

TIP Review Guidelines

Louisiana Division

MPO: NLCOG (Shreveport/Bossier) Metropolitan Planning Organization
September 21, 2022

Document Name: T.I.P. FY 2023-2026

Date:
Reviewer: Mary Stringfellow - FHWA

File #

Questions		Yes	No	N/A	Comments (including page number where info found in TIP)	MPO Response
General	A Is this MPO a TMA?	X			p. 16 & 17 - MPA Boundary approved in 2020, including Caddo, Bossier, Desoto & Webster Parishes	
450.326(a)	1 Was the TIP developed for the metropolitan planning area, by the MPO, in cooperation with the State and any affected public transportation operator(s)?	X			p. 2 timeline	
	2 Does the TIP cover a period of at least four years?	X			2023 to 2026	
	3 Has it been more than four years since the last TIP update?		X		Last update Sept 2018	
	4 Has the TIP been approved by the MPO and the Governor?				Not yet - Date or Expected date: Sept 30, 2022 at scheduled TPC meeting	
	5 Is the cycle for updating the TIP compatible with the STIP development and approval process?	X				
450.326(b)	6 Has the MPO provided all interested parties with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the proposed TIP as required by Sec. 450.316(a)?	X			p. 2 timeline shows that TCC and TPC involved in development. Public comment period on draft TIP 8/22/22 to 9/27/22	
	7 IF a nonattainment area TMA, has the MPO provided at least one formal public meeting during the TIP development process?			X	Date or Expected date: _____	
	8 Has the TIP been published or otherwise made readily available by the MPO for public review, including (to the maximum extent practicable) in electronically accessible formats and means, such as the World Wide Web, as described in Sec. 450.316(a)?	X			Date or Expected date: TPC meeting held 8/26/22 , agenda was published on line, but no meeting location was listed - assumed to be at NLCOG office? Public comment period 8/22/22 to 9/27/22	
	8b Did the MPO follow their approved Public Participation Plan when providing for public review of the TIP?	X			p.34 - Yes - BUT - the link for the PIP on this page does not work, but the PIP was found online at the NLCOG website. There is also some confusion as to if the PIP is dated 2018 or 2011, as is stated in the TIP narrative on p. 34 3rd paragraph	
450.326(c)	9 Is the TIP designed such that once implemented, it makes progress toward achieving the performance targets established under 23 CFR 450.306 (d)?				Not sure.....this needs to be explained better in the narrative - p. 22 - There is a statement that "the TCC evaluates projects on a performance-based scoring system" - p. 23 - Safety (PM 1) - check the date in the last column, should be 2022, and not 2021. - this table summarizes the Statewide Performance Targets that were adopted by the MPO. p. 24 last paragraph mentions the MTP's Project Selection Process, but no link to it. The project selection process is described in Section 4.2.1 starting on p. 28 has 3 general eligibility categories, and then 10 criteria listed for project evaluation, but it is not clear how the categories or the criteria are related to achieving the performance targets or goals established in the MTP. Then there is the Section 5.7 - on page 55, it states that the TCC prioritized projects for inclusion in the TIP utilizing the level of expected benefit/improvement, along with other factors, a project will produce in the context of performance. Then #3 says there were subjective evaluations by NLCOG staff regarding the project's impact on the NHS. This section does not fit with Section 4.2.1. None of the LDOTD sponsored projects listed in the Project Listing starting on p.59 have any information listed for MPO Performance Targets, but those sponsored by LPA's do have this information. Many of the LPA sponsored projects have no impact because they are not on the NHS.	See revised Chapter 4 TIP Development Process. Figure 4.2 Linking National Performance Goals to Project Selection Process Evaluation Criteria shows the link between National Goals, the MTP 2045 Goals and the TIP-Project Selection Criteria. Figure 4.4 TIP Development: Initial Project Identification shows how projects are identified.
450.326(d)	10 Does the TIP, to the maximum extent practicable, include a description of the anticipated effect of the TIP toward achieving the performance targets identified in the metropolitan transportation plan, linking investment priorities to those performance targets?				Not sure.... (Same as Q9) .this needs to be explained better in the narrative - p. 22 - There is a statement that "the TCC evaluates projects on a performance-based scoring system" - p. 23 - Safety (PM 1) - check the date in the last column, should be 2022, and not 2021. - this table summarizes the Statewide Performance Targets that were adopted by the MPO. p. 24 last paragraph mentions the MTP's Project Selection Process, but no link to it. The project selection process is described in Section 4.2.1 starting on p. 28 has 3 general eligibility categories, and then 10 criteria listed for project evaluation, but it is not clear how the categories or the criteria are related to achieving the performance targets or goals established in the MTP. Then there is the Section 5.7 - on page 55, it states that the TCC prioritized projects for inclusion in the TIP utilizing the level of expected benefit/improvement, along with other factors, a project will produce in the context of performance. Then #3 says there were subjective evaluations by NLCOG staff regarding the project's impact on the NHS. This section does not fit with Section 4.2.1. None of the LDOTD sponsored projects listed in the Project Listing starting on p.59 have any information listed for MPO Performance Targets, but those sponsored by LPA's do have this information. Many of the LPA sponsored projects have no impact because they are not on the NHS.	See revised Chapter 4 TIP Development Process, Appendix B: TIP Project Selection Process (PSP) and Prioritization Criteria, Appendix C: Highway Programs Project Record Detail Format. Specifically for Appendix C the final note: Since NLCOG does not have any information pertaining to LADOTD's selection of projects located in the four (4) Parish MPA, it is not appropriate to apply NLCOG's added performance/project selection information to their project listing detail.

