

August 2024



2025-27 Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund Program Application Instructions

In coordination with the Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund (STIF) Program Guidebook, this step-by-step guide walks users through the web-based STIF Plan.

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STIF Plan Format and Use

The Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund (STIF) Plan is a fillable, web-based form that serves as the mechanism for accessing STIF Formula funds. ODOT creates and publishes this form each solicitation cycle and accessing it requires an internet connection.

This resource is a step-by-step guide for completing and submitting the STIF Plan. For more information about the STIF Formula program and a summary of requirements, please see the <u>STIF and STN Program Guidebook</u>.

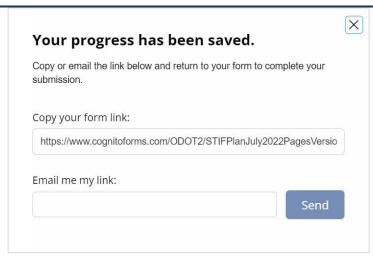
The <u>STIF Plan</u> can be found online. The form can also be accessed through the STIF Formula section of the <u>Public Transportation Funding Opportunities Page</u>. Chrome, Firefox, and Edge are the recommended web browsers. The form will not function in Internet Explorer since Microsoft has ended support for this browser.

The STIF Plan uses a combination of check boxes, yes or no questions, text boxes, and buttons for uploading documents and adding information. All questions on the form marked with a red asterisk must be answered. Failure to respond could result in Oregon Department of

Transportation's (ODOT) determination that the STIF Plan is incomplete and re-submittal is required. Some yes or no questions, when checked, generate additional questions from a drop-down menu based on the response. It is very important to answer all questions because they may generate additional choices depending on your answer.

When you first access the STIF Plan, select the "Save" button, located in the lower right-hand corner of the form. After pressing "Save," a window will appear showing a personalized link for your STIF Plan (Figure 1).

Figure 1: Saving the STIF Plan



This link can be copied, saved, and then pasted into the search bar of your internet browser to return to the last saved version of the form. You may also enter your email address here and press "Send" to have a link to the form emailed to you.

Always use the "Save" button before closing the form to save the data you entered during your last session. If you do not save before closing the form, data will be lost.

When you have finished entering all STIF Plan information, you will submit the form to ODOT using the "Submit STIF Plan" button. Upon submittal, a copy of the completed form will be emailed to you for your records and to ODOT for processing.

Please do not print and scan your application to us. Printed and scanned forms will only be accepted in extraordinary circumstances. If you would like to print your STIF Plan for use locally, make sure no portions of the application are hidden before printing.

ODOT has also created an optional form for use by sub-recipients to provide their Qualified Entity (QE) with all the information required for each project. The <u>Sub-Recipient Project</u> <u>Application form</u> can be found online. When a sub-recipient submits the form, the information is sent to their Qualified Entity who can use it as a reference when submitting the STIF Plan.

Qualified Entities may choose to upload approved Sub-Recipient Project Applications instead of manually entering the same information on the STIF Plan form. More information about this optional step can be found in Section 6. Use of the Sub-Recipient Project Application form is not a required step in the application process, but is a helpful tool used successfully in previous STIF Plan cycles.

If you have technical problems using either form, please contact Brian Roth, Web and Forms Developer for ODOT's Public Transportation Division, at 541-508-9862 or by email at Brian.Roth@odot.oregon.gov. For answers to programmatic or process-specific questions, contact your regional transit coordinator.

STIF Plan Organization

The STIF Plan has the following seven sections:

- Qualified Entity
- Advisory Committees
- Local Plan Compliance
- Accountability
- STIF Plan Period and Adoption
- Projects
- STIF Plan Summary

We have made some changes to the way the STIF Plan is organized for this biennium. Now, all seven sections of the STIF Plan will appear on one page. However, portions of the STIF Plan can be hidden as you fill out the form. You can hide sections 1-5 together, as shown below (Figure 2). In addition, each project (Figure 3), and each task can also be hidden individually (Figure 4). **You must reopen any hidden fields before submitting your STIF Plan.** For additional information about changes made to the STIF plan for this biennium, please see Appendix A of these instructions: "Application Feedback and Responses."

