

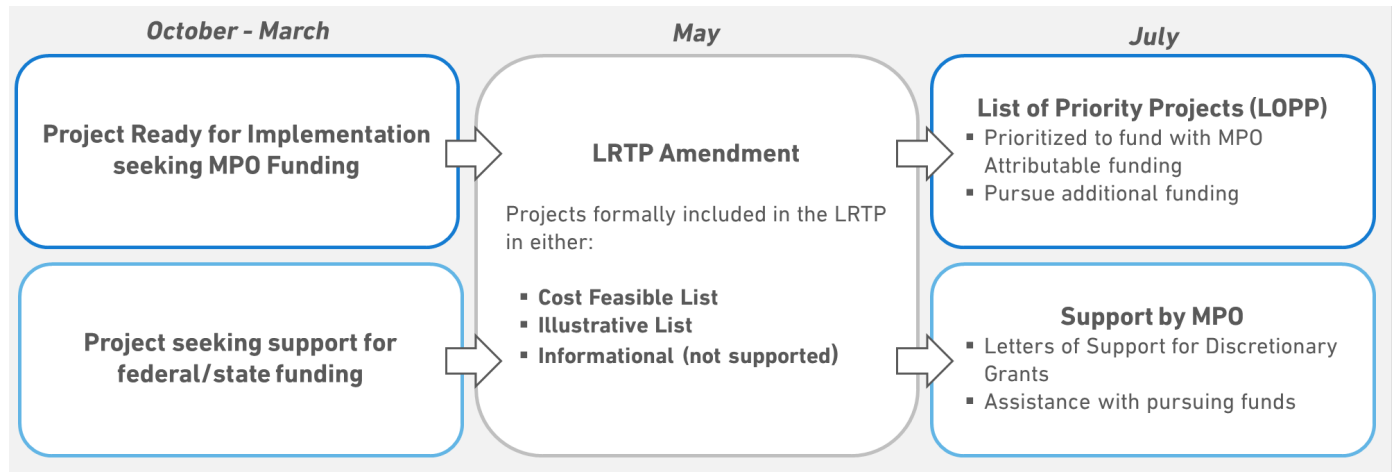


2026 Annual Call for Projects

Palm Beach Metropolitan Planning Organization

The annual Call for Projects is the formal process for submitting new or updated transportation projects to:

- Amend the Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) to include projects that seek federal and state transportation funding prioritized by the MPO, or through other discretionary programs administered directly between the granting agency and the local recipient.
- Advance existing or new LRTP projects for consideration in the List of Priority Projects (LOPP), making them eligible for Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) attributable funding.



Comparison of LRTP and LOPP Requirements:

Requirement	Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)	List of Priority Projects (LOPP)
Purpose/Support	Projects seeking federal/state funding opportunities must be listed in the Illustrative Project or Cost Feasible lists of the adopted LRTP.	Projects seeking MPO Attributable Funding must be in the LRTP and “work program ready” to be prioritized for future phases.
Scope	General scope required.	Detailed scope required (including plan view/typical section concepts).
Cost Estimate	Long-range cost estimate.	Engineering cost estimate.
Scoring	General scope scored in alignment with LRTP goals and objectives.	Detailed scope scored based on detailed LRTP goals and objectives.
Environmental/ Planning Analysis	Planning-level analysis ensures no significant environmental impacts (social, natural, and physical) or, mitigation solutions are identified.	Requires letters of support from facility owners and resolutions of support from local municipalities.
Operations & Maintenance	Not specifically identified.	Ongoing operations & maintenance must be identified

Application for Ranking in List of Priority Projects (LOPP) for Major Projects

Deadline: February 13, 2026 at 5:00 PM

ANTICIPATED FUNDING FOR MAJOR PROJECTS

Estimated Available Funding:	~23.8 M/year in MPO attributable funds
Grant Reimbursement Maximum:	\$5,000,000
Grant Reimbursement Minimum:	\$500,000



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PROJECT LOCATION AND ELIGIBILITY FOR MAJOR PROJECTS

Projects must be located on federal aid-eligible roadways or facilities (those classified as urban minor collector and above). More eligibility details: [fhwa.dot.gov/infrastructure-investment-and-jobs-act/stbg.cfm](https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/infrastructure-investment-and-jobs-act/stbg.cfm)

Projects on the state highway system (SHS) require support from FDOT before submittal.

- **Context Sensitive Roadway projects** – Intersections, Signals, Lane Repurposing or Reconfiguration
- **Safety** - pedestrian and roadway lighting, traffic calming, technology, infrastructure hardening
- **Transit capital** – Vehicle purchases, shelter construction, technology.
- **Freight** – Airport, seaport, or railway capacity improvements, truck movement improvements.