	10b	Does the TIP describe how the assessment of the anticipated effects were done and what the assessment of effect showed?		X		p. 55 - 1st paragraph - states the TCC members prioritize projects for inclusion into the TIP utilizing the level of expected benefit/improvement, along with other factors, a project will produce in the context of performance. It then lists 1, 2 & 3 - #3 says "Subjective evaluations by NLCOG staff regarding the projects impact upon the NHS system." This is too vague - add more details as to how these subjective evaluations were done , such as what criteria did the staff use to determine "moderate" or "significant"?	See Appendix B: TIP Project Selection Process (PSP) and Prioritization Criteria.
450.326(e)	11	Does the TIP include capital and non-capital surface transportation projects (or phases of projects) within the boundaries of the metropolitan planning area proposed for funding under 23 U.S.C. and 49 U.S.C. Chapter 53?		X		p. 49-54 in the Transit project listing, it makes the distinction for project category between capital and operations. Could not find any information about non-capital funding in the TIP - MPO needs to identify where this can be found.	See Appendix A: Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Overview that identifies the funding sources available under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). Also note that in each project listing project phase and Federal Funding Source are identified.
	12	Does the TIP include the following types of projects or line items for: transportation alternatives; associated transit improvements; Tribal Transportation Program, Federal Lands Transportation Program, and Federal Lands Access Program projects; HSIP projects; trails projects; accessible pedestrian walkways; and bicycle facilities.	X			p. 24 discusses Line Items. p. 49-54 is the Transit project listing. The TIP includes 45 Line items - transportation alternatives - L.000046 Misc STP Enhancement Projects p. 92; Tribal Transportation Program - L.000049 Indian Reservation Roads p. 96, Federal Lands Transportation Program - L.000050 - LA Public Lands Highway Program, and Federal Lands Access Program projects - L.000050 - LA Public Lands Highway Program; HSIP projects - L.000056 Misc Hazard Elimination and Safety p.103, L.000055 Railroad Crossing Improvements p. 102 , L.000057 Soft Side Safety p. 106, L.000060 Local Roads Safety Program p. 107 ; trails projects - L.000047 - Misc National Trails Projects p. 94; accessible pedestrian walkways; and bicycle facilities - L.000046 Misc STP Enhancement Projects p. 92, L.000060 Local Roads Safety Program p. 107, L.000061 Safe Routes to Public Places Program	
Questions			Yes	No	N/A	Comments (including page number where info found in TIP)	
450.326(f)	13	Does the TIP contain all regionally significant projects requiring an action by the FHWA or the FTA whether or not the projects are to be funded under title 23, U.S.C., Chapters 1 and 2 or title 49, U.S.C., Chapter 53 (e.g., addition of an interchange to the Interstate System with State, local, and/or private funds and congressionally designated projects not funded under 23 U.S.C. or 49 U.S.C., Chapter 53)?				Not sure - only project funded with FHWA and FTA funds are listed. If there are other regionally significant projects funded with non-federal funds, it could not be found - where is this information?	Note that following Section 5.7 the MPO has included the following: Please note that currently the MPO has not identified any Regionally Significant projects that require an action by the FHWA or FTA that are funded with non-federal funds.
	14	IF a nonattainment area TMA, does the TIP include all regionally significant projects proposed to be funded with Federal funds other than those administered by the FHWA or the FTA, as well as all regionally significant projects to be funded with non- Federal funds?			X		
450.326(g)	Does the TIP include, for each project or phase (e.g., preliminary engineering, environment/NEPA, right-of-way, design, or construction), the following:					See Attachment - 25% project check for individual projects - summarize below (THIS WILL BE DONE IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE STIP REVIEW)	Corrections made working with DOTD Planning Staff.
	15	1) sufficient descriptive material (i.e., type of work, termini, and length) to identify the project or phase?					
	16	2) estimated total project cost, which may extend beyond the four years of the TIP included?					
	17	3) the amount of funding proposed to be obligated during each program year for the project or phase (by category of Fed. Funds and source of non-Federal funds) identified?					
	18	4) identification of the agencies responsible for carrying out the project or phase?					
	19	5) In nonattainment and maintenance areas, identification of those projects that are identified as TCMs in the applicable SIP.					
	20	6) In nonattainment and maintenance areas, included projects specified in sufficient detail (design concept and scope) for air quality analysis in accordance with the EPA transportation conformity regulation (40 CFR part 93, subpart A)?					
	21	In areas with Americans with Disabilities Act required paratransit and key station plans, identification of those projects that will implement these plans?					
450.326(h)	22	Are projects that are not considered to be of appropriate scale for individual identification in a given program year grouped by function, work type, and/or geographic area using the applicable classifications under 23 CFR 771.117(c) and (d) and/or 40 CFR part 93? (Line Items for Louisiana - list out all the line items)	X			Yes - the TIP contains 45 Line items - p. 89 to 148 - each line item \$ amount is listed as 10% of the state's overall Line Item amount in the STIP	
	22b	In nonattainment and maintenance areas, are classifications consistent with the ``exempt project" classifications contained in the EPA transportation conformity regulation (40 CFR part 93, subpart A)?			X		
450.326(i)	23	Does the TIP demonstrate how each project or project phase included in the TIP is consistent with the approved metropolitan transportation plan?		X		p. 24 last paragraph - As identified MTP improvement projects are being prioritized through the Project Selection Process (PSP), the MPO's TCC evaluates projects on a performance-based scoring system. The top ranked projects are scheduled into the four-year TIP. The flowchart on p. 25 has the MPO perf. measures and targets next to the PSP. Section 4.2 MPO Project Selection Process (PSP) / Prioritization - Section 4.2.4. p. 29 lists 3 project types, but not sure how System Preservation & Capacity Expansion is determined from Section 4.2.5 p. 30 where it lists out 10 criteria for prioritizing projects. It is unclear who these 10 criteria demonstrate that each project is consistent with the MTP, without having to go to the MTP and search. Section 4.2 needs to include clarification on the above issues.	Section 4.4 Consistency with the NLCOG's MTP Goals: Before a project can be considered for inclusion in a TIP, it must be shown to be consistent with and included in the region's Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). The primary purpose of the TIP is to provide a prioritized list of projects, which are drawn from the NLCOG MPO's most recently adopted MTP ("Northwest Louisiana's Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update 2045" – adopted 04/2021).

