

Southwest Council

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

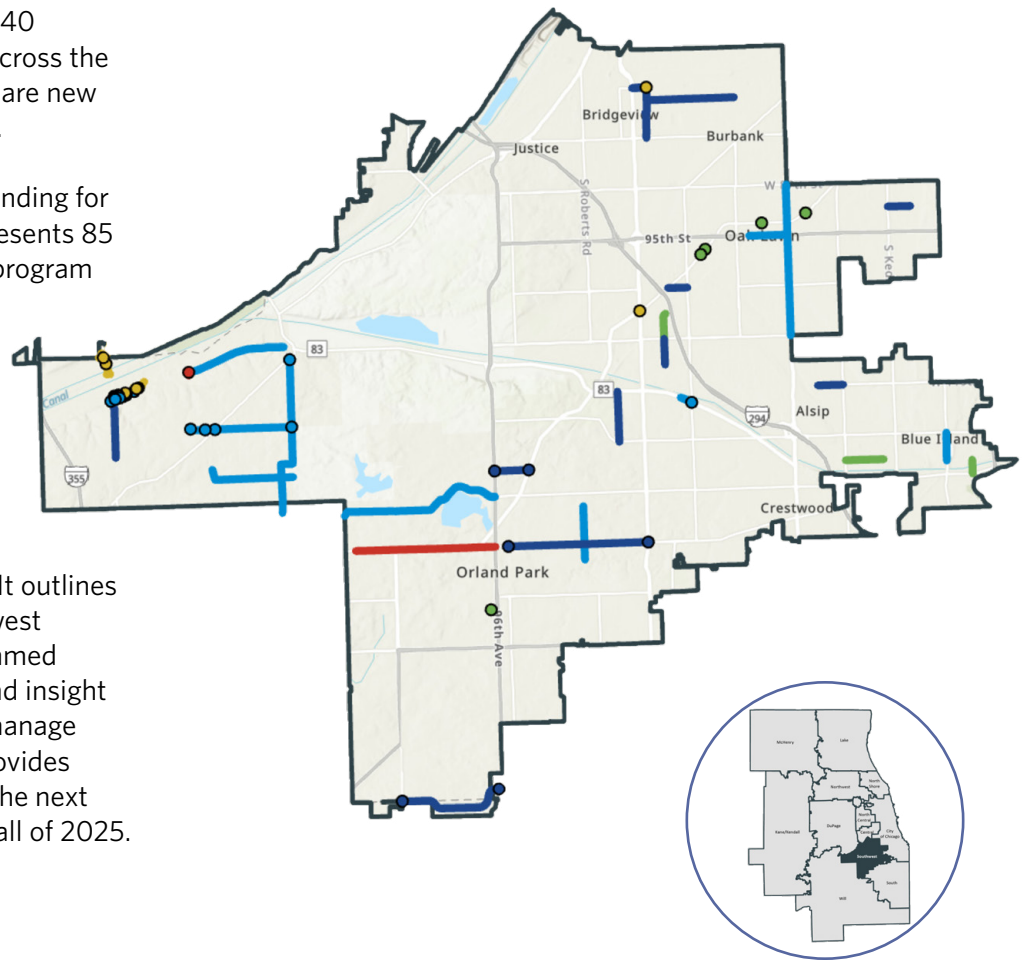
Program highlights

The Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2025-2029 Southwest Council STP-L program was approved on April 30, 2024, by the Southwest Conference of Mayors Board. The program includes 40 projects investing nearly \$43.5 million across the 5 program years. Of the 40 projects, 24 are new projects selected in this call for projects.

There are 33 projects that have STP-L funding for construction in the program, which represents 85 percent of the total STP-L funding. The program also includes 11 projects using funding for preliminary engineering and 14 projects using funding for design engineering.

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



2025-2029 call for projects summary



8 communities applied
8 communities selected



\$44,879,655
funds requested



38 applications submitted
24 applications selected



\$21,149,375
funds programmed

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. Southwest Council's share of the total funding is typically around \$9 million annually. To maximize the impact of this funding, Southwest Council developed a project evaluation methodology made up of six criteria worth a total of 100 points.

Southwest Council received 38 eligible project applications during its call for projects with a total funding request of just over \$45 million. Southwest 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.

STP-L funding budget

FFY	Funding budget	Unprogrammed funds
2025	\$9,188,313	\$672,395
2026	\$8,980,409	\$109,015
2027	\$9,124,095	\$112,353
2028	\$9,270,081	\$164,453
2029	\$9,418,402	\$1,730,212

Call for projects policies



Funding maximums

\$1.5 million for any single phase of a project



Eligible phases & local match requirements

Engineering 1 & 2 (80%/20%),
Construction (80%/20%)



Approving bodies

Southwest Council of Mayors,
Business Committee
CMAP Transportation Committee
CMAP MPO Policy Committee

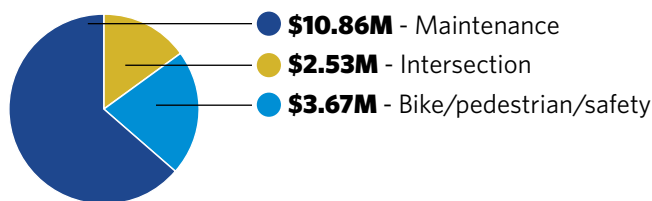
Methodology criteria

Methodology criteria for roadways and intersection projects.