ELIGIBLE PROJECT APPLICANT (Requires [Local Agency Program \(LAP\) Certification](#))

- Local Governments and Tribal Governments
- Natural Resource or Public Land agencies
- School District or local education agencies
- Regional Transportation Authorities and Public Transit Agencies

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS & LIMITATIONS

- Applicants are not capped on the number of project submittals to the LRTP. However, applicants to the LOPP are limited to a maximum of two (2) each year, except Palm Beach County, which may submit a maximum of six (6) applications across all departments.
- All applicants will be required to meet with MPO and FDOT staff to discuss projects for the LOPP. Applicants must only submit applications discussed in the meeting. Projects must be disclosed in sufficient detail in the pre-application meeting for funding consideration.
- Projects will be prioritized until funding is exhausted. If a project is not prioritized or funding is not available in the work program, the project will not be included in the LOPP and must resubmit the following application cycle to be considered for funding.
- All applicants must submit to FDOT and MPO staff ample and complete commentary on any project-related concerns to mitigate possible design and construction issues before inclusion in the LOPP.
- Applications must include all required documents listed in the Submittal Checklist.
- Applications will be ranked by a system derived from Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP).
- All submitted projects must comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and conform with required federal, state, and local standards such as, but not limited to: Florida's Manual of Uniform Minimum Standards for Design, Construction and Maintenance for Streets and Highways (Florida Greenbook), Florida Design Manual (FDM), FDOT Traffic Engineering Manual (TEM), National Association of City Transportation Officials (for non-NHS projects by eligible entities only) etc. Projects utilizing experimental design considerations must provide documentation of proof of interim approval of such activities at application submittal. Failure to provide proof will result in project ineligibility.
- Projects facing single-family residential lots with primary access to the proposed roadway must provide proof of public outreach and support. Applicants must provide proof of notification to all directly impacted properties and documentation of at least 25% in support of the project. Projects that do not meet the required applicable support will be flagged for MPO Governing Board review.
- MPO attributable funding is available up to the designated cap for participating (reimbursable) items. Applicants include inflation factors in cost estimates. Costs associated with non-participating (non-reimbursable) items, as well as cost increases exceeding the participating amount maximum, must be covered by the local applicant. Additional cost increases should be understood before applying.
- Projects included in the MPO's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) must document the design and permitting funds in the applicant's capital improvement program or budget.



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HOW TO APPLY FOR MAJOR PROJECTS

- 1. Participate in the MPO Virtual Funding Programs Workshop on November 7, 2025 (optional)**
Learn about project eligibility, Local Agency Program (LAP) Certification, and have your specific questions answered by FDOT and MPO staff.
- 2. Attend Pre-Application Meeting with MPO and FDOT Staff (required)**
All applicants must attend a pre-application meeting with MPO and FDOT between November 10, 2025 and February 6, 2026. MPO will schedule these meetings with FDOT and applicants.
- 3. Gather Required Documents**
Each project submittal requires an application, online form, and supporting documents outlined in the Submittal Checklist provided below. Missing or late documents may result in project ineligibility.
- 4. Submit Online via FDOT GAP Application Portal**
 - The application process requires the submittal of the application document with associated attachments via the FDOT GAP Application Portal. [Florida Gap - Log In \(blackcatgrants.com\)](https://blackcatgrants.com)
 - Users must create an account.
- 5. Stay Tuned**
Follow the Program Schedule and watch for MPO and FDOT emails regarding the project application.

SUBMITTAL CHECKLIST FOR APPLICANTS TO THE LOPP

The checklist will help ensure all documents are included in your submission by the application deadline:

- ☐ Application
- ☐ Attendance and description of the project at the pre-application meeting.
- ☐ Location Map (Aerial)
- ☐ Photographs of project before construction
- ☐ Conceptual Typical Section or Planview Sections (Existing and Proposed)
- ☐ Detailed Cost Estimate Spreadsheet (Signed by Professional Engineer)
- ☐ Right-of-Way Ownership Verification (Plats, deeds, prescriptions, surveys and/or easements)
- ☐ Community letters of support (Optional) (due at application submittal: **February 13, 2026**)
- ☐ Commitment Letter from administering agency's Director of Engineering or Public Works Department clearly indicating they will "administer and construct the project if funded by the Palm Beach MPO" is required (due at application deadline – **February 13, 2026**)
- ☐ Proof of public outreach and support required if proposed project modifies a roadway that provides access to single family residential lots. **NOTE: Attendance at a council meeting for the resolution of support is not considered a public outreach meeting.**
 - Must have >25% of all landowners in support of the project, whose parcel is facing to the project.
 - The following documentation must be submitted with the application in the form of:
 - Responses to mail outs sent to landowners/residents; Or,
 - Sign-In signatures and input obtained at a neighborhood/public meeting.
- ☐ Resolution of Support from the facility owner(s) governing body indicating that the project will be constructed as proposed and is committed to fund ongoing operations and maintenance of the project, due within 60 days of the application due date (**April 24, 2026**) ([example](#)).



