

South Council

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

Program highlights

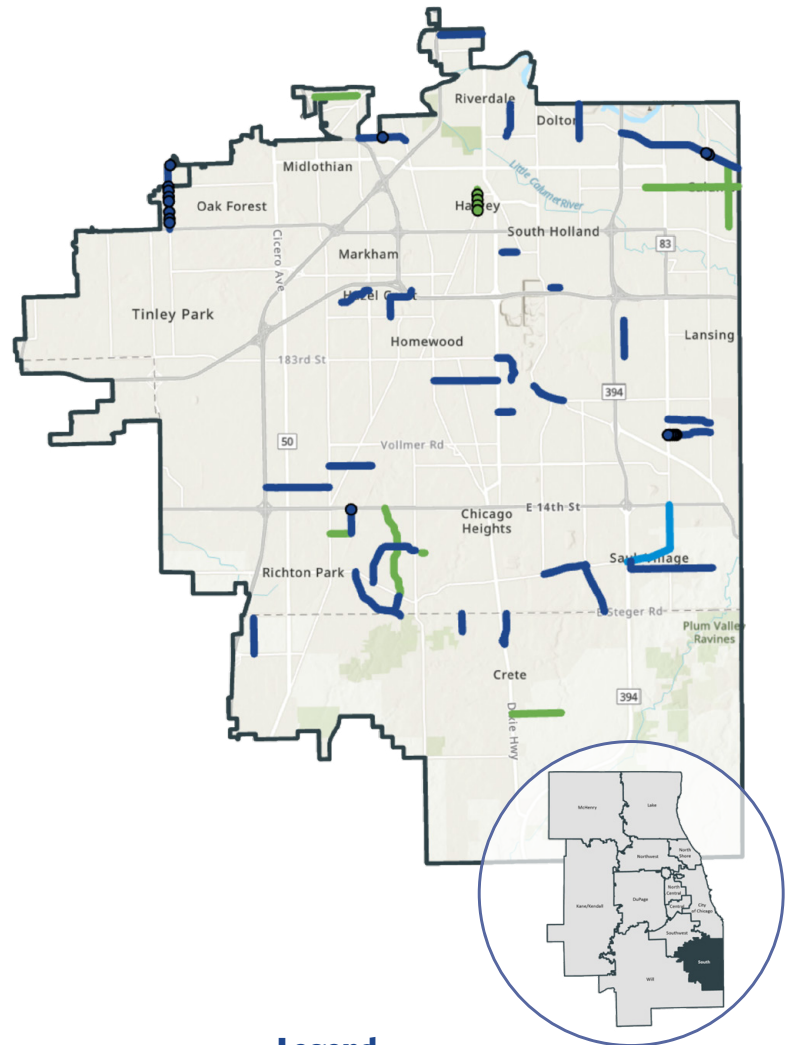
The Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2025-2029 South Council STP-L program was approved on May 16, 2024, by the South Council Board. The program includes 40 projects investing nearly \$50 million across the 5 program years. Of the 40 projects, 25 are new projects selected in this call for projects.

There are 33 projects awarded STP-L funding for construction phases in the program, which represents 79 percent of the total STP-L funding. The program also includes 22 projects using funding for preliminary engineering and 22 projects using funding for design engineering.







Of the types of projects in the program, road modernizations have the highest share of STP-L funding at nearly 50 percent of the program.

This summary provides information on program development, including the funding South Council receives and how projects are selected. It outlines the entire STP-L program for the South Council, including the currently programmed projects and newly awarded projects, and insight on policies South 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 South Council's 40 STP-L funded projects for FFY 2025-2029



2025-2029 call for projects summary

 18 communities applied	 \$42,081,981 funds requested
 17 communities selected	 \$23,500,931 funds programmed
 35 applications submitted	
 25 applications selected	

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. South Council's share of the total funding is typically around \$10 million annually. To maximize the impact of this funding, South Council developed a project evaluation methodology made up of eight criteria worth a total of 100 points.

South Council received 35 eligible project applications during its call for projects with a total funding request of about \$42 million. South Council evaluated and scored each project using its methodology.

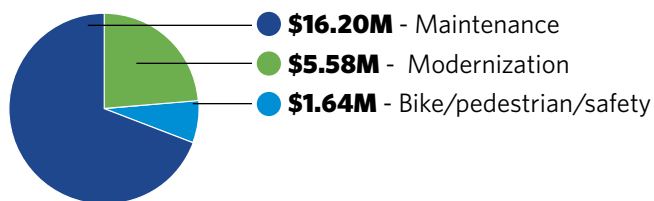
Funding priority is given in the order of project scores, with the highest scored projects receiving first priority to receive funding that aligned with their requested schedule and amounts. Once all available funding was programmed, remaining unfunded projects were considered for the contingency list. 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.

Methodology criteria

Planning factors 25 points	Other 25 points	Pavement condition 15 points	Transportation impact 10 points	Safety 10 points	Project readiness 5 points	Local need 5 points	Traffic volumes 5 points
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For more detailed information on policies and methodology, visit the [South Council](#) webpage.

