

Lincoln Trail Area Development District Regional Transportation & Highway Safety Committee

Prioritization and Ranking Plan



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Executive Summary

The Prioritization and Ranking Process is a program designed to systematically identify and rank the overabundance of transportation needs based on appropriate data, input from the general public, and involvement from local officials. These regional priorities and rankings, ultimately determined by the LTADD Board of Directors, will be used by the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) to establish priorities for input to the Statewide Transportation Plan, the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program, and the Highway Plan.

Purpose of Plan

Guidelines put forth by the KYTC allow for a range of strategies to be developed and implemented when defining local and regional priorities. This document will specifically detail the method used by the LTADD Regional Transportation & Highway Safety Committee to prioritize projects on the Unscheduled Projects List (UPL).

Parties Involved

Entities primarily involved in the process are the KYTC Division of Planning, Highway District Office 04, LTADD Board of Directors, and the LTADD Regional Transportation & Highway Safety Committee. As further described below, local officials and citizens will be responsible for establishing the local priorities. The Committee will be responsible for establishing the regional priorities.

Transportation Goals

Every year the Committee reviews its Goals and Objectives, which serve as a guide for determining transportation priorities. Listed below are the 2008 approved goals:

- Goal 1: Safety – *Improve the overall safety of the LTADD regional transportation system.*
- Goal 2: Connectivity – *Promote the accessibility of a multi-modal and diverse transportation system.*
- Goal 3: Efficiency – *Preserve, maintain, and enhance the existing transportation system to ensure reliable, efficient, and effective mobility.*
- Goal 4: Economy – *Stimulate sustainable economic growth and development by implementing sound planning techniques.*

Schedule for Process

The KYTC Division of Planning has put forth the following schedule for the completion of the Prioritization and Ranking Process for Fiscal Year 2009:

- December 5 – KYTC distribution of new project list
- February 1 – ADD submission of priorities for base list

- February 16 – KYTC distribution of base list
- June 30 – ADD rankings due to the Division of Planning

This schedule determines the timetable for Regional Transportation & Highway Safety Committee meetings.

Public Involvement

The intent of the Prioritization and Ranking Process is to involve the general public, civic leaders, local elected officials, and all those concerned about transportation issues in the Statewide Transportation Planning Process. To do this effectively, efforts have to be made by all participants to become informed, to participate, and to work towards consensus.

In concurrence with the Fundamental Principles of Title VI, as detailed in the LTADD Public Involvement Plan, attempts will be made to ensure the full and fair participation of all potentially affected communities in the transportation decision-making process.

Transportation staff will create an information sheet detailing the Prioritization and Ranking Plan, as approved by the Committee, and distribute it to civic organizations, community centers, and other public buildings along with project surveys.

When the base list of projects becomes available, staff will update the Committee website to include the original LTADD Base List and subsequent county variations. The website will also contain the FY09 Prioritization and Ranking Plan, schedule of planned meetings, and project surveys.

All of the meetings to be held for the consideration of project priorities will be advertised through flyers distributed to the above-mentioned groups and locations.

Regional Priorities

Step 1 – Creation of Base List

The first step involves creating the base list of projects for the LTADD. This list will initially include all projects given a HI priority by both the ADD and the Highway District Office (HDO) during the FY07 Prioritization and Ranking Process. Modifications can be made to this list based on Committee recommendations as long as the HDO is in agreement.

This list will also include new or modified projects submitted by October 31, 2008. These projects will be prioritized HI, MED, or LOW during the Committee meeting on December 10, 2008. Those projects that receive a HI priority from both the ADD and the HDO will be included in the base list.

Step 2 – Ranking of Projects

The second step involves prioritizing and ranking projects on the final base list distributed by the KYTC Division of Planning. Projects will first be divided into three cost tiers:

- Tier 1: Less than \$2 million
- Tier 2: Between \$2-10 million
- Tier 3: Greater than \$10 million.

The Committee will then review the local rankings, as determined by collected project surveys and any other citizen input. Projects will then be ranked 1-10 in each cost tier through open discussion, using the local rankings as a guide. Finally, the Committee will determine an overall top five list of projects. Both the tiered rankings and overall top five projects list will be submitted to the LTADD Board of Directors for approval. Once approved, this list will be submitted to the Highway District Office and the Division of Planning.

Meeting Objectives

The meeting objectives for the Committee are as follows:

Meeting [1] – December 10

- Review the prioritization and ranking process.
- Prioritize new or segmented projects.
- Finalize base list.

Meeting [2] – April 8

- Review local rankings.
- Determine regional rankings by cost tier.
- Determine overall top 5 projects.
- Approve the final list and recommend to Board of Directors for approval.

Documentation

The importance of documentation has been stressed on several occasions by the KYTC. To ensure their requests are met, a document will be created that will efficiently record every effort made during the process, to include advertisement, groups contacted and addressed, meetings held, etc. This will then be forwarded to the KYTC Division of Planning.