

## **Appendix E. Project Evaluation Documentation**

This appendix includes the following documentation:

- Project Application Form Instructions
- Project Evaluation Factors and Weights
- Project Scoring Methodology

Nashville Area MPO  
2040 Regional Transportation Plan  
**Project Application & Evaluation Database**  
Roadway & Intersections Project Application Instructions  
Apply.NashvilleMPO.Org

## Step 1. Upload Narrative

- Download, complete, and upload the project narrative form (Microsoft Word) available at the top of the application page. The project narrative form includes four sections.
  - General Information
  - Project History and Schedule
  - Budget Narrative
  - Budget Table

## Step 2. Upload Supporting Files (optional)

- Optional - please include any additional information that will support your application
  - Supporting files may be submitted individually or as one ZIP or PDF package
  - Examples: *project map, renderings, letters of support, documents from completed phases (design, NEPA, etc.)*

## Step 3. Complete General Information Section

- Project Name
  - Enter a short name that describes the location of and type of project
  - Examples: *Concord Road (SR-253) Widening, Jefferson Street Intersection Improvements, Countywide Wayfinding Program, Lebanon Pike Sidewalk Improvements*
- Lead Agency
  - Indicate agency that is likely to manage the project's implementation
  - Examples: *TDOT, Nashville MTA, RTA, Metro Public Works, Sumner County, Murfreesboro (select from the drop down list)*
- Jurisdiction
  - Select the predominant jurisdiction for the project's location
  - Examples: *Metro Nashville-Davidson County, Sumner County, City of Murfreesboro, Town of Smyrna (select from the drop down list)*

- **Counties**
  - Select all the counties where the project is located
  - Select “Regional” if the project will be administered region-wide
- **Route Name/Project Area**
  - Provide the name of the roadway being improved or built
  - Describe a project area if the project spans multiple roadways will be administered across a broader areas
- **Start Location**
  - Identify the location of the beginning termini (typically an intersecting roadway)
  - Must not be left blank, enter “n/a” if not applicable
- **End Location**
  - Identify the location of the ending termini (typically an intersecting roadway)
  - Must not be left blank, enter “n/a” if not applicable
- **Intersections**
  - List all intersections being improved as part of the project
  - Select “Add an Intersection” to add an additional intersection
  - Examples: *Gallatin Rd @ Douglas Ave, Gallatin Rd @ Cahal Ave, Gallatin Rd @ Trinity Ln, I-24 @ Haywood Ln*
- **Existing # of Lanes**
  - Enter the number of motor vehicle lanes on the ground today, including continuous turn lanes
- **Proposed # of Lanes**
  - Enter the number of motor vehicle lanes being proposed, including continuous turn lanes
- **Project Description**
  - Enter a few sentences describing the project including a summary of recent history and upcoming work on the project including info about detailed studies, design, engineering, right-of-way acquisition, and construction.

## Step 4. Complete Scope of Work Section

- **Proposed Improvements**
  - Select all that apply
  - At least one must be selected
- **Proposed Features**
  - Select all that apply
  - At least one or the NONE option must be selected
- **Non-Motorized Accommodations**
  - Select all that apply
  - At least one or the NONE option must be selected

- **Transit Accommodations**
  - Select all that apply
  - At least one or the NONE option must be selected

## Step 5. Complete Purpose & Need Section

- **Purpose & Need Statement**
  - Describe the reason/justification for the proposed improvements
  - Please use the *purpose and need statement* from NEPA if one exists
- **Primary Objective**
  - Select the objective that most closely matches your purpose and need
  - Use the “Other (Specify)” option if none of these are a close fit
  - One and only one must be selected
- **Secondary Objectives**
  - Select the secondary objectives that most closely match your purpose and need
  - Use the “Other (Specify)” option if none of these are a close fit
  - At least one, but up to two can be selected

## Step 6. Complete Project History Section

- **MPO 2035 Plan**
  - Select and enter the 2035ID# if one exists
- **MPO FYs 2014-2017 TIP**
  - Select and enter the TIP ID# if one exists
- **TDOT 3-Year Program**
  - Select and enter the year that the project is identified in the most recent TDOT work program approved by the legislature (2015-2017 work program)
- **Local Plan**
  - Select and enter the name of the local plan that contains the project
- **Work Completed**
  - Select all phases of the project that have been COMPLETED

