping us to implement projects that are safe, secure, and prepared for the future of transportation.

Dallas County is the destination of choice for businesses and residents – A major component of the new criteria developed for the 7th Call for projects is economic development which will help ensure that projects selected in the future are creating opportunities for businesses and residents.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve and authorize the new MCIP selection criteria that will enable the completion of the Mobility Plan and be used for evaluating projects submitted to Dallas County in the 7th Call for projects and other future Call for projects as long as the criteria appropriately reflects projects that are beneficial for the future of Dallas County.