Figure 2: Show/Hide Sections 1-5

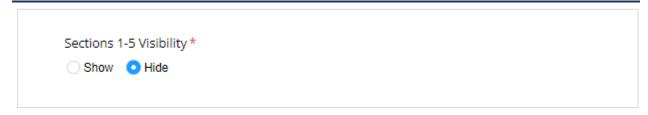


Figure 3: Show/Hide Project



Figure 4: Show/Hide Task



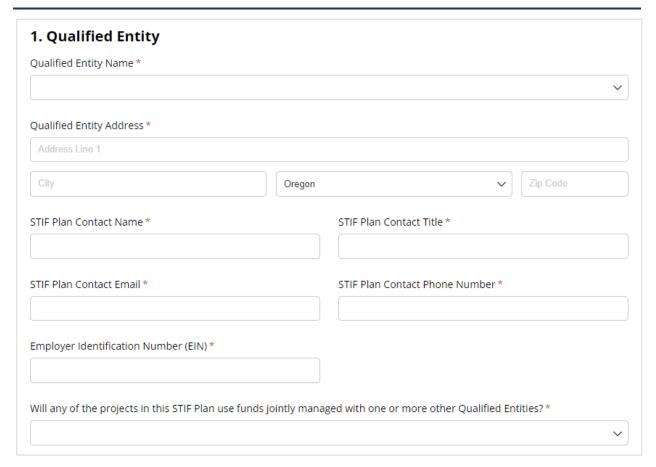
When you are ready to submit your STIF Plan, select "show" on all hidden portions of the form.

STIF Plan Form

1. Qualified Entity Information

Select the Qualified Entity name from the drop-down menu. Complete each field in this section with the appropriate contact information (Figure 5). The "STIF Plan Contact" should be the person completing the STIF Plan or a person responsible for providing any additional information related to your STIF Plan.

Figure 5: Qualified Entity Information



For the last question, select "Yes" from the drop-down menu if any STIF Plan projects use funds that will be jointly managed by more than one Qualified Entity. Select the "Upload" button to attach documentation of the joint management agreement. Some examples of a joint management agreement include a memorandum of understanding, an intergovernmental agreement, or a governing body resolution.

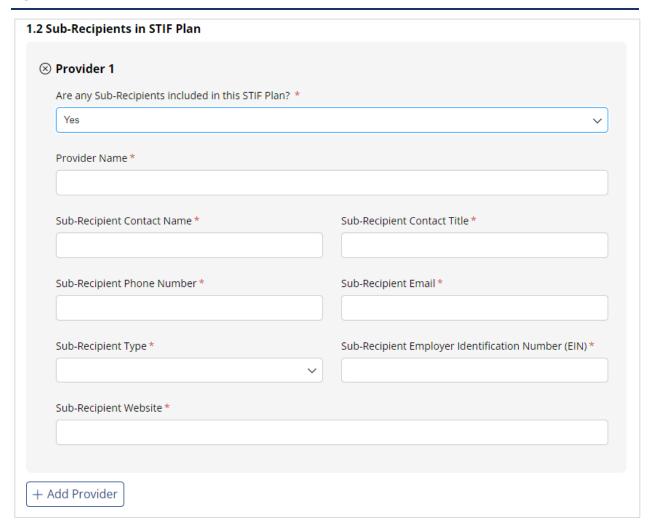
If no STIF Plan projects use funds that will be jointly managed by more than one Qualified Entity, select "No" from the drop-down menu.

1.1 Sub-Recipients in STIF Plan

If there are no sub-recipients in this STIF Plan, keep the response in the first question set to "No" to verify that the Qualified Entity is the only service provider in the STIF Plan.

If there are any sub-recipients in this STIF Plan, select "Yes" in the first question, and complete all fields with the correct information (Figure 6). You can add as many Sub-Recipients as needed by selecting the "+Add Provider" button. Continue to add providers to the STIF Plan until all entities have been entered.

Figure 6: Expanded Form when Sub-Recipients Are in the STIF Plan



2. Advisory Committees

2.1 Advisory Committee Website

Review all of the Advisory Committee requirements specified in the Advisory Committee section and Oregon Administrative Rules (OARs) 732-040-0030, 732-040-0035, and 732-042-0020 (Figure 7). Check the box to agree that all Advisory Committee requirements have been met before proceeding.

