

Northwest Council

Summary of 2025-2029 Local Surface Transportation Program (STP-L) funding

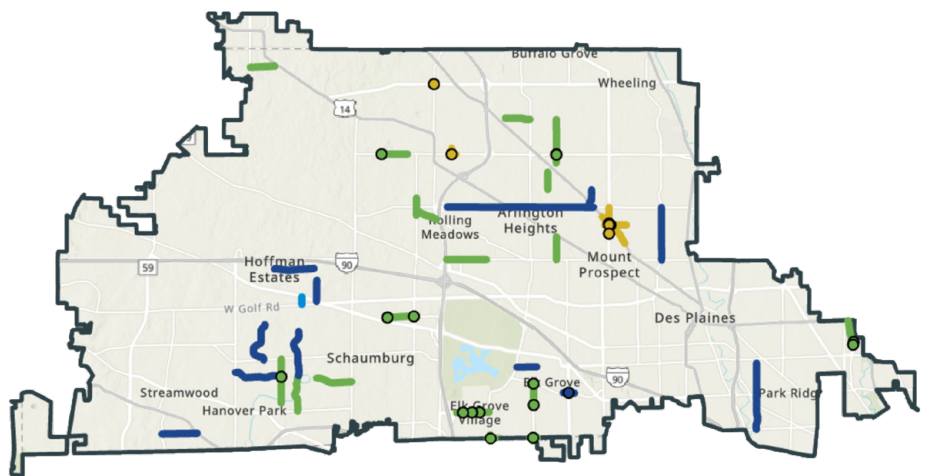
Program highlights

The Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2025-2029 Northwest Council STP-L program was approved on April 29, 2024, by the Northwest Council. The program includes 36 projects investing about \$50 million across the 5 program years. Of the 36 projects, 11 are new projects selected in this call for projects.

There are 31 projects awarded STP-L funding for construction phases in the program, which represents 98 percent of the total STP-L funding. In addition, 7 projects in the program are using STP-L funding for design engineering phases.

This summary provides information on program development, including the funding Northwest Council receives and how projects are selected. It outlines the entire STP-L program for the Northwest Council, including the currently programmed projects and newly awarded projects, and insight on policies Northwest Council uses to manage its STP-L funds. Lastly, this summary provides guidance to prepare future projects for the next STP-L call for projects, expected in the fall of 2025.

Figure 1: Locations of Northwest Council's 36 STP-L funded projects for FFY 2025-2029



2025-2029 call for projects summary



11 communities applied

7 communities selected



\$84,848,472

funds requested



32 applications submitted

11 applications selected



\$31,602,358

funds programmed

Legend

- Maintenance
- Modernization
- Intersection
- Bridge
- Expansion
- Bike/pedestrian/safety

Program development

The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) receives a suballocation of Surface Transportation Block Grant funding each year for use within northeastern Illinois. A substantial portion of this funding is distributed to the 11 subregional councils of mayors and the City of Chicago based on an agreed upon performance-based formula. Northwest Council's share of the total funding is typically around \$13 million annually. To maximize the impact of this funding, Northwest Council developed a project evaluation methodology made up of seven criteria worth a total of 200 points.

Northwest Council received 32 eligible project applications during its call for projects with a total funding request of nearly \$85 million. Northwest Council evaluated and scored each project using its methodology.

Funding priority is given in the order of project scores, with the highest scored projects receiving first priority to receive funding that aligned with their requested schedule and amounts. Once all available funding was programmed, remaining unfunded projects were considered for the contingency list. Projects on the contingency list are not guaranteed funding, but if additional funding becomes available and the project is ready to be implemented before the next call for projects, it can be considered for funding.

