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  - A. If an agency plans to engage in additional efforts to consult with disadvantaged or low-income stakeholders during the post-award period (and prior to the beginning of service resulting from the project), a specific task and budget for the proposed activities should be included in the project application. Such efforts may include plans for service implementation of the specific project, addressing station access issues specific to the stakeholders, as well as developing proposals for service changes and capital investments that may be funded through future capital or operating funds or through project cost savings. Activities that address community engagement may include, but are not limited to, public workshops/meetings, door-to-door canvassing, house meetings, established website and/or social media efforts, surveys, focus groups, subcontracts with community-based organizations to conduct outreach, allocation of staff or contractor positions focused on community engagement, and advisory bodies or other shared decision-making bodies.
  - B. The general scope of the proposed effort should be submitted in draft form, but revision and development of additional detail prior to allocation of TIRCP funding for these activities may be requested by CalSTA in order to increase the benefits of the effort. During application review, if additional efforts are seen as necessary in order to successfully address the needs of disadvantaged or low income stakeholders, CalSTA may propose an additional task and potentially assign additional funding to pursue such consultations above and beyond what is requested in the project application, with the scope agreed to during development of the agreements necessary to implement the selected project.
10. If applicable, an explanation of how the project will provide employment and workforce development and training benefits to the community, particularly to priority populations. This explanation should be accompanied by a Community Workforce Agreement, Project Labor Agreement, or some other agreement made between the applying agency and unions, community-based organizations, or other partners. If such activities are being conducted as part of the project, budget and scope elements should reflect the level of effort anticipated.
11. Address the ability to gather and analyze new datasets for public use and benefit as an outcome of the project.
12. Description of funding sources and approach to ensuring ongoing operating and maintenance costs of the project are funded through the useful life of the project (as applicable).
13. Description of how the project will assist in meeting the California Minimum GTFS Guidelines, and address any identified assessment deficiencies, if applicable. The guidelines may be found at:
 

<https://dot.ca.gov/cal-itp/california-minimum-general-transit-feed-specification-gtfs-guidelines>
14. Each application must include an Electronic Project Programming Request (ePPR) Form that can be generated at <https://calsmart.dot.ca.gov> and choosing 'Other' funds option on the general information page. A users guide for generating the ePPR can be found at:
 

<https://dot.ca.gov/-/media/dot-media/programs/financial-programming/documents/eppr-instructions-v101-a11y.pdf>

For further helps with ePPRs, please email: [eppr@dot.ca.gov](mailto:eppr@dot.ca.gov).

- A. Each Project Programming Request must list Federal, State, and local funding categories by fiscal year. All applicants must demonstrate the ability to absorb any cost overruns and deliver the proposed project with no additional funding from this program beyond that provided in initial grant or cooperative agreement, and to fund initial operating costs. If the project is a scope addition to a project programmed in an earlier TIRCP cycle the revised PPR must not show supplanting of previously committed non-TIRCP funds.
  - B. An eligible applicant may submit an application to fund a project over multiple fiscal years. The cost of each project component must be listed in the state fiscal year in which the particular project component needs to receive a Commission TIRCP allocation. For environmental studies and permits, costs should be listed in the fiscal year during which environmental studies will begin. Costs for the preparation of plans, specifications and estimates should be listed in the fiscal year during which this work will begin. Right of way costs should be listed in the fiscal year(s) during which each right of way acquisition (including utility relocation) contract will first be executed. Construction costs should be programmed in the fiscal year during which each construction contract needs to receive a Commission TIRCP allocation to be advertised, and if an agency can receive TIRCP construction reimbursements over multiple fiscal years to fund a contract of extended duration, the application should list the amounts by fiscal year over which construction funding is required to meet expected contract requirements.
  - C. If a project is expected to require multiple contracts for any stage of project development (often the case for multi-component projects), each contract should be listed separately with its respective funding requirements (to the extent known at the time of application), so that Commission TIRCP allocations may be sought in the programming year close to the specific contract need and funding allocations are put to timely use. If not known at the time of application, this information will be sought prior to Commission allocation so that the project and its various components can be properly programmed in the CalSTA Program Allocation Plan.
  - D. Applicants are encouraged to submit a narrative explanation or supplement to the PPR to reflect the proposed contracting approach and describing the ability of the project to receive funds on alternative allocation schedules. If a project has a special cash flow consideration that would benefit from TIRCP funds being available at a particular time, please describe this in the application.
  - E. Applicant must disclose if they're an FTA federal grantee or not, and are encouraged to include any FTA funding used as match if they are.
  - F. Applicant must identify if their project benefits intercity service and is included within one of the selected corridors in California participating in the FRA's CIDP process.
  - G. Finally, if a project is only requesting funds for a particular phase of the proposed project, such as a construction contract expected to be awarded in a specific year of the program, identify the prior phases and the funding associated with them.
15. Letters of support for project implementation, including letters from:
- A. Project partners essential to project implementation, such as host railroads or facility owners. If TIRCP funds are to be used at a later stage of project implementation (such as construction), and an agency is able to commit to delivering the project goals with no additional TIRCP funding (supplementing, if necessary, from non-TIRCP sources), letters of support may indicate overall support for the project as described in the application and willingness to engage in best efforts to achieve a formal agreement for the construction elements of the project that will still require a future stakeholder agreement. Commission allocation of awarded TIRCP funding for such future construction will be conditioned on such

