

Proposed CAMPO Transportation Investment Decision Tree
April 29, 2008

1. Is the process transparent and accountable?

Project History:

- A. To what degree have local governmental authorities, or the public, previously endorsed this or related proposals?
- B. To what degree have local governmental authorities, or the public, incorporated this, or related proposals, into their planning, or into other projects?
- C. Should this proposal receive special consideration relative to other proposals because of previous governmental or public endorsement of this proposal, or because this proposal has been incorporated into other plans or projects?

2. What is the purpose of the project? Can the project create the following benefits? If so, how? (see attached for detailed questions)

A. Mobility benefits

- 1) Manage growth of VMT, commute time, congestion, or other appropriate metric
- 2) Transportation network capacity
- 3) Public Security
- 4) System Efficiency

B. Economic Development Benefits for the Community

- 1) Financial stability
- 2) Regional economic competitiveness
- 3) Property value
- 4) Financial viability of small cities/towns
- 5) Generate excess funds
- 6) Local community priority
- 7) Smart growth, activity centers

C. Environmental and Public health Benefits

- 1) Air quality
- 2) Water quality
- 3) Noise impacts
- 4) Pedestrian activity
- 5) Growth away from sensitive areas/toward desired areas

D. Social Equity/Quality of Life Benefits

- 1) Access to jobs, healthcare, education, cultural and/or recreational destinations for everyone, especially most vulnerable
- 2) Predictability of commute and travel time
- 3) Personal safety
- 4) Serve a "historically underserved" area of the region
- 5) Visual and aesthetic quality
- 6) Sense of place, regional and/or local

3. What does the project cost?

- A. What is the actual capital cost, in dollars, of the project and any additional, necessary, directly related projects as determined by SAFETEA-LU standards or some other uniform criteria?
- B. What are the actual operating and maintenance costs of the project over its anticipated useful life?
- C. Are there other actual costs that should be considered because of the type or nature of the project?

4. What are the indirect costs necessary to implement the project, including costs to local businesses, costs created by removal of infrastructure such as parking, loss of rail capacity for uses such as freight, or other costs?

5. What jurisdictions can or should fund the project?

- A. Why should the jurisdictions be considered?
- B. What criteria is being considered?
- C. Should a jurisdiction that benefits from the project not contribute?
- D. Is there a way for a regional entity to be involved in the financing (or to be created to assist the financing)?

6. What mechanisms are available to fund the project?

- A. Are the financing mechanisms associated with specific participating jurisdictions?
- B. Are the financing mechanisms available for capital costs, operations costs, or both?

7. How will the financing mechanism(s) be funded?

- A. How are estimates of revenue made?
- B. What impact will this use of this source of funds have on Central Texans (i.e. tax rates, etc.)? To what extent will the project be funded by users or by beneficiaries beyond the users?
- C. Are there ways to decrease actual costs (i.e. efficiency in infrastructure work, etc.)?

8. What is the project's timeline? Should the project be phased? If so, how?

9. Will there be a need for an election or legislative action?

- A. What type of election would be required (i.e. funding vs. operation authority)?
- B. What jurisdictions will have the election?
- C. Could elections by multiple jurisdictions conflict?
- D. What is the impact of potential conflicts?

10. What entity or entities will govern (i.e. construct, operate, and maintain) the project?

- A. Could entities with governance responsibilities be in conflict with each other?
- B. What mechanism is there for resolving governance conflicts?

11. What are the opportunity costs of moving forward with the project relative to alternate projects?

- A. Is there another comparable project that accomplishes the same purpose and/or benefits at lower costs?
- B. Are there services or projects, including non-transportation projects, either now or in the future that will be impacted by the creation of this project?