



Waco MPO 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Project Proposal Criteria Framework

Waco MPO Call for Proposals Final Framework Draft – March 21, 2024

Applications Due: June 21, 2024 at 5:00PM (CST) via Decision Lens website

Schedule:

- **Opening Date** – March 25, 2024
- **Closing Date** – June 21, 2024
- **Proposal Evaluation Period** – July 1 - 31, 2024

Project Name & Description

Q1. Limits and Scope

Please provide the name of the project and include a brief description of its limits and scope. Please

Initial Qualifying Information

Q2. Proposal Sponsor

To be considered for inclusion in the MTP, proposals must be sponsored by at least one Waco MPO member city within the MPO's planning area or McLennan County. Which entity is sponsoring this proposal?

Q3. Collaboration with TxDOT

Does the project expect TxDOT to provide plans, specifications, and estimate (PS&E) costs? If yes, is TxDOT a joint sponsor of the project?

Q4. Category 2 Funding

Please add any expected Category 2 funding.

Q5. No Category 2 Funding

If the proposal will not require Category 2 funding, is it a regionally significant project? If yes, in what ways does it meet this criterion?

Waco Metropolitan Planning Organization

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Additional Detail (*optional*)

Q6. Define Problem

Please define the problem your proposal aims to solve.

Q7. Define Problem Location

Is the problem at an intersection or along a corridor?

Q8. Define Solution

Please explain your approach to solving the problem your proposal aims to solve.

Q9. Define Approach

Does the proposal utilize a technology-based or physical capacity-expanding approach?

Q10. Proposal Design

Please discuss the design of your proposal. Does it utilize standard engineering or alternative solutions (e.g., multimodal switches)?

Q11. ROW Acquisition

Will the proposal require state or federal right-of-way acquisition?

Q12. Utilities Relocation

Will the proposal require utility relocations?

Alignment with Prioritization Criteria

Section 1 – Non-Motorized Path Elements (10 pts) – *Weight: 5.59%*

1a. Non-motorized Path Element Curb Alignment

- Does your proposal contain a non-motorized path element adjacent to the back of curb (1 pt) or separated from the back of curb? (2 pts)

1b. Non-motorized Path Element Width

- Does your proposal contain a 5' wide sidewalk (1pt) or an 8' to 10' wide shared path? (2 pts)

1c. Bicyclists and Pedestrians Safety

- How will your proposal increase safety for bicyclists and/or pedestrians? (2 pts)

1d. Additional Non-Motorized Path Elements

- Please address items within this section not covered above. (4 pts)

Section 2 – Comprehensive Mobility Solutions (10 pts) – *Weight: 7.96%*

2a. Land Use/Physical Context

- How is this proposal expected to improve the land use/physical context addressed within your proposal (3 pts)
 - Examples: walkability, quality of life improvements, mixed-use development

2b. Accessible Mobility Improvements

- Describe accessible mobility improvements addressed within your proposal (3 pts)



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- Examples: disability accommodations

2c. Watershed Impact

Does your proposal negatively impact watershed management? If yes, please describe how you propose to mitigate these impacts. If no, please explain how you reached this conclusion. (-3 to 0 pts)

Examples: Lake Waco, creeks, culverts, storm drains

2d. Air Quality Impact

Does your proposal increase transportation emissions? If yes, describe how you propose to mitigate these impacts. If no, please explain how you reached this conclusion. (-3 to 0 pts)

Examples: Tailpipe emissions, increase in vehicle miles traveled (Potential mitigation: charging or alternative fuel infrastructure, biological sequestration with tree planting, renewable energy projects in median/right of way)

2e. Additional Comprehensive Mobility Solutions

- Please address items within this section not covered above. (4 pts)

Section 3 - Conflict Point Reduction (Potential Crash Reduction) (10 pts) – *Weight: 12.32%*

3a. Reduction or Consolidation of Driveways

- How does your proposal include a reduction or consolidation of driveways? (2 pts)
 - Definition: Every driveway represents potential conflict points between motor vehicles, pedestrians, bicyclists, wheelchairs, etc.
 - Examples: minimizing entrances/exits; consolidating multiple, closely spaced driveways; adding acceleration or deceleration lanes

