

**RESOLUTION UPDATING THE STBG SCORING CRITERIA
STAFF REPORT**

LAKE ERIE WEST REGIONAL COUNCIL
MPO POLICY BOARD MEETING AGENDA
APRIL 8, 2026

Following the approval of the 2024 Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) awards at the September 4, 2024 MPO Policy Board meeting, there was considerable discussion around the distribution of funds to jurisdictions other than Toledo. It was decided that an ad hoc advisory group would be established to discuss ways to modify the scoring and/or application to distribute funds more evenly across all jurisdictions. It was determined that Mike Pniewski, Steve Fine, Tim Pedro, Nick Komives, John Musteric, Mike Aspacher and Royce Maniko would participate in the group. Four meetings of the ad hoc advisory group were held; March 25, 2025, October 23, 2025, January 6, 2026 and February 11, 2026.

Staff reviewed the existing STBG scoring criteria and proposed revisions to the ad hoc advisory group for their discussion and evaluation. Progressively, revisions were made to the scoring criteria and the ad hoc advisory group voted at their February 11, 2026 meeting to advance their final recommendation to the MPO Policy.

The ad hoc advisory group is requesting approval of the revised STBG scoring criteria as presented (attached).

Under Consideration: Evaluation Criteria for STBG Program

Criteria	Maximum Points	Scored Points
1. Economic Development	15	0
2. Livability & Interconnectivity	15	0
3. Project Readiness & Funding	15	0
4. System Use & Performance	55	0
Total	100	0
BONUS POINTS*	20	0
Total	120	0

(starting in 2026)

*The ad hoc committee recommends the Bonus Points be set at 20 and applicants can split their points up as they see fit over multiple projects.

Economic Development (maximum 15 points)

- 1.) Does this project align with the TMACOG Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)? A letter of concurrence is required.**
 - a. Yes, this project aligns with the CEDS = 5 points
 - b. No, this project does not align with the CEDS = 0 points

- 2.) What is the functional classification level that this project is located on?**
 - a. Principal Arterial = 5 points
 - b. Minor Arterial = 4 points
 - c. Major Collector = 3 points
 - d. Minor Collector (urban area only) = 2 points

- 3.) Does the project provide direct access to a multimodal or intermodal terminal? By definition, a multimodal/intermodal terminal shall include a facility that contains two or more interactions between transportation modes, including shipments between trucks, train, aircraft, and/or maritime freight. A reference map is included in the application package.**
 - a. Direct access to a multimodal/intermodal connection = 6 points
 - b. Access to a multimodal/intermodal connection within 0.5 miles = 3 points
 - c. No access = 0 points

Livability & Interconnectivity (maximum 15 points)

- 4.) Does the project sponsor have an official Complete Streets Policy?**
 - a. Yes = 1 point

5.) Does this project improve air emissions and is it identified on the TMACOG Congestion Management Process (CMP) report?

a. Yes = 1 point

6.) Will this project improve water quality through the development of bioswale, rain gardens, pervious pavement, etc.?

a. Yes = 1 point

7.) Will this project make use of recycled materials to a significant degree? Mill and reuse of asphalt surface materials does not qualify.

a. Yes = 1 point

8.) Does this project include bike improvements (check off all that apply)? And, does the project include improvements related to a bikeway specifically shown on the TMACOG Regional Bicycle Network?

- Protected bike lanes/cycletrack
- Buffered bike lane
- Share the road/sharrows
- Multi-use path/Shared-use paths
- Rail-to-Trail project
- Connection to other bike facility
- Bike racks/bike parking

- a. Bike improvements AND on Regional Bicycle Network = 5 points
- b. Bike improvements but not on Regional Bicycle Network = 2 points
- c. On Regional Bicycle Network but no bike improvements = 2 points
- d. Neither = 0 points

9.) Does the project include pedestrian improvements (check off all that apply)?

Maximum 5 points.