450.326(i)	24	If in a TMA area - does the TIP demonstrate how the MPO's congestion management process strategies are reflected in the TIP?		X		No - p. 31 has 2 paragraphs about the CMP - it talks about the new CMP, but has no date when this was completed. It discusses how the CMP was presented to the TCC and prioritized improvement strategies/projects are recommended for inclusion in the TIP, but does not say if the improvement strategies/improvement projects were actually included in the TIP - this is too vague. There should be a way of identifying these projects in the individual project listing.	See revised Chapter 4 TIP Development Process. Figure 4.2 Linking National Performance Goals to Project Selecton Process Evaluation Criteria shows the link between National Goals, the MTP 2045 Goals and the TIP-Project Selection Criteria. Figure 4.4 TIP Development: Initial Project Identification shows how projects are identified.
450.326(i)	25	Does the TIP include a financial plan that demonstrates how the approved TIP can be implemented, indicate resources from public and private sources that are reasonably expected to be made available to carry out the TIP, and recommend any additional financing strategies for needed projects and programs?		X		p. 46 - Table 5.3 - cannot figure out how this relates to the project listings in p. 59 to p. 86. STBG >200K has a summary table listed on p. 83 , T, but the amounts don't correlate to the summary on p. 46 for fiscal constraint - this needs to be clarified. TAP only has 2 projects listed on p. 86, but the amounts don't match with p. 47 summary of fiscal constraint. Their are not proejects listed for the Carbon Reduction Program. This all needs to be clarified.	See Revised Chapter 5. Please note that at this time the MPO has not put into place a project selection process for the Transportation Alternatives Program nor the Carbon Reduction Program from the IIJA. The two TAP projects were previously identified and ranked through use of the states TAP program.
	26	Does the TIP demonstrate how the MPO, State(s), and public transportation operator(s) cooperatively develop estimates of funds that are reasonably expected to be available to support TIP implementation, in accordance with 23 CFR 450.314(a)?		X		p. 44 kind of talks about this, says the TIP is financially constrained in second paragraph, but does not discuss how this was done. Then with the issues in Q 25 above,it really can't be determined if "reasonalby expected" funds. Needs to be clarified.	Same as above
	27	If new funding sources are utilized, are strategies for ensuring availability identified TIP?	X			p. 47 - only new program discussed is the Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) - new in BIL, but no projects are identified in the TIP for this fundingn nor is their a statement that the MPO needs to develop a project selection process for CRP.	
	28	Does the TIP include projects for or discussion of the new Bipartisan Infrastructure Programs (BIL/IIJA), including: -Carbon Reduction Program -PROTECT Program -Part 667?? - Resiliency		X		p. 41 mentions Carbon Reduction Program briefly, but does not have any discussion of how the MPO might go about selecting these proejects. p. 47 has the table for Carbon Reduction Program, but there is no other information in the TIP that can be found on this program, and no projects identified. No mention of the Protect Program, and no mention about Resiliency that could be found.	See Revised Chapter 5 and Appendix B. Please note that at this time the MPO has not put into place a project selection process for the Transportation Alternatives Program nor the Carbon Reduction Program from the IIJA. The two TAP projects were previously identified and ranked through use of the states TAP program.
	29	Does the TIP identify a list of projects for the new BIL funding and/or if the MPO developed a plan for prioritizing and selecting projects for these programs?		X		could not be found	See Appendix A: Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Overview that identifies the funding sources avaliable under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). Also note that in each project listing project phase and Federal Funding Source are identified.