agreements being finalized and the project being implemented in a manner consistent with the original application.

- B. A Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), indicating that the project is consistent with an adopted Sustainable Communities Strategy, or in non-MPO regions, a regional plan to reduce GHG emissions and/or vehicle miles travelled (VMT). (It is not necessary to establish project eligibility for an MPO to indicate its specific support for the project.)
  - C. Regional agency or agencies.
  - D. Members of the community, including representatives of impacted disadvantaged or low-income communities. Letters from community organizations stating their recognition of benefits from the project are encouraged.
  - E. Additional stakeholders relevant to the proposed project.
16. Description of project elements that are separable or scalable based on available funding, if applicable, while still maintaining independent utility. For example, if an application is for improving services on three routes, each route may be separately described and prioritized so that the highest-priority portion of the application could be funded if resources are not sufficient for full project funding. If some or all of the project is already programmed using state or federal funds, the application must clearly explain if and how the scope of the project has changed since the most recent state or federal programming action, including an explanation of any differences in assumed federal funding level compared to the most recent Capital Investment Grant report or summary (if applicable). If the project is not scalable or separable, the applicant should provide background detailing why it is not practical for it to be phased or scaled.

Documentation of the basis for the costs, benefits, and schedules must be included in the project application and additional detail made available upon request. CalSTA will post basic project application information from all applications on its website prior to awarding funding. After projects are selected, CalSTA will post the status of all project applications to its website.

CalSTA encourages project applicants to carefully consider how to track the status and benefits of the proposed project, including having project budgets that allow for an appropriate level of before and after data collection and analysis (e.g., greenhouse gas reductions, diesel particulate matter reductions, increased transit service for disadvantaged community residents, etc.). This tracking could take the form of customer surveys made before and after the proposed project, specific data analysis before and after the project, or other efforts. Since this is an ongoing funding program of the state, developing lessons learned and good supporting data are critical to future program effectiveness.

For project applicants that have recently submitted an application for Cycle 6 traditional funding for a project that didn't receive funding or received only partial funding, the application requirements are unchanged. All or much of the prior application may be utilized for resubmission. Reference may be made to past application materials, including letters of support, and if they are unchanged, do not need to be updated.

## 10 Project Evaluation

Applications will receive an initial screening for completeness and eligibility. Incomplete or ineligible applications will not be evaluated.

