

## CMAQ ROUND 9 PROJECT EVALUATION SCORING CRITERIA

The purpose of the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) program is to fund transportation projects or programs that will contribute to the attainment or maintenance of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) established by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

The Strafford Regional Planning Commission (SRPC), acting in its' role as a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), has prepared project evaluation criteria for Round 9 of the federal CMAQ grant program.

Applications for the CMAQ grant program can receive up to **115** points based on the following scoring system.

**Evaluation Process:** All applicants will submit their completed applications to SRPC and NHDOT by **3:00pm April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010**. In addition to a completed application, applicants should fill out the narrative section only for each of the following criterion where an explanation is required. Projects will then be evaluated by a CMAQ scoring subcommittee. They will complete the scoring section of each criterion and ultimately the final score for each application. The scoring subcommittee will include five volunteers from the SRPC region and a SRPC staff member to provide a non-biased technical review. SRPC staff will also be available to assist in the development of an application if assistance is needed. Once the applications have been evaluated at the regional level they will then be evaluated by NHDOT staff and then finally by the state CMAQ committee. Projects that do not show an air quality benefit to the SMPO nonattainment area will not be eligible for CMAQ funds. Please see the "SMPO Nonattainment Area" map at the end of this evaluation for the boundaries of the nonattainment area.

<b>Evaluation Criteria:</b>	<b>0-100 Points</b>
#1. Strafford MPO's Metropolitan Transportation Plan	0-10 Points
#2. State/Regional/Local Plan Documents	0-10 Points
#3. Community/Organization Partnerships	0-10 Points
#4. Documented Public Involvement/Support	0-10 Points
#5. Accurate Project Cost Estimates	0-20 Points
#6. Cost-Benefit Analysis	0-20 Points
#7. Alternative Transportation Modes	0-5 Points
#8. Geographic Coordination	0-5 Points
#9. Matching Funds	0-10 Points

**Bonus Points: 0-15 Points**

Please note that communities that paid their Fiscal-Year 2010 dues to Strafford Regional Planning Commission will receive a 15-point bonus on each completed application. This bonus is to ensure equity to communities that pay their fair share of dues to regional and metropolitan planning efforts. Agencies or organizations that are not asked to pay annual dues will also be awarded the 15-point bonus on the premise that they currently serve the region (i.e. public transit agencies) or the state of New Hampshire (NHDOT, NHDES, etc.).

**EVALUATION PROCESS: 0 - 100 POINTS**

All projects may receive up to 100 points based on the following nine criteria. Applicants should fill out the narrative section only for each criterion to the best of their ability. Please leave the scoring boxes and final score for the scoring subcommittee to fill out.

**#1 - Strafford MPO's Metropolitan Transportation Plan: 0-10 Points**

Is the project consistent with the goals and objectives of the Strafford MPO's 2009-2035 Metropolitan Transportation Plan? Please identify the primary goal and objective from the 2009-2035 Metropolitan Transportation Plan that best relates to the project. Also, if the project is listed in the Plan please provide the project number.

Primary Goal: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Primary Objective: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Project Number: \_\_\_\_\_

- 0 points if the project is not consistent with the goals and objectives in the Strafford MPO's 2009-2035 Metropolitan Transportation Plan
- 5 points if the project is consistent with the goals and objectives in the Strafford MPO's 2009-2035 Metropolitan Transportation Plan
- 5 additional points if the project is explicitly listed in the Strafford MPO's 2009-2035 Metropolitan Transportation Plan

#1 Score: _____
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**#2 - State/Regional/Local Plan Documents: 0-10 Points**

Has this project undergone previous planning as a component of a larger transportation plan or a plan of its own? Examples include NH Climate Action Plan, Regional Corridor Studies, Bicycle/Pedestrian Plans, Natural Resources Plans, Municipal Master Plans, etc. Please identify the plan's title, section related to project, and pages within the plan. Also, please attach copies of the page(s) in the plan relating to the proposed project.

Plan Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Plan Section: \_\_\_\_\_

Plan Page(s): \_\_\_\_\_

- 0 points if none of the following statements apply to the project
- 2 points if the plan identified includes a needs statement for this project
- 2 additional points if the project is consistent with the goals and objectives outlined in the plan identified
- 2 additional points if the plan identifies existing conditions related to the project
- 2 additional points if the plan outlines various options available and the reasons that this option was identified as the project
- 2 additional points if the plan identified outlines possible natural and/or historical resources that could potentially be impacted by this project

#2 Score: _____
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**#3 - Community/Organization Partnerships: 0-10 Points**

Is more than one community or organization involved with the planning, application and potential implementation of this project? Please identify the communities and/or organizations involved with the planning and application process of the project.

