

Transformative Regional Investment Prioritization System (TRIPS)

Prioritization Process Pilot Program Grant (P4)

Grant Request:
\$2,000,000

Schedule:
24 months

Project Purpose and Need

Developing the TRIPS pilot program will bring a revolutionary decision-making model to Nebraska's largest transportation planning organizations, Nebraska Department of Transportation (NDOT) and the Metropolitan Area Planning Agency (MAPA). TRIPS will foster criteria transparency, enhance selection efficiency and ensure projects align with community needs and values.

MAPA's current project selection process is adequate for determining how the region uses formula funding. However, it tends to fall short when:

- Aligning projects with discretionary programs and new funding sources
- Considering issues like equity and climate change
- Evaluating the true potential of project performance and benefits
- Ensuring all efforts are made to achieve Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) goals
- Asked to strategically deliver/prioritize major projects when costs exceed current funding streams

To enrich the project selection process, TRIPS will implement a robust data-driven approach. TRIPS will include software tools, data collection, and analysis.

Recognizing the Need for Prioritization Process Improvement

Historically, the region's transportation needs have always exceeded available funding. Finding ways to stretch those resources is a key part of the TRIPS integration plan. TRIPS finds new dollars to deliver transportation priorities. The program offers a framework to create an organized, intentional and collaborative strategy for organizations that will provide the most benefit possible to the region.

Regional Vision and Needs



NEBRASKA

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

MAPA

Omaha - Council Bluffs
Metropolitan Area
Planning Agency

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Benefits of TRIPS

- Data-driven prioritization process influenced by public and stakeholder vision with an equity lens
- Driven by regional priorities, supporting State and National performance goals
- Significantly improves existing project prioritization process through transparency with public-facing dashboard
- Enhanced multi-agency collaboration
- Supports selecting transportation investments that consider climate change and sustainability.
- Promotes consideration of a project's ability to enable or enhance access to goods and job opportunities throughout the planning area
- Considers a data-driven safety analysis

How TRIPS Will Work



TRIPS will use a four-tiered assessment process beginning with a data-driven evaluation of each project's potential to achieve the region's priority objectives:

-  Safety
-  Equity
-  Resiliency
-  Reliability
-  State of Good Repair
-  Regional Economic Conditions and Workforce Development
-  Complete Streets

Tier 1: Projects are evaluated and included in the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP).

Tier 2: Higher priority projects, likely those requiring implementation in the first five to 10 years of the LRTP, will move to the second screening tier. Tier 2 includes assessments of cost, constructability, progress to date, a benefit-cost ratio, the technical capacity of the project sponsor, and the desired ratio of federal to local funds for the project.

Tier 3: Projects selected to advance will move to Tier 3, a public review.

Tier 4: Based on the benefit-cost ratio developed for each project and public responses, the Tier 4 pairing of projects with funding will be formalized by inclusion in MAPA's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

PROJECT CONTACTS:

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