

Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) Program



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration



Overview of CMAQ Project Selection and Funding Process

The Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) Program supports surface transportation projects and other related efforts that contribute to air quality improvements and provide congestion relief. The phases below summarize the typical CMAQ funding process, though the specific details of the process vary by state. Visit FHWA's CMAQ website to familiarize yourself with program guidance and specific requirements, or contact your Federal Highway Division Office or State Department of Transportation (DOT) for additional information.

PHASE 1: Preparation

Define Project

Understand CMAQ eligibility criteria*

Identify Requirements

Identify project specific Federal funding and regulatory requirements*

Understand Program Process

Identify State DOT or Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) CMAQ contact to learn the local process and time frame for project proposal submittal and selection

PHASE 2: Proposal Development

Prepare and Submit Proposal

- Determine project evaluation criteria
- Establish timeline for proposal development
- Draft proposal based on State DOT or MPO project submittal requirements

PHASE 3: Project Selection

Screening

State DOT or MPO selection team reviews projects for basic eligibility

Selection

State DOT or MPO selection team reviews projects based on evaluation criteria such as:

- Emissions reductions
- Cost effectiveness
- State and regional planning goals



Photo: Washington State Hybrid Electric Ferry Conversion

*Review [CMAQ Interim Guidance](#) for additional details.

This information is provided as a resource. Specific CMAQ eligibility criteria and the application process is managed by State DOTs.

PHASE 4: Funding Award

Notification

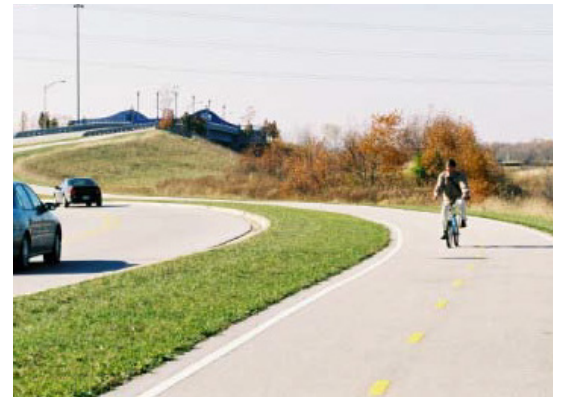
The State DOT or MPO will promptly notify sponsors of award funding, typically via email or postal mail

Authorization

After receiving the award funding, the State DOT or MPO includes the transportation project in the State and MPO Transportation Improvement Plan

Implementation

Sponsor implements project and receives reimbursement for CMAQ portion from State DOT or MPO



Find tools for CMAQ planning and reporting at

https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/air_quality/cmaq/



Photo: FHWA

For more information, please contact:

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http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/air_quality/cmaq/