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SCHEDULE FOR MAJOR PROJECT SUBMITTALS	
Date*	Activity and Deadline
October 30, 2025	Program Kick-off. MPO Board approves program.
November 7, 2025	Program Application Workshop. Workshop to review program application, scoring criteria, schedule, and project implementation requirements. MPO distributes program overview and application information to local agencies and opens the online application portal.
November 10, 2025 – February 6, 2026	Pre-Application Meetings. Required one-on-one meetings with MPO and FDOT representatives to discuss project specifics and clarify application requirements.
February 13, 2026	Application Deadline. All materials submitted via the online application portal by 5 p.m.
March 6, 2026	MPO Submits Draft Project List and Tentative Ranking to FDOT. MPO submits tentative project rankings to FDOT for project feasibility and eligibility determination.
FDOT/MPO VETTING PROCESS BEGINS	
Late March 2026	First Email to Applicants. After initial application review, FDOT emails applicants requesting additional clarification needed before field reviews. If ineligible, MPO to send a formal response.
Early April 2026	Applicant Responses Due. Applicants provide FDOT and MPO responses to requested clarifications.
Mid-April 2026	Field Visits. FDOT and applicants perform field reviews to ensure the potential project is constructible, requires no right-of-way acquisition, and determine if drainage is warranted.
Late April 2026	Second Email to Applicants. FDOT sends an email to applicants with comments on issues/concerns, clarifications, updated cost estimates, and/or requests for missing or updated documentation.
April 24, 2026	Resolution of Support Due to MPO. Applicants must submit a resolution from their governing body and/or the governing body of the facility owner endorsing the project and committing to funding of operations and maintenance.
May 1, 2026	Response from Applicants Due. Deadline for applicants to resolve outstanding eligibility issues and submit final requested documentation to FDOT and MPO.
FDOT/MPO VETTING PROCESS ENDS	
May 27, 2026	FDOT D4 returns Eligibility Determinations. FDOT sends MPO final eligibility determinations to finalize draft priority ranking.
June 18, 2026	Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Amendment. Projects are amended into the LRTP before inclusion in the List of Priority Projects (LOPP).
July 1 - 2, 2026	Draft LOPP to Committees. MPO staff presents a draft prioritized list of eligible applications to committees for review and input for MPO Board consideration.
July 16, 2026	Final Priority List Approval by MPO Board. MPO Board approves final LOPP.
July 17, 2026	Submit Project Priorities to FDOT. MPO submits adopted LOPP to FDOT and notifies applicants of final priority rankings.

* Program schedule subject to change.



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PROJECT SCORING FOR MAJOR PROJECTS			
CRITERIA	DESCRIPTION	VALUE	MAX
Bicycle Facility Type NOTE: Multiply total length for each direction by Value	10'+ shared use path	5	10
	Separated or raised bicycle lanes	4	
	Buffered bicycle lanes	3	
	Designated bicycle lanes	2	
Pedestrian Facility Type NOTE: Multiply total length for each direction by Value	10'+ shared use path	5	10
	8'-9' paved path	4	
	5'-7' sidewalk	3	
	5'+ unpaved path (ADA compliant)	2	
	Sidewalk or shared use path widenings	1	
	New crosswalk and/or enhancements	0.5	
Vehicular Facilities	Project includes (TSM&O) components (e.g. connected signals, cameras, vehicle sensors, etc.)	5	20
	Project reduces transit travel time	5	
	Project improves efficient movement of freight in region	5	
	Capacity project improves travel time reliability	5	
Project includes specific safety countermeasures to reduce fatal and serious injury crashes (e.g., roundabouts, speed tables, raised crosswalks or intersections, mid-block crossings, speed feedback signs, slow points, accomplish target speeds, and other traffic calming measures).		10	10
Project provides safety benefits on the designated High Injury Network		9	9
Project improves travel time reliability (transit or vehicle) on the National Highway System (NHS); to a Freight Activity Area, or on the 561 Network Corridor.		8	8
Project improves non-motorized facilities at an interchange, bridge, or railroad crossing		5	5
Project improves pedestrian/bicycle facilities in Tier 1 Ped Gap/Bicycle Corridor		5	5
Project benefits disadvantaged communities NOTE: Disadvantaged communities index within 1 mile of project.	Very High	8	8
	High	6	
	Medium	3	
	Low	0	
Project improves aging/deteriorating infrastructure or hardens/sustainably replaces at-risk or critical infrastructure.	On the NHS	5	5
	On non-NHS, federal-aid eligible facilities	3	
Project improves performance of hurricane evacuation route		3	3
Project reduces susceptibility to inundation by sea level rise and/or annual flooding		2	2
Project incorporates practical environmental measures (e.g., mitigation, pollution prevention, stormwater management, pervious materials).		5	5
		TOTAL	100
Applicant canceled a previously prioritized or funded project within the past 12 months		-5	0