

Nashville Area MPO
2035 Regional Plan - Project Evaluation Factors
ENDORSED BY EXECUTIVE BOARD, MARCH 17, 2010

Factors in Evaluating Projects for the 2035 Regional Transportation Plan

1. Congestion Management

- a. 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.)?
- b. 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)?
- c. How well does the project address those causes?
- d. How could the project be scoped to include congestion management solutions to optimize its benefit?

2. Multi-Modal Choices

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

3. Freight & Goods Movement

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

4. Safety & Security

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

5. System Preservation

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

6. Quality Growth/ Sustainable Land Development

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

7. Economic Prosperity

- a. How well does the project support or stimulate the local/ regional economy?
- b. How well does the project support freight movements?
- c. To what degree does the implementation of the project create jobs?
- d. How well does the facility connect people with opportunities to engage in economic activity?
- e. To what degree does the project aid in the region's economic competitiveness with other metro areas of the nation?
- f. Is the project supported by business leaders?

8. Health & Environment

- a. Does the project aid/ harm in the preservation of the region's natural or socio-cultural resources (e.g., open space, animal habitat, historic structures, places of worship, community centers, etc.)?
- b. How can the project be scoped to mitigate the negative impacts to valuable resources?
- c. How well does the project support efforts to reduce dependency on fossil fuels, particularly foreign oil?
- d. How well does the project support efforts to improve air and water quality?
- e. Does the project include facilities that provide opportunities for active transportation/ physical activity?
- f. Does the project aid/ harm the advancement of social justice and equal opportunity to destinations throughout the region?
- g. How can the project be scoped to mitigate any negative impacts to predominately low-income or minority communities or persons with a disability?

9. Local Support/ Consistency with Plans

- a. Is the project consistent with local, state, or other regional plans for growth and preservation (economic development, land use, natural features preservation, etc.)?
- b. Has the project been endorsed locally through the adoption of official instruments such as, but not limited to, a local major thoroughfare plan, transportation element of a comprehensive plan, or by resolution of the local governing body?
- c. If on a state-route, is the project endorsed or supported by TDOT?