- **MAJOR IMPROVEMENT:**
 - **New sidewalks**
 - **Upgrade of existing sidewalks (i.e. increasing width, upheaval by tree roots, cracked, uneven slabs)**
 - **Fill in sidewalk gaps**
 - **Crossing improvements (i.e. PHBs, RRFBs)**
 - **MINOR IMPROVEMENT**
 - **Improved wayfinding and signage**
 - **Improved pavement markings**
- a. Major improvement = 5 points
b. Minor improvement = 2 points

10.) Does the project carry public transit (fixed route)?

- a. Yes = 3 points

11.) Is the project located in a community served by public transportation?

- a. Yes = 1 point

Project Readiness & Funding (maximum 15 points)

12.) Has the project been programmed by ODOT for construction?

- a. Yes = 2 points

13.) Has right-of-way been cleared or not needed?

- a. Yes = 2 points

14.) Does this project qualify for a Categorical Exclusion C1?

- a. Yes = 3 points

15.) What percent of the total project (including design, right-of-way, and construction) will use TIP federal funds?

- a. 75-80% = 0 points
b. 65-74% = 5 points
c. < 64% = 10 points

16.) Do you have an established method (or protocol) to regularly evaluate the roadway and pavement maintenance? If yes, please cite your document or system.

- a. Yes = 1 point

System Use & Performance (maximum 55 points)

17.) Pavement Project: What is the existing pavement condition rating (PCR) based on the most recent ODOT scores?

- a. 100-75 PCR = 0 points
- b. 74-65 PCR = 3 points
- c. 64-0 PCR = 6 points

18.) Bridge Project: What is the general appraisal rating?

- a. 9 to 7 = 0 points
- b. 6 to 5 = 2 points
- c. 4 to 3 = 4 points
- d. 2 to 1 = 6 points

19.) A.) If this is a roadway project, which of the following best describes the project?

- a. Resurfacing = 10 points
- b. Rehabilitation with some base replacement = 8 points
- c. Reconstruction with full base replacement = 7 points
- d. Narrow and resurface/rehabilitate/reconstruct = 4 points
- e. Widen and resurface/rehabilitate/reconstruct = 2 points
- f. New roadway = 0 points

20.) B.) If this is not a bridge or roadway project, which of the following best describes the existing condition?

- a. Past its useful life and substandard = 10 points
- b. Near the end of its useful life and substandard = 8 points
- c. Near the end of its useful life = 6 points
- d. Declining and substandard = 4 points
- e. Declining = 2 points
- f. Not applicable = 0 points

21.) What is the 3-year average accident rate per million vehicles? Or, what is the percentage of fatal and injury crashes over the most recent three years of available crash data? (Use best answer)

- a. < .99 OR < 30% = 0 points
- b. 1 to 1.99 OR 30-34% = 2 points
- c. 2 to 2.99 OR 35-39% = 4 points
- d. 3 to 3.99 OR 40-44% = 6 points
- e. 4 to 4.99 OR 45-49% = 8 points
- f. > 5 OR > 50% = 10 points

22.) Is this project location listed in the regional TMACOG Safety Location Report?

Reference Appendix C in the 2020-2022 TMACOG Safety Location Report.

- a. Yes = 5 point
- b. No = 0 points

23.) What is the existing number of Average Daily Traffic (ADT) on the locally maintained road?

- a. < 5,000 ADT = 4 points
- b. 5,000 to 9,999 ADT = 5 points
- c. 10,000 to 14,999 ADT = 6 points
- d. 15,000 to 19,999 ADT = 7 points
- e. > 20,000 ADT = 8 points

24.) What percentage of the Average Daily Traffic (ADT) is made up of trucks?

- a. < 3% = 0 points
- b. 3% to 9% = 1 point
- c. 9 to 15% = 3 points
- d. > 15% = 5 points

25.) Is the project on a truck impact route (TIA)? If it is not, then does it have a greater than 500 truck ADT?