STP-L funding budget

FFY	Funding budget	Unprogrammed funds
2025	\$12,989,504	\$767,572
2026	\$12,695,590	\$428,240
2027	\$12,898,720	\$411,200
2028	\$13,105,099	\$35,996
2029	\$13,314,781	\$1,350,955

Call for projects policies



Funding maximums

\$5 million for intersection/modernization projects; \$3 million for all other projects



Eligible phases & local match requirements

Roadways/Intersections:

Engineering 2 (50%/50%), ROW (50%/50%), Construction (80%/20%)

Resurfacing: Construction (75%/25%)



Approving bodies

Northwest Council of Mayors,
 Technical Committee
 CMAP Transportation Committee
 CMAP MPO Policy Committee

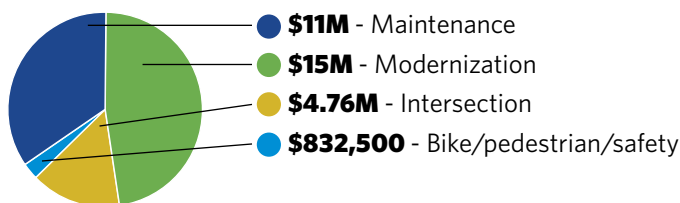
Methodology criteria

Methodology criteria for roadways and intersection projects.

Planning factors 50 points	Project readiness 40 points	Safety 35 points	Transportation impact 35 points	Traffic volumes 30 points	Participation 5 points Other 5 points
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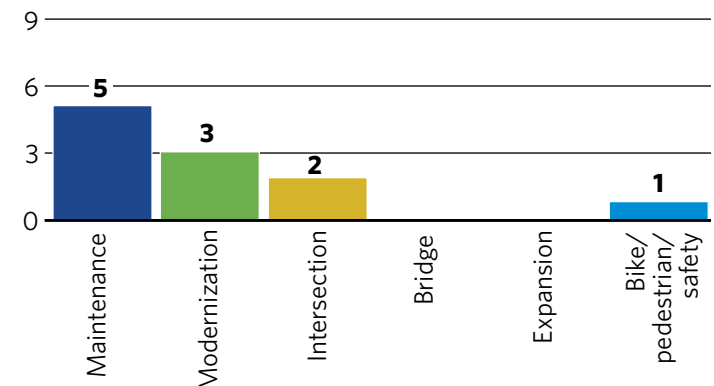
For more detailed information on policies and methodology, visit the [Northwest Council](#) webpage.

Figure 2: STP-L funding distributed by project type



Northwest Council awarded funding to 11 new projects that total just over \$31.5 million in FFY 2025-2029. Of the 11 new projects, 3 are reconstruction projects, representing 47 percent of the funding awarded in this call for projects period.

Figure 3: Number of projects selected by type



Overall program

Current program including new projects

Newly awarded projects from the FFY 2025-2029 call for projects were added to the existing Northwest Council program of projects. Projects that already exist in the program were selected in a prior call for projects, and no new projects will be added until the next call for projects in fall 2025.

With the newly selected projects added to the existing program, the current Northwest Council STP-L program comprises 36 projects totaling about \$50 million. The reconstruction project type has the highest number of projects with 18 awarded, making up nearly 50 percent of the total STP-L program. The STP-L program also advances accessibility and active transportation goals.