Planning factors	Project readiness	Participation	Traffic Volumes	Safety	Pavement condition
25 points	20 points	20 points	15 points	10 points	10 points

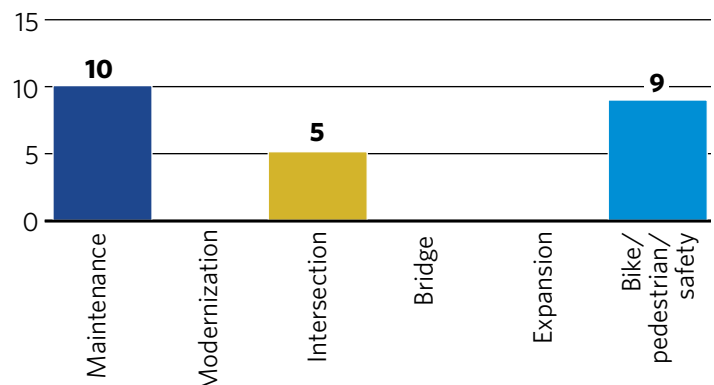
For more detailed information on policies and methodology, visit the [Southwest Council](#) webpage.

Figure 2: STP-L funding distributed by project type



Southwest Council awarded funding to 24 new projects that total just about \$17 million in FFY 2025-2029.

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 Southwest 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 Southwest Council STP-L program comprises 40 projects totaling just under \$43.5 million. While 13 of the projects are for maintenance project types representing nearly 29 percent of the funding, maintenance activities are typically less expensive than modernizations, thus modernizations make up nearly 26 percent of the program even though there are only 5 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



13
accessibility improvement projects



11
projects implementing new shared use paths

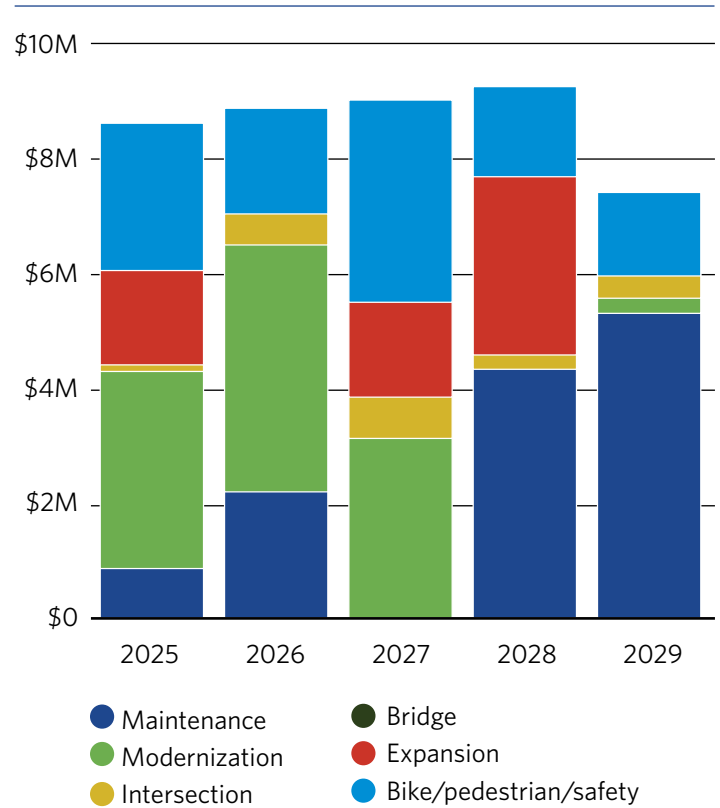


8
pedestrian facility improvement projects

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 Southwest Council is using its funding effectively, the council has active program management policies. This includes putting caps on a project's cost increase request. Southwest 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

Eligible up to the maximum \$1.5 million cap per phase.



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

Southwest Council of Mayors,
Transportation Committee

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 preliminary and design engineering 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 Southwest 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

Mayor Dave Brady

Executive Director

Vicky Smith, smith@swmayors.com

Planning Liaison

Brittany Matyas, brittany@swmayors.com

General phone number: 708-701-2232



Council meeting dates

Agenda packets are released one week in advance. More details can be found on Southwest Council's website.

Link to council meetings:

www.swmayors.com/committees

Council membership

Alsip

Bedford Park

Blue Island

Bridgeview

Burbank

Chicago Ridge

Crestwood

Evergreen Park

Hickory Hills

Hometown

Justice

Lemont

Merrionette Park

Oak Lawn

Orland Hills

Orland Park

Palos Heights

Palos Hills

Palos Park

Willow Springs

Worth



Chicago Metropolitan
Agency for Planning