

October 1, 2024

TO: DCHC MPO Member Agencies
FROM: Filmon Fishastion, MPO Staff
SUBJECT: Transportation Improvement Program Amendment #5 – Call for Amendments

Summary

The DCHC MPO is seeking input on potential projects that could be included in Amendment #5 of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Requests can be made by any DCHC member. Listed below are some examples of when to request an amendment. The deadline to submit amendment requests is **October 24, 2024**.

- Project phases change
 - *i.e. ROW is deleted as there is no longer ROW required*
- Project funding changes
 - *i.e. A grant is received to increase the overall funding for project*
- Project fiscal year changes
 - *i.e. CON is delayed from FY24 to FY26 to allow more time for ROW*
- Project owner changes
 - *i.e. NCDOT will be taking over an Orange County project*
- Project segment will be created
 - *i.e. A project will now be completed in two phases*

To find out more about DCHC MPO projects you can view the [current STIP](#) as of September 2024.

To submit a TIP amendment request please [click here](#).

Background

Passed in 2013, the Strategic Transportation Investments law (STI) establishes a framework and process for NCDOT to efficiently enhance the state's infrastructure, while supporting economic growth, job creation, and a higher quality of life. This process encourages thinking from a statewide and regional perspective while also providing flexibility to address local needs. STI also establishes the Strategic Mobility Formula to allocate available revenues based on data-driven scoring and local input.

The Strategic Mobility Formula is a transparent, systematic, and data-driven process for prioritizing the major transportation in the state and making investment decisions. Projects are evaluated based on an analysis of existing and future conditions, the benefits the project is expected to provide, and how the project fits in with local priorities. Each of the six modes of transportation (highway, ferry, rail, public transportation, bicycle & pedestrian, and aviation) use a data-driven approach for ranking projects, which are then combined with local input to determine which projects will be funded each cycle. The outcome of the Strategic Prioritization of Transportation (SPOT) process serves as input to the Draft State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). The STIP is then combined with locally-designated projects and input from the DCHC MPO Board to create the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the MPO.

Amendment vs Modification

Amendments to the TIP occur for a variety of reasons, such as needing administrative updates, adding or deleting projects in the TIP, or when a project exceeds the expected cost by a predetermined threshold. Amendments can contain two types of project changes: Administrative Modifications or Formal Amendments. The below chart outlines the differences.

Formal Amendment	Administrative Modification
Requires public comment period	Does not require public comment period
Addition or deletion of a project	Project budget changes by less than \$2 million and 25% of the original cost
Changes in project cost beyond a predetermined threshold	Movement of project phase initiation dates are within the 4-year STIP time window
Project phase initiation dates to move into or out of the 4-year STIP time window	Change to project scope or description do not significantly diminish the ability to achieve the original project intent
Changes in funding sources involving non-traditional sources	The changes in funding involve traditional funding sources
Major changes in design concept or scope	