### 10.1 Primary Evaluation Criteria

Projects will be selected through a competitive process. The primary evaluation will be based on how well a project meets the objectives of the program, as further expanded upon by the grant evaluation considerations in statute:

1. **Reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.** CARB has developed a quantification



































that there are allegations supported by reasonable evidence that a violation of any state or federal law or policy by the grantee which affects performance of this or any other grant agreement or contract entered into with the State. If a grant is terminated, the agency may be required to fully or partially repay funds from the TIRCP.

## **16 Project Expenditures**

Caltrans and CalSTA reserve the right to ask any agency to complete a Cash Flow projections form. The form includes collecting the subtotal for Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund, Project Approval & Environmental Document, Plans, Specifics & Estimates, Right of Way and Construction. For more information on retrieving the Cash Flow form, please contact [tircpcomments@dot.ca.gov](mailto:tircpcomments@dot.ca.gov).

## **Attachment 1: CCI Funding Guidelines for Administering Agencies**

### **Investments to Benefit Disadvantaged Communities and Low-Income Communities and Households**

The California Air Resources Board (CARB) released the "Funding Guidelines for Agencies Administering California Climate Investments" (Funding Guidelines) on August 30, 2018.

The 2018 Funding Guidelines provide flexibility in implementing a diverse set of investments while maintaining transparency of outcomes and ensuring meaningful community benefits from these investments. These guidelines align with the Legislature's priorities found in [AB 398](#) and Fiscal Year (FY) 2017-18 appropriations. These guidelines reflect the increasingly important role of California Climate Investments in facilitating the reduction of greenhouse gases while also reducing air pollution, helping communities adapt to the impacts of climate change, and providing meaningful benefits to disadvantaged communities, low-income communities, and low-income households (also referred to as [priority populations](#)"), among other statutory requirements.

CARB collaborates with agencies that administer California Climate Investments programs to develop individual targets for each program to drive investments that achieve direct and meaningful benefits to [priority populations](#) and help ensure that [statutory requirements](#) are met, which are described in AB 1550.

Additional information can be found at the following CARB websites:

<https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/resources/documents/cci-funding-guidelines-administering-agencies>



## **Attachment 2: Quantification Methodology and Co-Benefit Assessment Methodology**

### **CCI Quantification and Reporting Materials**

Administering agencies must use the Funding Guidelines with the resources provided by CARB to develop effective programs and demonstrate compliance with program requirements.

Resources include Quantification Methodologies (QMs) and Calculator Tools for estimating greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reductions and co-benefits; Benefit Criteria Tables (BCTs) for determining benefits to priority populations; and Reporting Templates for reporting outcomes.

CARB staff developed the [TIRCP QM](#) and associated [Calculator Tool](#) to provide guidance for estimating the GHG emission reductions and selected co-benefits for each proposed project type. The calculator tool automates methods described in the QM document, outlines documentation requirements, and provides a link to a step-by-step user guide with project examples. Projects will report the total project GHG emission reductions and co-benefit estimated using the TIRCP Calculator tool as well as the total project GHG emission reductions per dollar of GGRF funds.

Using many of the same inputs required to estimate GHG emission reductions, the TIRCP Calculator Tool will estimate the following co-benefits and key variables from TIRCP projects including:

- ROG emission reductions (lbs),
- NOx emission reductions (lbs),
- PM2.5 emission reductions (lbs),
- Diesel PM emission reductions (lbs),
- Passenger VMT reductions (miles),
- Fossil fuel use reductions (gallons),
- Fossil fuel energy use reductions (kWh),
- Passenger travel cost savings (\$), and
- Energy and fuel cost savings (\$).

Additional co-benefits for which CARB assessment methodologies were not incorporated into the TIRCP Calculator Tool may also be applicable to the project. For example, CARB staff have developed the Solar PV Installation tool for calculating installation of rehabilitation of solar installation as well as the Low Carbon Fuels Production tool for new or expanded facilities. Applicants should consult the TIRCP guidelines, solicitation materials, and agreements to ensure they are meeting TIRCP requirements. All CARB co-benefit assessment methodologies are available at:

<https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/resources/documents/cci-methodologies>

Reporting templates are developed specifically for each program within California Climate Investments. These templates are used by TIRCP staff to report on outcomes from all projects funded by TIRCP.