3b. Intersection Improvements

- How does your proposal contain intersection improvements? (2 pts)
 - Examples: improving physically limiting turning maneuvers, roundabout (less severe crashes), ramp corrections, removing jog intersections

3c. Median Improvements

- How does your proposal contain median improvements (2 pts)
 - Examples: protected left-turn movements, pedestrian refuge, double yellow stripe with rumble strips

3d. Additional Conflict Point Reduction

- Please address items within this section not covered above. (4 pts)

Section 4 – Transit Operations and/or Access Improvements (10 pts) – *Weight: 7.6%*

4a. Transit Mobility & Safety

- How does your proposal provide mobility and safety to transit users? (3 pts)
 - Examples: Bus pullout and user conveniences

4b. First & Last Mile Option

- Is infrastructure included for first and last mile connections to transit? (3 pts)
 - Examples: bicycles, pedestrians, wheelchairs, scooters, bus stops



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4c. Additional Transit Operations and/or Access Improvements

- Please address items within this section not covered above. (4 pts)

Section 5 – Facilitates Connectivity (10 pts) – *Weight: 10.55%*

5a. Operational Efficiency

- How does your proposal add technological or physical capacity to improve operational efficiency? (2 pts)
 - Technological Examples: Sensors, cameras, dynamic message signs (DMS), traffic signal management
 - Physical Capacity Examples: Additional lanes, lane delineators

5b. Eliminate Bottlenecks

- How does your proposal eliminate bottlenecks? (2 pts)

5c. Improved Traffic Movement

- How does your proposal facilitate improved traffic movement? (2 pts)
 - On the proposed facility
 - On parallel road(s)
 - Encourage separation of freight/auto traffic
 - Examples: Move freight traffic to more appropriate roads

5d. Additional Connectivity Facilitation

- Please address items within this section not covered above. (4 pts)

Section 6 – Transportation Resiliency (10 pts) – *Weight: 11.11%*

6a. System Disruptions

- How does your proposal consider system disruptions? (1 pt)
 - Definition: Any significant delay, interruption, or stoppage in the flow of trade (freight) to the transportation network caused by a crash, a power outage, a natural disaster, an act of terrorism, or any transportation security incident
 - Examples: Roundabouts provide resiliency benefits in a power outage, shoulders provide benefits during crashes

6b. Emergency Response Times

- How does your proposal improve police/fire/ambulance response times? (1 pt)
 - Examples: Roundabouts, signal preemption, median gaps for emergency vehicles

6c. Traffic Divergence Impact

- How does this proposal minimize risk of diverting traffic to local streets? (1 pt)

6d. Evacuation Route

- Is this proposal on a designated evacuation route, or intersect with a designated evacuation route? Yes (1 pt) [TxDOT Evacuation Routes Map](#)

6e. Strategic Highway Network (STRAHNET)

- Is this proposal on the Strategic Highway Network (STRAHNET) defined by the U.S. Department of Defense? Yes (1 pt) [TxDOT STRAHNET Map](#)

6f. Response to Natural Disasters

- How does this proposal consider improving response to natural disasters? (1 pt)



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- Examples: Brush fire, flash flooding, prolonged freeze, earthquake, pandemic
- Examples: Supply chain restoration, flood barriers, slope stabilization, fire-resistant materials

6g. Flood Risk

Does your proposal adversely affect water resources due to weather-related variations? Describe how you propose to mitigate these impacts. (-4 to 0 pts)

Examples: Appropriate construction materials, rain/drought drainage

6h. Additional Transportation Resiliency

- Please address items within this section not covered above. (4 pts)

Section 7 – Transportation System Access to Underserved Populations/Neighborhoods (10 pts) – Weight: 10.96%

7a. Justice40 Goals

- Have you utilized provided Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) tools to determine whether your proposal meets Justice 40 goals? Please include documented results. (2 pts).
 - [USDOT Equitable Transportation Community Explorer](#)
 - [Climate & Economic Justice Screening Tool](#)
 - Examples: Describe how this proposal improves access for communities with low automobile ownership.