## Step 7. Complete Costs, Funding & Timing Section

- **Total Project Cost Estimate**
  - Costs should be presented in 2014 dollars (present-day value)
  - If the project is in the current TIP and has started development (design, environmental, ROW, construction), enter the total amount of costs not yet obligated on the project
  - If the project is slated for the 2030 or 2040 horizons, enter the total estimated cost of the project including expected costs for project development and construction

- *Note: you will include a more detailed budget breakdown via the project narrative form*
- **Source of Cost Estimate**
  - Identify the source of the cost estimate that your provided
- **Desired Horizon**
  - Enter the expected planning horizon for the project's completion
  - Enter 2020 only if you intend for the project to be considered for the new TIP
- **Federal Funding Requested**
  - Enter the % of total and the dollar amount of the federal grant funding requested
- **Matching Funds**
  - Identify if local or state matching funds are or will be available

## Step 8. Complete Project Contact Section

- This section will pre-populate with information from your user account, please make any corrections or provide alternative contact information if the project contact is someone else

## Step 9. Submit Application

- All information must be provided in order to “submit” and application
- If you are missing information, or are not ready to submit, choose the “Save and Close” option so that you can return to complete the application at another time

## Step 10. Track Your Application

- Once saved or submitted, projects applications can be tracked by visiting your dashboard
- You will receive emails from the system if MPO staff have any questions about your projects

### For additional information or support:

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**2040.NashvilleMPO.Org**

# 2040 Regional Transportation Plan Project Evaluation Factors

## Evaluation Factors

### System Preservation & Enhancement

How well does the project make use of limited financial resources to ensure the continued productivity of the existing transportation system? How can the project be scoped to include features that make the facility more efficient (e.g., ITS, design, materials, etc.)

### Quality Growth, Sustainable Land Development, & Economic Prosperity

How well does the project encourage infill/ redevelopment? Do area plans call for mixed-used, higher density development? If so, how does the project complement these plans? Is the project encouraging growth in areas where growth is planned or desired? Conversely, is the project encouraging growth in areas where additional growth is not planned or desired? Does the project enhance or contribute to the form, function, and quality of the surrounding place?

How well does the project support or stimulate the local/ regional economy? How well does the project support freight movements? To what degree does the implementation of the project create jobs?

How well does the facility connect people with opportunities to engage in economic activity? To what degree does the project aid in the region's economic competitiveness with other metro areas of the nation? Is the project supported by business leaders?

### Expansion of Multi-Modal Options

How well does the project introduce, support, or reinforce multiple transportation choices for people to access homes, jobs, schools, fresh food, retail, etc? How can the project be scoped to incorporate facilities for and/or connections to non-motorized modes and transit?

### Roadway Congestion Management

What are the root causes of congestion in the vicinity of the project location (e.g., traffic volume, physical design, crashes, regulations, behavioral, freight, etc.)? Given the land uses, urban design and community goals for the project vicinity, what level of congestion is appropriate for the project and vicinity (i.e. some commercial centers/Downtowns need greater congestion for visibility/economic development)? How well does the project address those causes? How could the project be scoped to include congestion management solutions to optimize its benefit?

### Safety and Security

How well does the project address safety concerns for all users? Is the project on a high-crash corridor? How can the project be scoped to increase safety of all users? How well does the project address security concerns? Does the project aid/ harm important evacuation routes? How can the project be scoped to features that help secure citizens and regional resources?

### Freight & Goods Movement

How well does the project support or harm the movement of freight and goods through the region? How can the project be scoped to incorporate facilities that aid in the safe and efficient movement of freight? How can the project be scoped to balance the movement of freight and goods with other community goals?