Figure 2: STP-L funding distributed by project type



South Council awarded funding to 25 new projects that total about \$23.5 million in FFY 2025-2029. Resurfacing project types represent about 80 percent of the awarded funding in this call for projects period.

STP-L funding budget

FFY	Funding budget	Unprogrammed funds
2025	\$10,409,994	\$125,136
2026	\$10,174,447	\$94,437
2027	\$10,337,238	\$989,498
2028	\$10,502,634	\$679,372
2029	\$10,670,676	\$216,230

Call for projects policies



Funding maximums

All Projects: No more than 50 percent of the total STP allotment per phase



Eligible phases & local match requirements

Resurfacing: Engineering 2 (80%/20%), Construction (80%/20%)

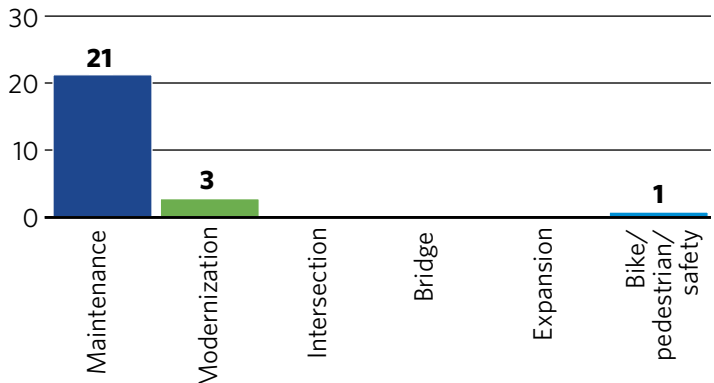
All other projects: Engineering 1 & 2 (80%/20%), Right-of-way (80%/20%), and construction (80%/20%)



Approving bodies

South Council of Mayors,
Transportation Advisory Group
CMAP Transportation Committee
CMAP MPO Policy Committee

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 South 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 South Council STP-L program comprises 40 projects totaling nearly \$50 million. While 31 of the projects are in the maintenance category representing nearly 68 percent of the funding, maintenance activities are typically less expensive than modernizations, thus modernizations make up about 29 percent of the program even though there are only 7 projects in the project category. The STP-L program also advances accessibility and active transportation goals.

Projects that include improvements to accessibility and active transportation



28
accessibility improvement projects



2
projects implementing new shared use paths

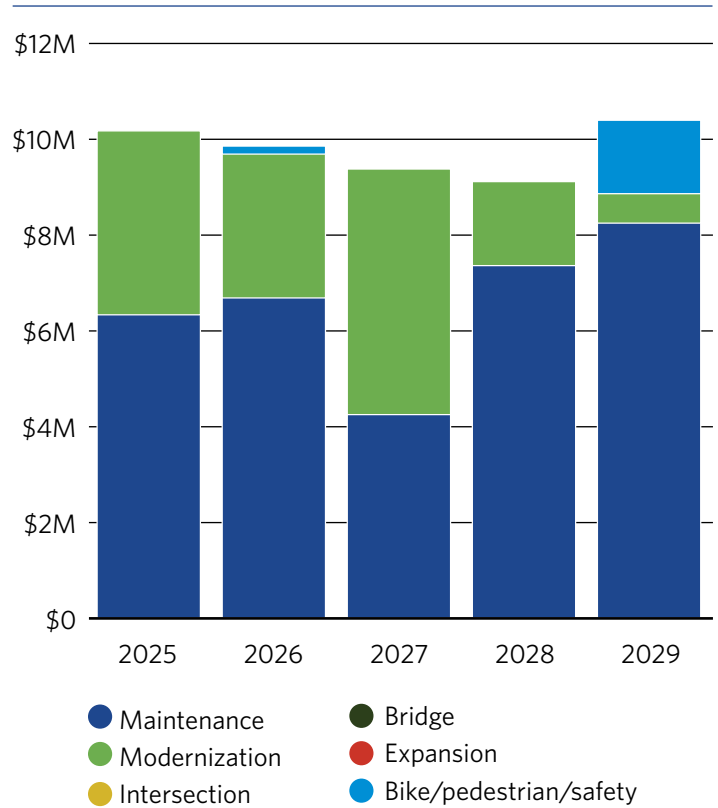


19
pedestrian facility improvement projects

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 South Council is using its funding effectively, the council has active program management policies. This includes putting caps on a project's cost increase request. South 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
No limit as long as funding is available.



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
South Council of Mayors,
Transportation Advisory Group

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 will be required to show that the local match needed for the project has been committed by the community.



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 South 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

Transportation Committee Chair

President Michael Einhorn

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 South Council's website.

Link to council meetings

www.ssmma.org/calendar

Council membership

Burnham
Calumet City
Calumet Park
Chicago Heights
Country Club Hills
Crete
Dixmoor
Dolton
East Hazel Crest
Flossmoor
Ford Heights
Glenwood
Harvey
Hazel Crest
Homewood
Lansing
Lynwood
Markham

Matteson
Midlothian
Oak Forest
Olympia Fields
Park Forest
Phoenix
Posen
Richton Park
Riverdale
Robbins
Sauk Village
South Chicago Heights
South Holland
Steger
Thornton
Tinley Park
University Park



Chicago Metropolitan
Agency for Planning