Figure 7: Advisory Committee Information

2. Advisory Co	mmittees
2.1 Advisory Com	mittee Website
	s, I agree that all the requirements for Advisory Committees set out in OARs 732-040-0030, 732-040-0035 and 732-042-0020 have been of limited to the following:
The Advisory Co.	mmittee is guided by written bylaws that contain all the information required in OAR 732-040-0030(5)(a).
	mmittee's bylaws, meeting notices, and meeting minutes have been made available to the public in a reasonable and timely manner and he period required by Oregon public records laws.
The Advisory Co.	mmittee has the membership composition required by OAR 732-040-0035.
	ubmitted as part of this application and/or any sub-recipient application, the Advisory Committee has engaged in the review process R 732-042-0020, to recommend approval or rejection of all proposed Projects and to recommend prioritization of approved Projects.
Please include a link	to an Advisory Committee Website.
	the information required by OARs 732-040-0030, 732-040-0035 and 732-042-0020, and show how the Advisory Committee's bylaws, meeting notices, and
This website should include meeting minutes are made at the some or all of the in any additional docum	the information required by OARs 732-040-0030, 732-040-0035 and 732-042-0020, and show how the Advisory Committee's bylaws, meeting notices, and available to the public.
This website should include meeting minutes are made at a some or all of the it any additional documenting notices, and	the information required by OARs 732-040-0030, 732-040-0035 and 732-042-0020, and show how the Advisory Committee's bylaws, meeting notices, and evailable to the public. Information required by OARs 732-040-0030, 732-040-0035 and 732-042-0020 is not available on a website, please upload the neutation showing how you met the Advisory Committee requirements and how the Advisory Committee's bylaws,
This website should include meeting minutes are made at a some or all of the interest and additional documenting notices, and	the information required by OARs 732-040-0030, 732-040-0035 and 732-042-0020, and show how the Advisory Committee's bylaws, meeting notices, and available to the public. Information required by OARs 732-040-0030, 732-040-0035 and 732-042-0020 is not available on a website, please upload nentation showing how you met the Advisory Committee requirements and how the Advisory Committee's bylaws, meeting minutes are made available to the public.
This website should include meeting minutes are made at the same or all of the interest and additional documenting notices, and Upload or drag	the information required by OARs 732-040-0030, 732-040-0035 and 732-042-0020, and show how the Advisory Committee's bylaws, meeting notices, and available to the public. Information required by OARs 732-040-0030, 732-040-0035 and 732-042-0020 is not available on a website, please upload nentation showing how you met the Advisory Committee requirements and how the Advisory Committee's bylaws, meeting minutes are made available to the public. files here.
This website should include meeting minutes are made at life some or all of the inany additional documeeting notices, and Upload or drag Limit 100 MB Did the QE's Advisory	the information required by OARs 732-040-0030, 732-040-0035 and 732-042-0020, and show how the Advisory Committee's bylaws, meeting notices, and available to the public. Information required by OARs 732-040-0030, 732-040-0035 and 732-042-0020 is not available on a website, please upload nentation showing how you met the Advisory Committee requirements and how the Advisory Committee's bylaws, meeting minutes are made available to the public.
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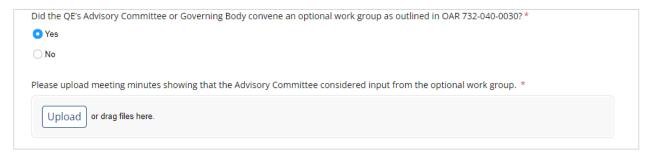
Enter the Advisory Committee website address in the appropriate field.

Copies of the Advisory Committee bylaws, meeting minutes, and meeting notices must be published by the Qualified Entity and made available for public review in a reasonable and timely manner. If this information is not available on a website, you may upload other documentation that demonstrates how the Advisory Committee requirements have been met and how the Advisory Committee's bylaws, meeting notices, and meeting minutes were made available to the public by selecting the "Upload" button.

If the Qualified Entity's Advisory Committee or Governing Body convened an optional work group as outlined in OAR 732-040-0030, select "Yes" (Figure 8). Upload the meeting minutes

demonstrating that input from the work group was considered as part of the Advisory Committee process by selecting the "Upload" button. If the Qualified Entity's Advisory Committee or Governing Body did not convene an optional work group as outlined in OAR 732-040-0030, select "No."

