

2022 TSDAC Work Plan

MERIT Policy Review

- CTB Policy requires an annual review of outcomes and a review of the policy at least every three years

“The Board hereby directs the Director of the Department of Rail and Public Transportation analyze the outcomes of this process on an annual basis and to revisit the process at least every three years, in consultation with the Transit Service Delivery Advisory Committee, transit agencies, metropolitan planning organizations, and local government prior to making recommendations to the Commonwealth Transportation Board.”

- MERIT process adopted by the CTB in October 2018 has been utilized for FY20, 21, and 22 SYIP prioritization
- DRPT recommended and TSDAC concurred that it would be best to delay revisiting the process until the COVID conditions improved
- FY23 prioritization is underway utilizing the existing CTB policy

Items to Review

- MERIT Capital Prioritization
- MERIT Operating Formula
- Transit Strategic Plan Guidance

- Informed by:
 - Lessons learned through three years of implementation and annual TSDAC discussions
 - JLARC Transportation Infrastructure and Funding Study
 - HJ542 Transit Equity and Modernization Study

Recommendations from Annual Reviews

- Capital
 - Continued refinement of the OLGA application and TransAM database, move toward online scoring
 - Evaluation of SGR scoring methodology as SGR backlog decreases
 - Should points distribution be adjusted for “just in time” arrival of replacement assets?
 - Evaluation of Service Impact scoring methodology to incorporate more quantitative metrics
 - Evaluation of the threshold for Major Expansion projects
 - Consider findings of the Transit Equity and Modernization Study

Recommendations from Annual Reviews

- Operating
 - Revised performance data reporting process in OLGA
 - Calculated variation –requirement to provide comments if significant
 - Attachment of data documentation
 - Clearer reporting guidance –Application Guidance and Grant Administration Procedures
 - Implemented by DRPT
 - Impact of COVID-19 on performance metrics
 - Carry forward performance data used for allocations to mitigate the impacts of COVID, similar approach to FTA
 - How to return to performance based allocation

Other Studies to Inform Discussion

- JLARC Transportation Infrastructure and Funding Report
 - Completed in November 2021
 - Analyzed transit funding and needs
 - Included recommendations for consultation with TSDAC on potential modifications to the capital and operating process
- HJ542 Transit Equity and Modernization Study
 - Interim report completed in December 2021
 - Identified items for consideration relative to capital and operating allocation processes

Meeting Schedule

- Standing Monthly Meetings
 - 2nd Fridays from 9:00-1:00 (based on the poll of members)
 - Intent is to complete program updates by the end of the year
- Critical Path Schedule
 - Anything impacting application cycle, especially capital:
 - CTB Workshop – September
 - CTB Action – October
 - Implementation for application cycle beginning December 1st
 - Operating and Strategic Planning Guidance can proceed on a later schedule

Meeting Look Ahead

- April
 - Outcomes of FY23 MERIT Process
 - MERIT Capital – DRPT Recommendations
 - MERIT Capital Worksession #1
- May
 - FY23 Budget Overview
 - MERIT Capital Worksession #2
 - MERIT Operating – DRPT Recommendations
- June
 - MERIT Operating Worksession #1
 - Transit Strategic Plans – DRPT Recommendations