Note: Quantification methods have been developed specifically for each GGRF programs and are not intended for use in other programs.

Additional information can be found at the following CARB website:

<https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/resources/documents/cci-quantification-benefits-and-reporting-materials>

## Co-benefit Assessment Methodology

California Climate Investments support the State's climate change goals and provide many additional benefits to individuals, households, businesses, and communities. These "co-benefits" include social, economic, and environmental benefits. CARB provides guidance on quantification methods and reporting to administering agencies. CARB contracted with the University of California, Berkeley (UC Berkeley) to help research and develop methods for evaluating project co-benefits. Guidance on using the co-benefit assessment methodologies is contained in [CARB's Funding Guidelines](#).

The co-benefits were prioritized based on administering agency input and broad applicability to California Climate Investments programs. UC Berkeley first reviewed the scientific data to determine if methods could be developed and summarized the findings in literature reviews. Next, UC Berkeley and CARB developed Co-benefit Assessment Methodologies where feasible. CARB solicited public comment on draft versions in Spring 2018 prior to posting final Co-benefit Assessment Methodologies. CARB may review and update assessment methodologies periodically based on new or evolving project types; new legislation; available resources; new scientific developments or tools, or modifications in the analytical tools or approaches upon which the methodologies were based; or input from administering agencies or the public.

The California Air Resources Board is responsible for updating the Co-benefit assessment methodology. See the following website for the most current methodologies.

<https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/resources/documents/cci-methodologies>

~~\*Please note that CARB is updating the tool with the newest Emission Factor Database and we anticipate having the updated tool by the time the final guidelines are published in April 2024. The links included in attachment 2 will be updated once the new tool has been posted\*~~

**\*Please note that CARB posted an updated draft of the quantification methodology and quantification tool on April 18, 2024, with the final methodology and tool expected by mid-May 2024. Please reference CARB's website for the final versions before submitting your application:  
<https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/resources/documents/cci-quantification-benefits-and-reporting-materials>**

## **Attachment 3: Benefit Criteria Tables**

### **CCI Benefit Criteria Tables**

TIRCP uses the Sustainable Transportation [Benefit Criteria Table](#) developed by CARB to ensure that programs meet the minimum levels of investments to projects that benefit residents of disadvantaged communities, low-income communities, and low-income households, collectively referred to as “priority populations”.

All projects counting toward the statutory investment minimums must be located within an identified community and benefit individuals living within that community, or directly benefit residents of low-income households anywhere in the State. Administering agencies must determine if a project meets the criteria for providing direct, meaningful, and assured benefits to priority populations using the following evaluation approach:

**Step 1:** Identify the Priority Population(s). Be located within a census tract identified as a disadvantaged community or low-income community, or directly benefit residents of a low-income household.

**Step 2:** Address a Need. Meaningfully address an important community or household need for the disadvantaged community, low-income community, or low-income household.

**Step 3:** Provide a Benefit. Using the evaluation criteria, identify at least one direct, meaningful, and assured benefit that the project provides to priority populations. The benefit provided must directly address the identified need.

Only investments that meet these criteria will be counted toward achieving the statutory investment minimums identified for priority populations. Administering agencies can fund projects that otherwise provide meaningful benefits, but do not meet these criteria; however, those projects will not be counted toward investment minimums.

## **Attachment 4: California Transportation Commission – Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program Allocation Policy Resolution G-20-61**

*[This policy is currently under review for potential revisions that will apply to allocations after the point of adoption.]*

### **CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION TRANSIT AND INTERCITY RAIL CAPITAL PROGRAM ALLOCATION POLICY Resolution G-20-61**

In accordance with Public Resources Code 75220(C), the California Transportation Commission (Commission) shall allocate funding to applicants pursuant to the program of projects approved by the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA) for the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program. The Commission recognizes that the approved program of projects is expressed in more detail with regards to project component, phase and fiscal year of implementation in the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program Allocation Plan (which is regularly updated as approved projects progress through development). These two documents are collectively referred to here as the “Program.” Allocations made by the Commission follow the timely use of funds provisions that are consistent across all funding programs under the Commission’s purview.