7b. Intergenerational Equity

- How does your proposal consider effects on current or future generations, to include proximity to schools, needs of students, and/or access to transportation alternatives? (2 pts)

7c. Asset Management

- How does your proposal consider maintenance, operations, and life cycle costs of the proposal for the next 25 years? (2 pts)

7d. Additional Transportation System Equity

- Please address items within this section not covered above. (4 pts)

Section 8 – Economic Development (10pts) – Weight: 14.02%

8a. Current Business Needs

- How does your proposal address current business activity in surrounding areas? (3 pts)
 - Examples: Downtowns, main streets, industrial parks

8b. Future Business Needs

- How does your proposal address future business activity in surrounding areas? (3 pts)

8c. Additional Economic Development

- Please address items within this section not covered above. (4 pts)

Section 9 – Regional Impact (10 pts) – Weight: 12.65%

9a. Regional Impact

- Is your proposal supported by multiple local government agencies (cities/County/TxDOT)?
 - Two sponsoring agencies (3 pts) or three or more sponsoring agencies (6 pts)



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9b. Additional Regional Impact

- Please address items within this section not covered above. (4 pts)

Section 10 - Tourism related traffic (potential safety element for non-local drivers) (10 pts) – *Weight: 7.22%*

10a. Access to Medical Opportunities

- Does your project improve access to medical opportunities for non-local drivers that may be unfamiliar with the regional transportation network? (2 pts)
 - Examples: Wayfinding, roadway enhancements for access to Baylor Scott & White Hospital, Ascension Providence, VA Hospital

10b. Access to Major Shopping Opportunities

- Does your project improve access to major shopping attractions for non-local drivers that may be unfamiliar with the regional transportation network? (2 pts)
 - Examples: Wayfinding, roadway enhancements for access to malls, big-box retailers

10c. Access to Entertainment/Sightseeing Opportunities

- Does your project improve access to entertainment/sightseeing opportunities for non-local drivers that may be unfamiliar with the regional transportation network? (2 pts)
 - Examples: Wayfinding, roadway enhancements for access to downtowns/main streets, attractions, events (athletic, concerts, museums, fairs, etc.)

10d. Additional Tourism Related Traffic

- Please address items within this section not covered above. (4 pts)

Project Selection Considerations

Waco MPO 2050 MTP Vision Statement (*Adopted by Policy Board November 16, 2023*)

“The 2050 Waco MPO Metropolitan Transportation Plan will serve as a catalyst for inclusive regionalization that seeks to make our community physically healthy, economically prosperous, equitable in its accessible mobility, technologically up-to date, and resilient, while enhancing its ability to tackle the climate crisis and preserve its natural assets across all life stages. Engaging in strategies which are grounded in community input and involvement and a broad understanding of performance metrics will lead to a safe and accessible McLennan County.”

Federal Planning Factors (*Consideration Required per 23 CFR 450.306(b)*)

1. Support the economic vitality of the metropolitan area, especially by enabling global competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency.
2. Increase the safety of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
3. Increase the security of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.



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4. Increase accessibility and mobility of people and freight.
5. Protect and enhance the environment, promote energy conservation, improve the quality of life, and promote consistency between transportation improvements and state and local planned growth and economic development patterns.
6. Enhance the integration and connectivity of the transportation system, across and between modes, for people and freight.
7. Promote efficient system management and operation.
8. Emphasize preservation of the existing transportation system.
9. Improve the resiliency and reliability of the transportation system and reduce or mitigate stormwater impacts of surface transportation.
10. Enhance travel and tourism.

Federal Planning Emphasis Areas *(Required by MPO for Consideration When Possible)*

1. Tackling the Climate Crisis – Transition to a Clean Energy, Resilient Future
2. Equity and Justice⁴⁰ in Transportation Planning
3. Complete Streets
4. Public Involvement
5. Strategic Highway Network (STRAHNET)/U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) Coordination
6. Federal Land Management Agency (FLMA) Coordination
7. Planning and Environment Linkages (PEL)
8. Data in Transportation Planning