	30	In developing the financial plan, did the MPO demonstrate how they took into account all projects and strategies funded under title 23 U.S.C., title 49 U.S.C., Chapter 53, and other Federal funds; regionally significant projects that are not Federally funded; and operation and maintenance of the existing system?		X		could not be found	Note that following Section 5.7 the MPO has included the following: Please note that currently the MPO has not identified any Regionally Significant projects that require an action by the FHWA or FTA that are funded with non-federal funds.
	31	In developing the financial plan, did the MPO demonstrate how they took into account all regionally significant projects that are not Federally funded?		X		could not be found	Note that following Section 5.7 the MPO has included the following: Please note that currently the MPO has not identified any Regionally Significant projects that require an action by the FHWA or FTA that are funded with non-federal funds.
Questions			Yes	No	N/A	Comments (including page number where info found in TIP)	
450.326(j)	32	In developing the financial plan, did the MPO demonstrate how they took into account operation and maintenance of the existing system?		X		could not be found	See Section 5.5.4 Accounting For Maintenance-Operations (M & O) And Capacity Expansion And Safety Projects Under A Financially Constrained Tip
450.324(k)	33	Does the TIP demonstrate if full funding can be reasonably be anticipated to be available for the project(s), or phase(s) within the time period contemplated for completion of the project?	X			from the project listings in p. 59 to p. 86 - most of the projects have phases listed through construction, so this shows the funding can be reasonable anticipated.	
	34	In nonattainment and maintenance areas, does the TIP demonstrate that funds available or committed for projects included in the first two years of the TIP?			X		
	35	Is the TIP financial constraint demonstrated and maintained by year?		X		Same as Q25 - p. 46 - Table 5.3 - cannot figure out how this relates to the project listings in p. 59 to p. 86. STBG >200K has a summary table listed on p. 83 , T, but the amounts don't correlate to the summary on p. 46 for fiscal constraint - this needs to be clarified. TAP only has 2 projects listed on p. 86, but the amounts don't match with p. 47 summary of fiscal constraint. Their are not proejects listed for the Carbon Reduction Program.	See Revised Chapter 5. Please note that at this time the MPO has not put into place a project selection process for the Transportation Alternatives Program nor the Carbon Reduction Program from the IIJA. The two TAP projects were previously identified and ranked through use of the states TAP program.
	36	Does the TIP include sufficient financial information to demonstrate which projects are to be implemented using current and/or reasonably available revenues, by source, while the entire transportation system is being adequately operated and maintained?		X		Did not find mention of adequately operated and maintained.	See Section 5.5.4 Accounting For Maintenance-Operations (M & O) And Capacity Expansion And Safety Projects Under A Financially Constrained Tip
	37	For proposed funding sources, does the TIP include strategies for ensuring their availability in the financial plan?		X		Did not find, but since federal funds are the main funding sources, these can be reasonably expected to be available	See Section 5.5.1 and Section 5.5.2
	38	In nonattainment and maintenance areas, does the TIP demonstrate that priority was given to eligible TCMs identified in the SIP in accorance with the EPA transportation conformity regulations (40 CFR part 93, subpart A)?			X		
150.326(n)	39	Does the TIP identify the criteria and process for prioriting transportation plan elements for inclusion in the TIP, plus any changes in priorities from the previous TIPs? (development, approval, revisions, and amendments?)				The TIP discusses the Project Selection Process (but need clarification in several of the questions above, but did not find any discussion of changes in priorities from previous TIPs.	
	40	Does the TIP list major projects from the previous TIP that were implemented and identify any significant delays in the planned implementation of major projects?		X		Did not find this	See Appendix D: Previously Authorized Projects: Status of Projects in the FFY 2019-22 TIP

