

OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION DISTRICT 2 INTEGRATING COMMITTEE RATING & RANKING METHODOLOGY

The District 2 Integrating Committee would like to take this opportunity to explain our rating and ranking methodologies as requested by the Director of the Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC). The rating form used by the Support Staff to arrive at an actual numerical value for each individual project submitted for funding with State Capital Improvement Project (SCIP)/ Local Transportation Improvement Program (LTIP) funds is available on the Hamilton County Engineer's website (www.hamilton-co.org/engineer/ltip.htm).

Each project submitted is considered for funding on an equal basis. In accordance with our rating system, all projects are rated as a SCIP project and an LTIP project. Projects are sorted by point value, in descending order, establishing the District 2 Priority Listings, one for SCIP projects and one for LTIP projects. In case of a tie, the project with the highest condition score is given priority, followed by the greatest number of users as a second tiebreaker. If a project involves more than 50% expansion of the infrastructure, it is considered only for LTIP funding, unless the subdivision is paying for 100% of the expansion plus 10% of the entire construction cost as local share. Such a project may then be put into the SCIP category if necessary. A "cut line" is established on each Priority Listing at the point where the amount of available funding is exhausted. Projects above the cut line are recommended for funding to the OPWC. Once a cut line has been established, the Support Staff then recommends that the entire slate of projects that were not recommended for funding in both SCIP and LTIP are declared as "contingency projects". In effect, this allows OPWC to automatically fund the remaining projects with residual funds in the order voted by the Integrating Committee.

The small government jurisdictions that submitted projects for SCIP/LTIP funding and did not rate above the cut line are then rated by the Support Staff utilizing the Small Government Commission rating criteria. The ten highest rated projects on the Small Government rating system are then designated as Small Government projects.

The loan program portion of the SCIP program is based on applications that involve a project that is **both** eligible and revenue generating, or any project a jurisdiction elects to fund through the loan program. In the past, District 2 has experienced problems in meeting its minimum loan requirement as required by the OPWC, but has been able to meet the minimum loan requirement in recent funding rounds. If the situation should arise where the District cannot meet the minimum loan requirement, the District 2 Liaison Officer will contact jurisdictions whose projects fell below the cutline, and who indicated in the Additional Support Information document that they would be willing to accept a loan, in an effort to meet the minimum loan requirement. It should be noted that no additional points are awarded for offering to consider a loan. If this effort proves to be unsuccessful, the Integrating Committee will then appoint projects to be loan projects based on recommendations from the Support Staff. If the jurisdiction appointed to receive a loan does not agree to accept it that application would become void and another project would move up from the

cut line and the process would continue until the loan requirement had been met.

Interest rate recommendations are based on the subdivisions economic strength, which is one of the rating criteria in the Additional Support Information document. If a subdivision does not agree with the interest rate recommended, they may appeal the decision directly to the Integrating Committee.

If SCIP loan assistance applications are submitted, these applications are rated and ranked in the same manner as all other applications, as discussed earlier.

In addition to the OPWC application, applicants must complete the District 2 Additional Support Information document, found along with other Round 28 documents on the Hamilton County Engineer's website. This additional information provides the Support Staff with more detailed information with which to determine the merits of the project. Special attention should be given to the rating category where applicants are asked to prioritize the infrastructure projects it is applying for. Points are awarded for the top five priority projects applied for by each jurisdiction.