

MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 12, 2021

TO: Active Living Active Transportation Advisory Committee

FROM: Timothy Malone, Community Development Deputy, Capitol Region Council of Governments

SUBJECT: **Project Prioritization**

In October 2020 CRCOG issued a request for projects for year 3 of the Statewide Active Living Active Transportation Project, or ActiveCT. The solicitation closed on November 20, 2020. We received seven (7) applications for standard projects, six (6) applications for bike racks (including a regional application), and five (5) applications for the “Train the Trainer” educational program.

Methodology

To prioritize the projects, CRCOG staff analyzed the projects in relation to the following categories and assigned them weighted scores:

Category	Max Points	Data
Population Served	5	Population data from Urban Footprint (based on Census data)
Jobs Served	5	Job data from Urban Footprint (based on LEHD)
Geographic Diversity	10	Region or municipality without a previous project
Benefits to Sensitive Populations	10	Census data on: low-incomes (less than 150% of poverty); minorities (non-white); population over 65; population between 5 and 17
Health Equity	10	EPA Percentile Index For Air Toxics Respiratory Hazard
Proximity to Everyday Destinations	5	WalkScore.com
Project Type	5	Whether the project enhances an “everyday destination”

Raw data from each category was transformed into a percentile index and points were assigned based on the percentile rank.

Recommendation

Originally it was our intention to just select projects for year 3 and conduct a subsequent solicitation for years 4 and 5. Upon reviewing project proposals, however, we have determined that segmenting projects by funding year will be difficult due to uncertainties related to project costs, scopes, and schedules. Instead of selecting a few projects for year 3 and then resoliciting projects for year 4, we recommend creating a prioritized list of projects that would be completed as funding and project schedules allow. Under this scenario, all projects that were submitted in this solicitation would eventually be completed, many in year 3, but some in year 4. As projects are completed, additional projects would be solicited and added to the list.

A prioritized list of projects is below. We are recommending that the Killingly project be prioritized first as NECCOG did not receive a project in the first two years of the program.

Town	Description	Points
<i>Killingly</i>	<i>Feasibility plan on removing mobility barriers in a large industrial park for improved walking and biking.</i>	<i>24.0</i>
Stamford	Creation of a City of Stamford Parklet Design Manual to formalize the planning, application, and installation of new open spaces.	37.5
MetroCOG	Creating a network of bicycle racks in Bridgeport, Easton, Fairfield, and Stratford; a total of 31 proposed.	33.0
Meriden	Identify locations, develop guidelines, implement two pilot outdoor parklets (not on-street).	32.0
West Hartford	Nine (9) bike racks	30.5
Waterbury	One (1) bike rack.	29.0
New London	Ten (10) bike racks	26.5
New London	Hold workshops and presentations to train and educate department staff, municipal leaders, and community members on the benefits of complete streets and how they can be used to increase mobility to local destinations.	26.5
Newtown	Planning to design final multi-use trail segment from the end of the Housatonic Valley Trail at the remediated town-owned property (Batchelder) to the center of Newton.	25.5
South Windsor	Six (6) bike racks	21.5
New Milford	Seven (7) bike racks	21.0

Groton	Design, develop, implement on-ground demonstration to test complete streets/road diet recommendations at intersections of North/Bridge Street, North Street/Spicer Ave, and North/Broad Streets.	17.5
Thompson	Walking school bus route and program will be identified and planned, through to a successful kickoff.	15.5

For the “Train the Trainer” applications we had originally planned to do up to 10 programs. Since we only received five application we recommend funding them all. The applications included: Canton, Mansfield, Meriden, Thompson, and a regional application for SCCOG. An inquiry from Middletown was also received after the close of the application period. We recommend giving them a workshop as well if they are still interested.