

SFY 2028-2031 TIP DEVELOPMENT – POTENTIAL PROJECTS FOR NOACA FUNDS

**Safety and Operations Council
November 21, 2025**

ACTION REQUESTED

No action is being requested currently. This item is being presented for information and input.

PREVIOUS ACTION

None

BACKGROUND

The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is a program of transportation projects to be implemented using Federal funding over the next four-year period.

- Implementation arm of weNEO2050+ long range plan
- Incorporated into the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)
- Contains ODOT and NOACA funded projects
- Developed every two years

BACKGROUND

The TIP comprises:

- **Roadway and Transportation Alternatives Element**
 - ODOT District, Major and Local federal funding programs
 - Statewide Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality program
 - NOACA funding programs
- **Transit Element**
 - Each transit agency's 4-year program
- **Appendices**

BACKGROUND

- NOACA is beginning to develop its SFY 2028-2031 TIP to be presented to the Board for action in March 2027
- S/TIP will take effect on July 1, 2027, through June 30, 2031

BACKGROUND

The TIP will include the program of projects to be funded with NOACA administered:

- Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) (\$34.0M/year)
- Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) (\$3.8M/year)
- Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) (\$4.2M/year)
- Statewide Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality program
 - CMAQ funded projects are already determined through 2031

BACKGROUND

Projects advanced with NOACA funding in the TIP should:

- best represent priorities contained in *weNEO2050+* Long Range Plan; and
- align with established State and Federal transportation management initiatives

BACKGROUND

Process for evaluating projects for NOACA funds in SFY 2028-2031 TIP

- Same process employed for the SFY 2026-2029 TIP
- Incorporates *weNEO2050+* priorities and Board adopted policies and initiatives

BACKGROUND

TIP Development Methodology - NOACA Funds

- Step 1: Develop TIP potential project universe
- Step 2: Screen against weNEO2050+ priorities
- Step 3: Coordinate with regional and local sponsors
- Step 4: Filter the top 25% of the TAM projects
- Step 5: Evaluate qualifying projects against Regional Significance Criteria and considerations

BACKGROUND

Step 1: Develop TIP potential project universe

- The SFY 2028-2031 TIP universe of projects will be derived from:
 - *weNEO2050+* minor and major constrained and illustrative lists (maintain, enhance and expand)
 - 4P = Plans, Policies, Programs and Projects
 - Transportation Asset Management
 - Active transportation plan
 - Safety and Congestion priority locations
 - Local community/regional transit agency submitted projects

BACKGROUND

Step 2: Screen project universe to align with *weNEO2050+* plan

- **Project priorities**
 - Pavement: Aligned with TAMP
 - Bridge: General Appraisal, Structural Deficiency
 - Congestion and Safety: Aligned with NOACA priority listings
 - Regionally Significant: Important to regional economy, travel and destinations
 - Transit: Asset Management: Facilities and Transit Operations
 - Transportation Alternatives: SRTS, TLCI Planning Studies, Historic Transportation Facilities

BACKGROUND

Step 3: Coordinate with regional and local sponsors

- **Send letters to communities in the region requesting review of the universe of projects**
 - project scope, schedule and budget
 - projects performed or planned
- **Meetings with Counties and the City of Cleveland will be planned for February - April 2026**

BACKGROUND

Step 4: Filter the top 25% of the TAM projects

- **Filter the top 25% of TAM projects by county and regional travel then by cost effectiveness**
 - filter planned or recently completed projects in the current TIP, ODOT 10-year plan, OPWC, etc.
- **Include all other plan list project types**
 - safety and congestion and transportation alternatives projects
 - regionally significant projects
 - important to economy, regional travel and destinations

BACKGROUND

Step 5: Evaluate qualifying projects against Regional Significance Criteria and considerations

Regional Impact 2=Regional; 1=County; 0=Community (Up to 2 points)	Weight Factor	Weighted Points
Roadway / Transportation Alternatives Significance	1.5	3.0
Job Centers	1.5	3.0
Education / Government / Medical	1.0	2.0
Intermodal Facilities	1.0	2.0
Cultural / Sports / Entertainment	0.5	1.0
Total Maximum Score		11.0

BACKGROUND

Step 5: Evaluate qualifying projects against Regional Significance Criteria and considerations

NOACA Plan Relationship (1 point each)

Safety / Congestion Priority Locations

Freight Plan Priority Routes

Public Transit Priorities (Transit Corridors / Transit Oriented Development)

Bicycle and Pedestrian Networks or TLCI / SRTS Studies

Total Maximum Score = 4 points

BACKGROUND

Step 5: Evaluate qualifying projects against Regional Significance Criteria and considerations

- **Complete and Green Streets Opportunities**
 - Complete Streets: Safely and comfortably accommodate all users
 - Green Streets: Integrate sustainable green infrastructure components to improve water quality and reduce runoff volumes



BACKGROUND

Step 5: Evaluate qualifying projects against Regional Significance Criteria and considerations

- **Community benefit:**
 - Disadvantaged Communities
 - Urban Core Communities
 - Areas of Persistent Poverty
- **Potential for technology adoption:**
 - Strengthening Mobility & Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART) Corridors
 - EV charging station

SCHEDULE

Projects Recommended for NOACA Funding - Development Activity

Schedule

Work with Advisory Councils and Subcommittees to evaluate projects in accordance with methodology

February - June 2026

Present Project Funding Recommendations to:

Planning and Programming Committee for Recommendation

July 2026

Executive Committee for Recommendation

August 2026

Board of Directors for Approval

September 2026

Staff will work with project sponsors to finalize scope, schedule and budgets

October - December 2026

NEXT STEPS

- Staff will prepare and provide transportation system needs and deficiencies for community and agency review and input in accordance with the presented methodology considering Council input.
- Input received from the Council will be utilized by staff in its evaluation of projects for NOACA funding in the draft SFY 2028-2031 TIP.
- Project funding recommendations will be presented the Council at their May 2026 meeting.
- The final draft SFY 2028-2031 TIP will be presented to the Planning and Programming Committee at their January 2027 meeting and to the Board of Directors at their March 2027 meeting.



NOACA

Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency

NOACA will **strengthen** regional cohesion, **preserve** existing infrastructure, and **build** a sustainable multimodal transportation system to **support** economic development and **enhance** quality of life in Northeast Ohio.