

STP-U Program Project Prioritization Criteria

Approved January 13, 2021

The STP-U ranking criteria have been updated to 1) reduce the number of criteria from 17 to 9 and 2) reward projects that would help the LAPC support State and local targets for federal performance measures (a description of the federal measures and state targets is included in the annual transportation improvement program).

- Support the economic vitality of the metropolitan area, especially by enabling global competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency.
 - **Economic Development:** This criterion attempts to reflect the positive impact a transportation project may have on the economic vitality of the area. For example, would the project result in attracting more activity by providing better access or transportation options?
 - 6 Points: The project would have a high, positive impact on economic activity.
 - 4 Points: The project would have a moderate, positive impact on economic activity.
 - 2 Points: The project would have a low positive impact on economic activity.
 - 0 Points: The project would have no positive impact on economic activity.

- Increase the safety and security of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
 - **Safety & Security:** How much of a positive impact would the project have on the safety and/or security of the users of the transportation system? Project examples include reducing conflicts, reducing speed, installing pedestrian-scale lighting, surveillance cameras, or IT infrastructure for emergency response, etc. If a roadway project addresses an area that has experienced a high number of or a high crash rate for fatalities and/or serious injuries or a transit project addresses safety events or system reliability (breakdowns), the project will be awarded an additional 2 points. [[Safety Performance Measures \(PM 1\)](#)]
 - 6 Points: The project would have a high positive impact on safety and/or security.
 - 4 Points: The project would have a moderate positive impact on safety and/or security.
 - 2 Points: The project would have a low positive impact on safety and/or security.
 - 0 Points: The project would have no impact on safety and/or security.

- Increase accessibility and mobility of people and freight.
 - **Mobility and accessibility options:** This criterion rewards projects that improve the mobility and accessibility of users within the transportation system through improved connections and design. Projects that fill critical gaps in the system, remove barriers (i.e. bus stop pads, pedestrian crossings), or improve the geometrics of intersections to accommodate vehicle turning movements would receive points under this criterion.

6 Points: The project would complete critical connections, remove barriers, provide intersection improvements, or enhance the grid system.

4 Points: The project would moderately improve the mobility and accessibility of system users. These projects would include infrastructure improvements to intersections to accommodate users.

2 Points: The project would only slightly improve the mobility and accessibility of system users.

0 Points: The project would have no positive impact on improving mobility and accessibility.

➤ Protect and enhance the environment, promote energy conservation, improve the quality of life, and promote consistency between transportation improvements and State and local planned growth and economic development patterns.

- Community and environmental impacts: This criterion rewards projects that enhance or mitigate negative impacts on neighborhoods, communities, and/or natural environments. An additional two points will be awarded to projects that improve/enhance low-income neighborhoods, communities of color, or communities of limited-English proficiency.

6 Points: The project would enhance neighborhoods, community livability, or the natural environment to a high degree.

4 Points: The project would enhance neighborhoods, community livability, or the natural environment to a moderate degree.

2 Points: The project would enhance neighborhoods, community livability, or the natural environment to a low degree.

0 Points: The project would have no positive impact on neighborhoods, community livability, or the natural environment.

➤ Enhance the integration and connectivity of the transportation system, across and between modes, for people and freight.

- Intermodal/multimodal connectivity: This criterion credits projects that provide for an interconnection with (transfer points) other modes and/or accommodation for more than one mode. For example, a freight project that provides connections to truck, rail, and barge or a roadway project that includes bike lanes and sidewalks would be awarded 6 points for accommodating three modes.

6 points: The project provides a transfer point(s) or accommodation for three or more modes.

4 Points: The project provides a transfer point(s) or accommodation for two modes.

2 Points: The project provides a transfer point or accommodation for only one mode.

0 Points: The project does not accommodate transfers.

➤ Promote efficient system management and operation.

- System management and operation: This criterion rewards projects that improve the operations and efficiency of transportation systems. Examples include the use of intelligent

technologies, upgrading traffic control systems, incorporating signal preemption for transit and emergency vehicles, establishing high-occupancy vehicle lanes or bus rapid transit lanes, constructing grade-separated bicycle and pedestrian crossings. A project that would improve the travel time reliability on the non-Interstate National Highway System would receive an additional two points. [[System Performance Measures \(PM3\)](#)]

6 Points: The project would have a high impact on improving traffic flow and reducing travel delay.

4 Points: The project would have a moderate impact on improving traffic flow and reducing travel delay.

2 points: The project would have a low impact on improving traffic flow and reducing travel delay.

0 Points: The project would not improve traffic flow or reduce travel delay.

➤ Emphasize the preservation of the existing transportation system.

- System and corridor preservation: This criterion rewards projects that preserve the existing transportation infrastructure or transportation corridors or other land parcels for future transportation use. Projects that seek to preserve transportation corridors generally include right-of-way acquisition for scenic byways, transit centers, park-and-rides, and rails-to-trails for transportation purposes. Projects that support state or local targets for federal performance measures will receive an additional 2 points. [[Infrastructure Performance Measures \(PM2\)](#)]

6 Points: The project involves pavement replacement or pavement marking only, includes transit vehicle replacement, or seeks to preserve or protect land along an endangered transportation corridor.

4 Points: The project may include some new construction within the existing right-of-way to improve utilities or flood control or seeks to preserve or protect land along a regionally significant corridor or NHS route.

2 Points: The project may include some new construction outside the existing right-of-way to provide connections and continuity or seeks to preserve or protect land along a minor arterial or collector.

0 Points: The project does not seek to preserve or protect existing facilities or corridors.

➤ Improve the resiliency and reliability of the transportation system and reduce or mitigate stormwater impacts of surface transportation.

- Resiliency and reliability: This criterion would award projects that would design facilities to better withstand extreme weather events and would include stormwater mitigation components like water retention areas, swales, pervious pavements, etc. Projects to purchase alternative fuel vehicles and associated equipment would be awarded as a measure to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and the region's impact on climate change.

6 Points: The project would have a high impact on resiliency and reliability.

4 Points: The project would have a moderate impact on resiliency and reliability.

2 Points: The project would have a low impact on resiliency and reliability.

0 Points: The project would have no impact on resiliency and reliability.

➤ Enhance travel and tourism.

- Travel and tourism: Projects that improve travel experience and options for visitors to the region will be awarded points under this criterion. Projects might include the development of new facilities or improvements to existing facilities that connect hotels and business districts to natural and recreational destinations. Pavement quality, bicycle and pedestrian friendliness, and access to travel options are qualities of the built environment that can impact traveler experience and encourage visitors to travel around and explore the area.

6 Points: The project would have a high positive impact on travel and tourism.

4 Points: The project would have a moderate positive impact on travel and tourism.

2 Points: The project would have a low positive impact on travel and tourism.

0 Points: The project would have no positive impact on travel and tourism.