Figure 8: Optional Work Group

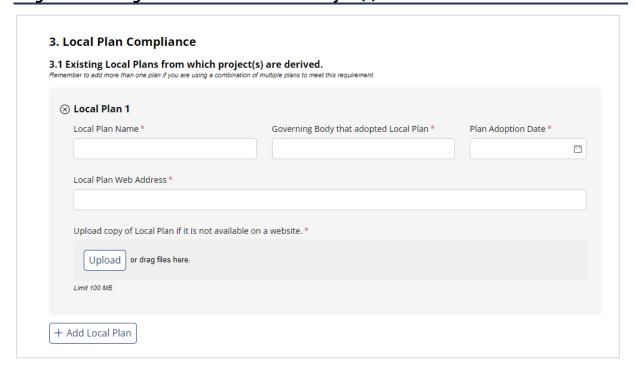


3. Local Plan Compliance

3.1 Existing Local Plans from Which Project(s) Are Derived

Enter the name of the local plan or plans from which the projects in the STIF Plan were derived (Figure 9). Look to OAR 732-040-0005(19) for the Local Plan definition. Examples of local plans that may meet these requirements include coordinated public human services transportation plans, transportation system plans, transit development plans, and transit master plans. If necessary, you may rely on more than one local plan to meet the local plan requirements. ODOT's regional transit coordinators can help you identify and evaluate your local plans for compliance with STIF rules.

Figure 9: Existing Local Plans from Which Project(s) Are Derived



Enter the name of the board, council, commission, or other Governing Body that adopted the local plan; the adoption date; and the web address where the local plan may be referenced. If this information is not available on a website, you may upload a copy of the relevant plan or policy. Select "+Add Local Plan" to include additional local plans.

3.2 Local Plan Requirements

Select "Yes" if the local plans that you are relying on are consistent with STIF Rule requirements in OAR 732-040-0005(19). (Figure 10).

Figure 10 Local Plan Consistency with STIF Rule Requirements

3.2 Loca	l Plan requirements
I agree tha	at the Local Plan(s), either separately or together, contain all of the information required by OAR 732-040-0005(19).
Yes	
○ No, the	Local Plan(s) are not yet consistent with STIF rule requirements.

Select "No" if one or more local plans are not yet consistent with STIF Rule requirements. Describe why a local plan is not compliant with STIF requirements (Figure 11).

Figure 11: Non-Compliant Local Plans

/

4. Accountability

4.1 Accountability Methods

Select both boxes to affirm that all of the required policies and procedures are in place (Figure 12). Review OAR 732-040 and OAR 732-042 (paying particular attention to Audit and Compliance Review Requirements) if necessary before agreeing to these statements.

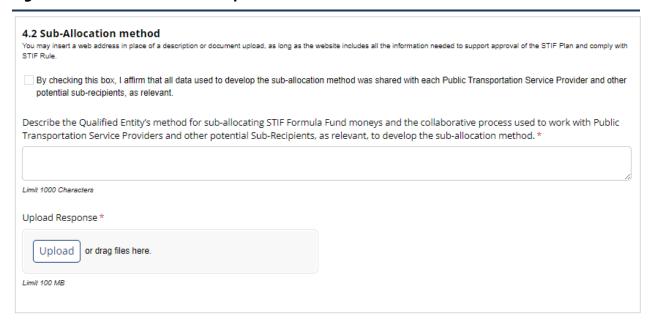
Figure 12: Accountability Methods Acknowledgement

 Accountability You may insert a web address in place of a description or document upload, as long as the inform 	ustion is sufficient anough to warrant approval of the STIE Dian and comply with STIE Dula
rou may insert a web address in piace or a description of document upload, as long as the inform	auton is sumitient, enough to warrant approval of the STIL Plan and comply with STIL Trule.
4.1 Accountability methods	
Qualified Entity Accountability: By checking this box, I affirm that all of the nece that compliance of the Qualified Entity with OAR 732, Divisions 40 and 42 is me ing, but not limited to: program and financial management, operations manager compliance with state and federal laws, civil rights, and compliance with ADA.	et, and to achieve the goals and outcomes specified in this STIF Plan, includ-
Sub-Recipient Accountability: By checking this box, I affirm that all of the neces that compliance of all Sub-Recipients with OAR 732, Divisions 40 and 42 is me ciencies in Sub-Recipient performance, and to provide reasonable assurance the rules, including but not limited to: audit and compliance requirements, accounting the compliance requirements.	to achieve the goals and outcomes specified in this STIF Plan, address defi- nat the Qualified Entity can accomplish the applicable requirements of these