Projects that include improvements to accessibility and active transportation



16
accessibility improvement projects



15
projects implementing new shared use paths

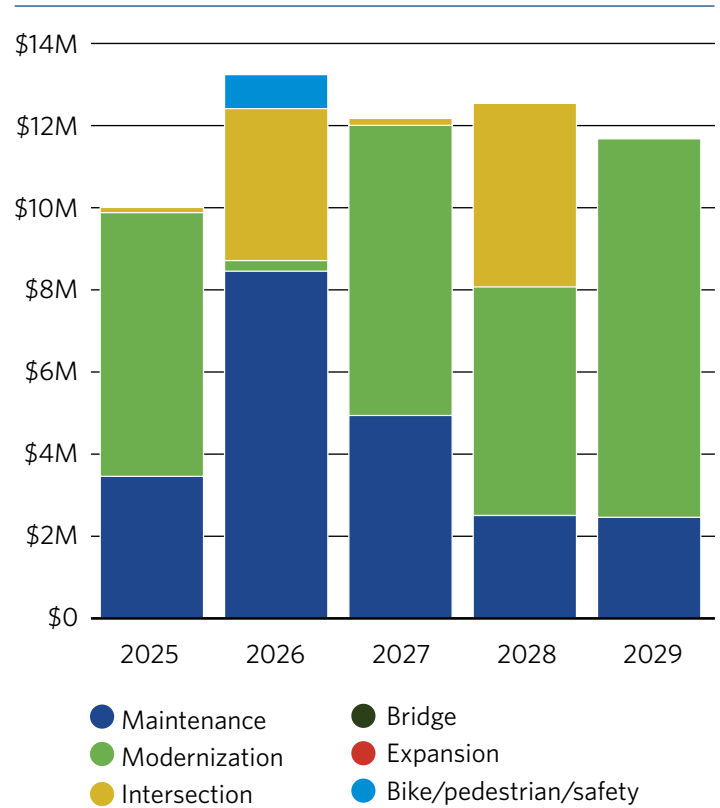


11
pedestrian facility improvement projects

Program policies after funding award

This STP-L program will evolve as implementation timelines become clearer. Projects often get delayed and can't use the funding allocated in the awarded year or may need additional funding to get the project built. To ensure Northwest Council is using its funding effectively, the council has active program management policies. This includes putting caps on a project's cost increase request. Northwest Council also requires quarterly status updates for each planned project to aid in making informed programming decisions to ensure 100 percent of the council's STP-L allotment is spent each year.

Figure 4: 2025-2029 FFY STP-L funds programmed by project type



Key active program management policies



Cost increase policies

Can request increases up to the \$5 million total project funding limit.



Quarterly status updates

Required March, June, September, and December until the project is financially closed out.



Obligation extensions

Each project must fully obligate funds in the year they are programmed in prior to the end of that FFY. Projects can submit an obligation deadline extension request to be granted an additional six months to obligate the funds.



Approving body

Northwest Council of Mayors,
Technical Committee

Future call for projects

The next call for projects opportunity is scheduled to open in October 2025. Communities with candidate STP-L projects should have the following ready to best position themselves for funding consideration:



Preliminary engineering

Points will be awarded to projects that have met certain engineering and right-of-way milestones.



Local match

Projects sponsors are responsible for the local match and any non-participating STP expenses.



Partner engagement

Coordinate with others that have a stake in the project. For example, if a Pace bus route is within the project area or a neighboring municipality will be impacted, those entities should be engaged with.



Cost estimate

The STP-L application requires a detailed project cost estimate.

If you have questions about whether your project is a good fit for Northwest Council STP-L funding, contact your council staff. Additionally, sponsors of current and potential projects are encouraged to actively participate in their council's committees. More information about council activities and resources for project sponsors and applicants can be found by visiting the web pages in the resources section below.

[Sign up](#) to receive CMAP's transportation newsletter, which includes timely updates about funding opportunities and other transportation information from across the region.

CMAP resources



STP information

Additional resources regarding the [STP funding program and policies](#) are available.



Programmer resources

Information regarding programming [procedures, schedules, and contacts](#) are available.

Council contacts

Chair

President Karen Darch

Executive Director

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Planning Liaison

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Council meeting dates

Agenda packets are released one week in advance. More details can be found on Northwest Council's website.

Link to council meetings

nwmc-cog.org/transportation/northwest-council-of-mayors/technical-committee

Council membership

Arlington Heights
Barrington
Bartlett
Buffalo Grove
Des Plaines
Elk Grove Village
Hanover Park
Hoffman Estates
Inverness
Mount Prospect
Niles

Palatine
Park Ridge
Prospect Heights
Rolling Meadows
Schaumburg
South Barrington
Streamwood
Wheeling



Chicago Metropolitan
Agency for Planning