- a. Yes, the project is on a TIA = 2 points
- b. Not on a TIA, but trucks ADT is greater than 500 trucks per day = 2 points
- c. No = 0 points

26.) Is the project listed in the 2055 Regional Transportation Plan?

- a. Not listed = 0 points
- b. Reserve list or System Preservation list = 1 point
- c. Plan Priority list (2036 or later) = 2 points
- d. Plan Priority list (by 2035) = 3 points

27.) How long ago was the last time the project sponsor received TMACOG-managed STBG funding?

- a. < 4 years ago = 0 points
- b. 4 to 7 years ago = 4 points
- c. 8 to 9 years ago = 6 points
- d. 10 or more years ago = 8 points

28.) Has one or more TMACOG-funded projects slipped a fiscal year or been cancelled since the last STBG solicitation? (Small project applications are exempt from this answer.)

- a. One project slipped past the programmed year = -5 points
- b. Two or more projects have slipped past the programmed years = -10 points
- c. One or more projects have been cancelled = -10 points

BONUS POINTS (20 points) – added in after previous sections are tallied

29.) Each project applicant is allotted 20 bonus points. If one project application is submitted by a single sponsor, then all 20 points will be applied to that project. If more than one project application is submitted by a single sponsor, then the 20 points may be divided up and applied over the projects as they see fit.

- a. Yes = 20 points

Changes proposed to Project Scoring (applies to small projects only):

- The ad hoc committee recommends the set aside for small projects be increased and capped at \$2,500,000 per year (or \$5,000,000 for a 2-year solicitation). Individual small project applications are to be capped at \$625,000.
- The ad hoc committee recommends an incentive for programming a project in the first quarter in a state fiscal year (July, August, and September). The incentive would be covered by using toll revenue credits to reduce the local match amount. 5% of federal funds, up to a gross cap of \$100,000 per year, for project bids that are programmed in quarter 1. This will only apply to small projects and it will be on a first come-first serve basis until the cap is reached. Each individual project incentive will be capped at \$30,000.

**A RESOLUTION OF THE
LAKE ERIE WEST REGIONAL COUNCIL
APPROVING THE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BLOCK GRANT
REVISED SCORING CRITERIA**

WHEREAS, Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments (now known as Lake Erie West Regional Council) is a voluntary association of local governments in northwest Ohio and southeast Michigan, organized on May 31, 1968, and established under Chapter 167 of the Ohio Revised Code and the Michigan Public Act No. 7 (EX-SESS), and has carried out comprehensive metropolitan and regional planning since that date; and

WHEREAS, the Lake Erie West Regional Council is designated as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) by the Governor through the Ohio Department of Transportation in cooperation with local elected officials and is authorized to carry out the continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive transportation planning process (Process) for the Toledo area that results in plans and programs that consider all transportation modes and supports community development and social goals; and

WHEREAS, the MPO has been designated by the U.S. Department of Transportation and the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) to direct, coordinate, and administer, the Process in the Toledo area as mandated by the Congress in Titles 23 and 49 U.S.C.; and

WHEREAS, an ad hoc advisory group of the MPO Policy Board was appointed to review the STBG scoring and made recommendations to the full Lake Erie West Regional Council MPO Policy Board for their approval.

WHEREAS, the STBG revisions would be amended FY 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program and utilized in the Lake Erie West Regional Council's 2026 STBG call for projects; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Lake Erie West Regional Council MPO Policy Board:

Section 1

THAT the revised scoring criteria for Lake Erie West-managed Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) program be approved; and

Section 2

THAT the FY 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is amended to include the revised Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) scoring criteria.

Adopted by the MPO Policy Board on April 8, 2026.

Yeas _____, Nays _____, Abstain _____

Date of Adoption: _____

Mike Pniewski, Chair
MPO Policy Board, Lake Erie West Regional Council

Attest:

I, **Jennifer Allen**, Lake Erie West Regional Council Executive Assistant, do hereby certify that this is a true and accurate copy of Resolution 2026-07, adopted on _____.

Jennifer Allen, Executive Assistant