



April 12, 2019

TO: TTAC Members; Regional Project Delivery Staff; Interested Persons

FROM: Joseph Stramaglia,
Project Delivery Team Lead

SUBJECT: 2020 Regional Transportation Improvement Program Call for Project Nominations

On March 21, 2019, after a year of development, the Kern Council of Governments Board of Directors has adopted an update to the RTIP chapter of the Kern COG Project Delivery Policies and Procedures document. The update ties in more of state and federal performance measure evaluation, output reporting, and evaluation requirements consistent with state and federal transportation legislation. Chapter 3 defines the region's RTIP process on the selection, evaluation, prioritization, and programming of projects of regional significance in Kern County. It's now time to initiate the Kern COG Call for Project Nominations.

What is the purpose of the KCOG 2020 RTIP Call for Project Nominations?

As an agency, we are re-evaluating Projects of Regional Significance for potential funding in the State Transportation Improvement Program. Our previous list is 20 years old and the funding rules have changed. So, we're starting with a blank list. However, prior nominated projects could be reviewed and evaluated as a point of beginning if an agency so chooses. As a region, we delivered some of those projects but also shelved or deferred many of them. We're looking for the best of the best, to ensure regional support and delivery success, in the years to come. We are asking member agencies to partner and collaborate with Kern COG, Caltrans, and each other to commit to regional projects that will impact the traveling public.

How much time do we have to develop RTIP Nomination applications to KCOG?

We will require nomination submittals no later than Friday, July 26, 2019, end of business day. Starting now, Kern COG staff is requesting that we take the next 3 months to develop purpose and need statements, work descriptions, other preliminary project data, develop collaborative discussions, support, and partnerships. The tools to develop the project nomination information are listed on Page 2 of this memo and they include required forms and some instructions for using the forms and developing some of the data.

What are the required nomination application documents for this call?

1. Transmittal Cover Letter – on agency letterhead
2. Project Description – required form
3. Cost Estimate – required form
4. Project Outputs – required form

Other Resources

- Application Instructions – resource document
- Cost Estimate by unit and project type - resource document
- KCOG Call for RTIP Nominations Memo

Where do we find the resources to use for this nomination process?

The adobe acrobat forms and reference material to develop this information are provided online. Go to:
<https://www.kerncog.org/category/docs/rtip/>.

Where do we send the nominations applications?

Please transmit hard-copy of your nominations information with a transmittal cover letter on agency letterhead addressed to the Kern Council of Governments, Ahron Hakimi, Executive Director. Please attach the following information for each nominated project:

- All required forms to fully describe the nominated project; and
- Answers to the three screening criteria below for each project -
 - Safety – will the project improve the fatalities and injuries Index rate?
 - Sustainability – will the project improve the average trip time or on-time performance?
 - System Reliability – will the project improve the Highway Buffer Index (delay trip time)?

Project nominations should be submitted in hard-copy to Kern COG by end of business day Friday July 26, 2019. Electronic submittal in Adobe pdf format should be sent concurrently to jstramaglia@kerncog.org but will not be considered the final submittal until the hard-copy is received.

For assistance, please contact Joseph Stramaglia at 661-635-2914 or jstramaglia@kerncog.org.