## 2040 Regional Transportation Plan Project Scoring Methodology

### Preservation – 10 pts

- Route is on the existing federal-aid network
- Proposed improvements focused on reconstruction, repair, operations
- Primary objective is aimed at system preservation/ maintenance
- Average daily traffic volumes (above or below average)
- Staff qualitative analysis

**Preservation (max 10)** = { [(proposed # elements ÷ possible # elements) x 10 pts] + primary objective (3 pts) + existing federal-aid route (2 pts) } x 2010 volume class index

### Quality Growth – 15 pts

- Project is located near existing population & employment centers
- Project is located within municipal boundaries
- Project is located within urban growth boundaries
- Project includes streetscaping/ curb and gutter improvements
- Staff qualitative analysis

**Quality Growth (max 15)** = [ 2010 HH density (up to 5 pts) + 2010 employment density (up to 5 pts) + municipal boundary (up to 2 pts) + urban growth boundary (up to 2 pts) ] x 2040 urban density ratio

### Multi-Modal – 15 pts

- Proposed improvements focused on transit and non-motorized modes
- Proposed roadway improvement features include upgrades to the pedestrian
  - Streetscaping, sidewalks, crosswalks, pedestrian signage/signalization, bicycle lanes, shared lanes, transit service, transit lanes, queue jumps, transit pull-offs/stations
- Project address area of higher demand for walking, bicycling, and transit use
- Project addresses area identified as a priority by the BPAC
- Staff qualitative analysis

**Multi-modal (max 10)** = { [(proposed # elements ÷ possible # elements) x 10 pts] + bicycle demand (up to 2 pts) + bicycle priority area (up to 2 pts) + pedestrian demand (up to 2 pts) + pedestrian priority area (up to 2 pts) + transit ridership potential (up to 2 pts)

## Congestion Management – 15 pts

- Proposed improvements focused on motorized and non-motorized capacity and efficiencies
- Proposed features include ITS and traffic operations strategies
- Project addresses area of existing or anticipated traffic congestion
- Primary objective is to mitigate current or future congestion
- Staff qualitative analysis

**Multi-modal (max 10)** = { [(proposed # elements ÷ possible # elements) x 10 pts] + year of congestion (up to 4 pts) + 2010 travel speed/free flow speed (up to 5 pts) + primary objective (up to 2 pts) } x 2010 volume to capacity ratio

## Safety & Security – 20 pts

- Proposed improvements focused on safety-related concerns
  - Roadway reconstruction, bridge repairs, intersection improvements
- Proposed features enhance the non-motorized and transit environments
  - Sidewalks, marked crosswalks, pedestrian/signalization, bicycle lanes, transit lanes
- Project addresses area a high crash area
- Project address roadways with multiple accidents with fatalities over last decade
- Project proposed for the National Highway System or Strategic Highway Network
- Staff qualitative analysis

**Safety (max 10)** = [(proposed # elements ÷ possible # elements) x 10 pts] + primary objective (up to 10 pts) + high crash area (up to 5 pts) + multiple fatal accidents (4 pts) + NHS (1 pt) + STRANET (1 pt)

## Freight & Goods Movement– 5 pts

- Proposed improvements focused on motorized capacity and efficiencies
- Proposed features include ITS and traffic operations strategies
- Project addresses area with high commercial vehicle activity
- Project address roadways with multiple truck accidents over last decade
- Project proposed for a designated or potential truck route
- Staff qualitative analysis

**Freight (max 5)** = { [(proposed # elements ÷ possible # elements) x 10 pts] + [2010 commercial vehicle daily volume ÷ 1000] + multiple truck crashes (up to 2 pts) + freight route (up to 2 pts) } x 2040 heavy truck index (up to 2.0)

## Environment & Health– 15 pts

- Proposed improvements are sensitive to vulnerable lands
- Project has an air quality impact
- Project provides multi-modal options to areas with high degree of disadvantaged populations
- Project provides active transportation to a health priority area
- Staff qualitative analysis

**Environment/Health (max 15)** =  $[(\text{proposed \# elements} \div \text{possible \# elements}) \times 10 \text{ pts}] + \text{degree of environmental conflict (up to 10 pts)} + \text{active transport in health priority area (3 pts)} + \text{multi-modal for vulnerable populations (up to 8 pts)} + \text{emissions impact (-2 pts)}$

## Project Support/ History– 5 pts

- Project included in current TIP
- Project is ready for construction
- Project is a top local priority
- Project has TDOT support (3-year work program or PIN)
- Staff qualitative analysis

**Support (max 5)** =  $TIP (2 \text{ pts}) + \text{construction ready (2 pts)} + \text{local priority (2 pts)} + \text{TDOT support (2 pts)}$