To provide consistency in the programming of state transportation funds, the total award to each project component should be listed in the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program in the fiscal year(s) in which the project component will be implemented. If a project is expected to require multiple contracts for any component, each contract should be programmed separately. All project allocation requests that come before the Commission must be consistent with the Program.

The following describes how the Commission intends to manage Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program allocations:

1. Allocations will be made to the full programmed amount for each project component. If a project will require multiple construction contracts, allocations will be made to the full programmed amount for each contract. The Commission will consider the allocation of funds for a project when it receives an allocation request with a recommendation from the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). The recommendation should include a determination of project readiness, the availability of appropriated Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program funding, and the availability of all other committed funding. Funds allocated for project development or right-of-way costs must be expended by the end of the fiscal year of allocation plus two additional fiscal years, unless a longer time-frame is requested at the time of allocation or the Commission approves a time extension subsequent to the allocation. Allocations for award are valid for six months from the date of allocation unless otherwise indicated at the time of allocation or the Commission approves a time extension subsequent to the allocation. For funds allocated for construction, including rolling stock procurement, the implementing agency has up to 36 months after the award of a contract, to complete (accept) the contract unless a longer time-frame is requested at the time of allocation or the Commission approves a time extension subsequent to the allocation. The implementing agency must submit a final invoice to Caltrans no later than 180 days after contract acceptance.
2. The Commission will approve the allocation if the funds are available and the allocation is necessary to implement the project or project component included in CalSTA’s approved 5-Year Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program. For projects that are ready to advertise, the Commission expects Caltrans to certify that a project’s plans, specifications and estimates are complete, environmental and right-of-way clearances are secured, and all necessary permits and agreements (including railroad construction and maintenance) are executed. For the procurement of rolling stock, the Commission may consider the

exercising of an option or the certification of funds for contract elements as meeting the milestone for contract award provided that the agency is under no contractual obligation to pay any funds or penalty if the option is not exercised or the funds not certified. Construction allocations for projects or project components not ready for advertisement will not be placed on the Commission's agenda for allocation approval. In compliance with Section 21150 of the Public Resources Code, the Commission will not allocate funds for design, right-of-way, or construction prior to documentation of environmental clearance under the California Environmental Quality Act. As a matter of policy, the Commission will not allocate funds for design, right-of-way, or construction of a federally funded project prior to documentation of environmental clearance under the National Environmental Policy Act. The implementing agency must not award the contract for a project or project component until the Commission has allocated the funds for the project. Any changes to the scope of a project or project component after the allocation of funds to the project or project component must be approved in advance by the Commission.

3. CalSTA may change the timeline for the allocation of a project component based on changes in project delivery needs. These changes will be communicated in updates to the Program. The Commission may grant the extension of a deadline for award of a contract, for expenditures for project development or right-of-way, for project completion, and for project reimbursement. The Commission may grant a deadline extension if it finds that an unforeseen and extraordinary circumstance beyond the control of the agency has occurred that justifies the extension. The extension will not exceed the period of delay directly attributable to the extraordinary circumstance, and in no event will be longer than 20 months. All requests for project delivery deadline time extensions shall follow the Caltrans time extension process in order to be included in the Commission's agenda. The extension request should describe the specific circumstance that justifies the extension and identify the delay directly attributable to that circumstance. Caltrans will review all time extension requests and make a recommendation to the Commission for approval.
4. Caltrans is responsible for managing the cash flow needed to match the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program's resources to projects or project components that have received Commission allocations, in accordance with the terms of CalSTA delegated authority and approval.
5. After allocation, Caltrans is responsible for managing project delivery and reimbursements in cooperation with the implementing agencies, in accordance with the terms of CalSTA delegated authority and approval.