Community/Organization #1: \_\_\_\_\_

Community/Organization #2: \_\_\_\_\_

Community/Organization #3: \_\_\_\_\_

Community/Organization #4: \_\_\_\_\_

- 0 points if the project does not involve more than one community or more than one organization
- 5 points if the project involves more than one community/organization
- 5 additional points if the project involves 3 or more communities/organizations

#3 Score: _____
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**#4 – Documented Public Involvement (A) and Support (B): 0-10 Points**

**A.** Has a documented public involvement process been completed for the project? Please provide a brief summary of the documented public involvement process that was used for the project and attach any public notices related to the public involvement process.

Public Involvement Process: \_\_\_\_\_

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- 0 points if the project has not gone through a documented public involvement process
- 5 points if the project has gone through a documented public involvement process

**B.** Did the project receive letters of support from municipal boards, community organizations, etc.? Please attach any letter received for the potential project and identify who the letter is from below.

Letter #1: \_\_\_\_\_

Letter #2: \_\_\_\_\_

Letter #3: \_\_\_\_\_

Letter #4: \_\_\_\_\_

Letter #5: \_\_\_\_\_

- 0 points if the project has not received any letters of support from municipal boards, community organizations, individuals, businesses, etc.
- 1 point for each letter of support received for the project, with a maximum of 5 points per project

#4 Score: _____
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**#5 Accurate Project Cost Estimates: 0-20 Points**

What project cost estimating process has this project gone through so far? Please document the process that the project has gone through to this point, identify the person that completed the process, and how the costs were estimated.

Cost Estimating Process: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

- 0 points if the project has not gone through a cost estimating process
- 5 points if the project applicant has identified, reserved, and committed to funding the project match if the project is selected for CMAQ funding
- 5 additional points if the project will be municipally managed, or for organizations, if the project will be managed by a staff member of the organization
- 10 additional points if the cost estimate was completed by someone that routinely prepares cost estimation for projects as part of their job responsibilities (i.e. Highway Engineer, Public Works staff, Road Agent, Consultant etc.)

#5 Score: _____
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**#6 - Cost-Benefit Analysis: 0-20 Points**

Will this project be cost-effective in benefiting the state's nonattainment area? Each application will include a cost-benefit analysis based on the estimated project cost and air quality analysis. A standard method, or methods, for completing the air quality and cost-benefit analyses will be produced through MPO and state agency coordination. Each applicant's cost-benefit ratio will be ranked based on a comparison to all of the other CMAQ applications submitted to SMPO in Round 9.

- 2 points if the cost-benefit ranks 10<sup>th</sup> or above
- 4 points if the cost-benefit ranks 9<sup>th</sup>
- 6 points if the cost-benefit ranks 8<sup>th</sup>
- 8 points if the cost-benefit ranks 7<sup>th</sup>
- 10 points if the cost-benefit ranks 6<sup>th</sup>
- 12 points if the cost-benefit ranks 5<sup>th</sup>
- 14 points if the cost-benefit ranks 4<sup>th</sup>
- 16 points if the cost-benefit ranks 3<sup>rd</sup>
- 18 points if the cost-benefit ranks 2<sup>nd</sup>
- 20 points if the cost-benefit ranks 1<sup>st</sup>

#6 Score: _____
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**#7 – Alternative Transportation Modes: 0-5 Points**

Does the project encourage or promote the use of alternative modes of transportation and help to reduce reliance on single occupancy vehicles (SOVs)? Please provide an explanation of each transportation mode that the proposed project will encourage or promote. One point will be awarded for each alternative transportation mode with a maximum of five possible points.

- Pedestrian
- Bicycle
- Transit
- Rail
- High Occupancy Vehicles (carpooling, vanpooling, etc.)

Explanation: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

#7 Score: _____
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**#9 - Matching Funds: 0-10 Points**

Will matching funds for the proposed project exceed the required minimum of 20% of the total project cost?

- 0 points if the matching funds for the project will not exceed 20% of the total project cost
- 3 points if the matching funds for the project will be 21-25% of the total project cost
- 6 points if the matching funds for the project will be 26-30% of the total project cost
- 10 points if the matching funds for the project will be greater than 30% of the total project cost

#9 Score: _____
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Strafford Regional Planning Commission  
Round 9: Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Grant Program  
Fiscal-Years 2010-2011

<b>PROJECT NUMBER:</b> _____
Evaluation Score Total: _____
FY 2010 SRPC Dues Bonus: _____
<b>TOTAL SCORE:</b> _____
<b>RANK:</b> _____

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