4	41	In nonattainment and maintenance areas, does the TIP describe the progress in implementing any required TCMs, in accordance with 40 CFR part 93?			X		
450.326(b)	42	In nonattainment and maintenance areas, has a conformity finding on the TIP been made by the FHWA and the FTA? On what date?			X		
General	43	Does the TIP cover page provide the official name of the Metropolitan Planning Organization?	X				See Revised Disclaimer Page 3
	44	Does the TIP cover page provide Fiscal Years addressed by TIP?	X				
	45	Does the document provide a general overview on the MPO, its planning process, and what role the TIP plays in that planning process?	X			Section 1.1 starting on p. 10	
	46	Does the MPO provide contact information within the document		X		Not specifically for NLCOG, but the letter (p.4) and certification (p.7)s do have names and titles, but no address or ph.	
Self & Federal Certifications 450.336		Does the TIP contain the MPO self-certification resolution with all of the applicable requirements listed in 23 CFR 450.220?					
	47	1) 23 U.S.C. 134 and 135, 49 U.S.C. 5303 and this subpart:	X				
	48	2) In nonattainment and maintenance areas, sections 174 and 176(c) and (d) of the Clean Air Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 7504, 7506(c) and (d)) and 40 CFR part 93	X				
	49	3) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended (42 U.S.C. 2000d-1) and 49 CFR part 21	X				
	50	4) 49 U.S.C. 5332, prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, sex, or age in employment or business opportunity	X				
	51	5) Section 1101(b) of the FAST Act (Pub. L. 114-357) and 49 CFR part 26 regarding the involvement of disadvantaged business enterprises in DOT funded projects;	X				
	52	6) 23 CFR part 230, regarding the implementation of an equal employment opportunity program on Federal and Federal-aid highway construction contracts	X				
	53	7) The provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 <i>et seq.</i>) and 49 CFR parts 27, 37, and 38;	X				
	54	8) The Older Americans Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 6101), prohibiting discrimination on the basis of age in programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance;	X				
	55	9) Section 324 of title 23 U.S.C. regarding the prohibition of discrimination based on gender; and	X				
56	10) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794) and 49 CFR part 27 regarding discrimination against individuals with disabilities	X					
58 Can this TIP be approved at this time?				X	The TIP narravive needs clarification as stated in the above Q's plus the funding tables on p. 46 and 47 need further clarification		Final Comment from MPO Staff. Had FHWA provided the MPO's with this check list durring the TIP development process many if not all of these questions or comments from FHWA would have been addressed. This is the second occasion on the development of a mandatory document that the FHWA provides a check list questionnaire following adoption of said document by the MPO.