

RCTC PROCEDURES FOR SCAG'S 2024 CALL FOR PROJECT NOMINATIONS

The Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) intends to issue a SCAG Region Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) & Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ)/Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Call for Project Nominations on January 4, 2024, with a closing date of March 29, 2024. Projects are anticipated to be approved by the SCAG Regional Council on June 6, 2024, and to be programmed in the Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) in July 2024.

The SCAG guidelines require county transportation commissions (CTCs) to perform an initial project screening and evaluation, then submit project nominations to SCAG for regional evaluation and project selection. This document describes the Riverside County Transportation Commission's (RCTC) nomination procedures for SCAG's 2024 Call for Project Nominations.

PART A – INITIAL SCREENING

In the SCAG region, an estimated \$275 million is available for fiscal years (FY) 2022/23 through 2025/26 across the three programs: CRP (\$88 million), STBG (\$130 million), and CMAQ (\$57 million). This funding is available due to increased funding for California called out in the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). Riverside County's target is roughly 12 percent or \$33 million. SCAG anticipates that under subsequent SCAG Call for Project Nominations, considerably more funding will be available for programming. This nomination procedure is written recognizing the very limited funding in the 2024 Call for Project Nominations. Should future calls include substantially more funding, RCTC's intention is to revisit this procedure.

Screening Criteria:

In the SCAG Call for Project Nominations, the respective CTC ranks each project based on the following:

Highly Recommended – 50 Points for STBG/CMAQ; 25 points for CRP

Recommended – 40 Points for STBG/CMAQ; 15 points for CRP

Contingency List – 20 Points for STBG/CMAQ; 5 points for CRP

RCTC's methodology for screening and ranking projects will be:

Highly Recommended – Regional Priorities

- Projects in Groups 1 and 2 of the RCTC 10-Year Delivery Plan
- Projects in the Coachella Valley Association of Governments Transportation Project Prioritization Study that are in California's Local Transportation Climate Adaptation Program

Recommended – Regionally Significant

- Projects in Group 3 of the RCTC 10-Year Delivery Plan
- Projects in the Coachella Valley Association of Governments Transportation Project Prioritization Study
- Projects on the backbone network in the Western Riverside Council of Governments Transportation Uniform Mitigation Fee Nexus Study
- Projects in an adopted zero emission transition plan

Contingency List – Local Priorities

- Projects that are not identified in any of the above-referenced plans or studies

Screened projects that are highly recommended or recommended will be invited to prepare a full SCAG nomination application. Sponsors of projects that are on RCTC's contingency list may still prepare a nomination application.

Outreach:

All outreach activities will be documented for reporting to SCAG as required.

1. After RCTC board approval, issue call for nominations countywide to all eligible recipients including local agencies, transit agencies, and Tribal Governments via email
 - a. RCTC Programming staff will host a minimum of two office hours
 - b. RCTC Programming staff will offer 30-minute consultations with interested eligible recipients
2. Present the call for nominations and associated office hours and consultation opportunities to RCTC Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and RCTC Multimodal Bi-Monthly Roundtable Meeting with transit operators
3. Work with RCTC Community Affairs Manager to connect with Tribal Governments

PART B – INVITATION TO APPLY

Screened projects that are highly recommended or recommended will be invited to prepare a full SCAG nomination application. Nominators of projects that are on the contingency list may still submit a nomination application. All nomination applications will be submitted to RCTC for submittal to SCAG.

SCHEDULE

November 20	RCTC TAC presentation
November 27	RCTC Budget and Implementation Committee presentation
December 12	Bi-Monthly Roundtable presentation
December 13	RCTC Commission presentation/open call for nominations
January 4	SCAG opens Call for Project Nominations
January 12	RCTC call for nominations closes
February 7	RCTC to notify nominators of recommendation category
March 13	Nominators to submit full project nominations to RCTC for review
March 20	RCTC to provide feedback on nominations for nominators to incorporate
March 27	Final project nominations due to RCTC
March 28	RCTC to submit all Riverside County project nominations to SCAG
March 29	SCAG Call for Project Nominations closes
April – May	SCAG evaluates nominations based on SCAG's adopted STBG/CMAQ and CRP Guidelines
June 6	SCAG Regional Council adopts project lists