4.2 Sub-Allocation Method

Select the box to affirm that all data used to develop the sub-allocation method was shared with all potential sub-recipients of funding under your STIF Plan. Enter a description of your sub-allocation method in the field provided or upload your response (Figure 13). If a Qualified Entity is the only Public Transportation Service Provider within its area of responsibility or no other potential sub-recipient has expressed interest in applying for STIF Formula funding, please state that fact and explain that sub-allocation isn't possible.

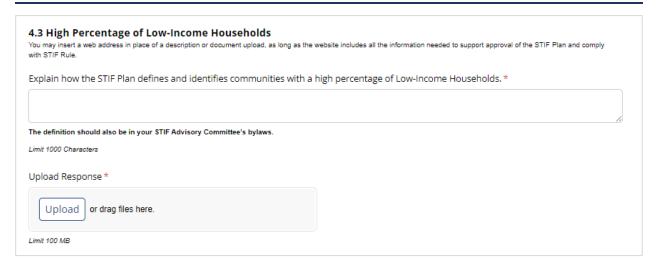
Figure 13: Sub-Allocation Description



4.3 High Percentage of Low-Income Households

Enter your explanation of how the STIF Plan identifies communities with a high percentage of low-income households in the field provided or upload your response (Figure 14). This definition should also be in the bylaws of the Qualified Entity's STIF Advisory Committee.

Figure 14: High Percentage of Low-Income Households Explanation

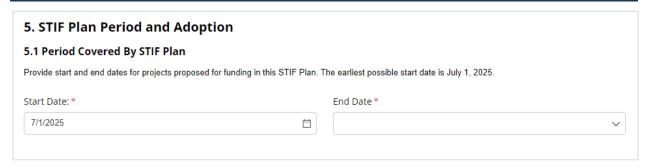


5. STIF Plan Period and Adoption

5.1 Period Covered by STIF Plan

Enter the start and end dates for all projects in this STIF Plan (Figure 15). The earliest possible start date for this solicitation cycle is July 1, 2025. A STIF Plan can be for one or two biennia, so the end date for this funding cycle will either be June 30, 2027, or June 30, 2029.

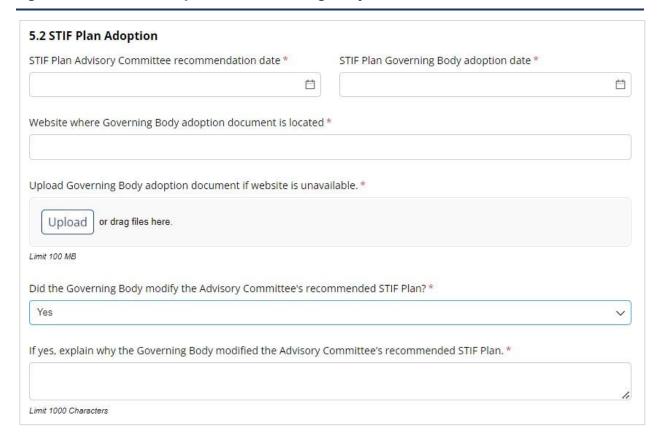
Figure 15: Start and End Dates for All Projects in the STIF Plan



5.2 STIF Plan Adoption

Enter the appropriate dates in the fields provided (Figure 16). Enter the website where the Governing Body adoption document is located or press "Upload" to attach a file if the document is not posted on a website.

Figure 16: STIF Plan Adoption and Governing Body Information



If the Governing Body modified the Advisory Committee's recommended STIF Plan, select "Yes" from the drop-down menu. Explain why the Governing Body modified the Advisory Committee's recommended STIF Plan in the text box that appears.

If the Governing Body did not modify the Advisory Committee's recommended STIF Plan, select "No" from the drop-down menu.

6. Projects

6.1 Project Detail Entry

You may upload Sub-Recipient Project Applications instead of manually entering the information for each sub-recipient (Figure 17). All uploaded Sub-Recipient Project Applications must have been approved by the Qualified Entity's Governing Body and will be part of the Qualified Entity's STIF Plan.

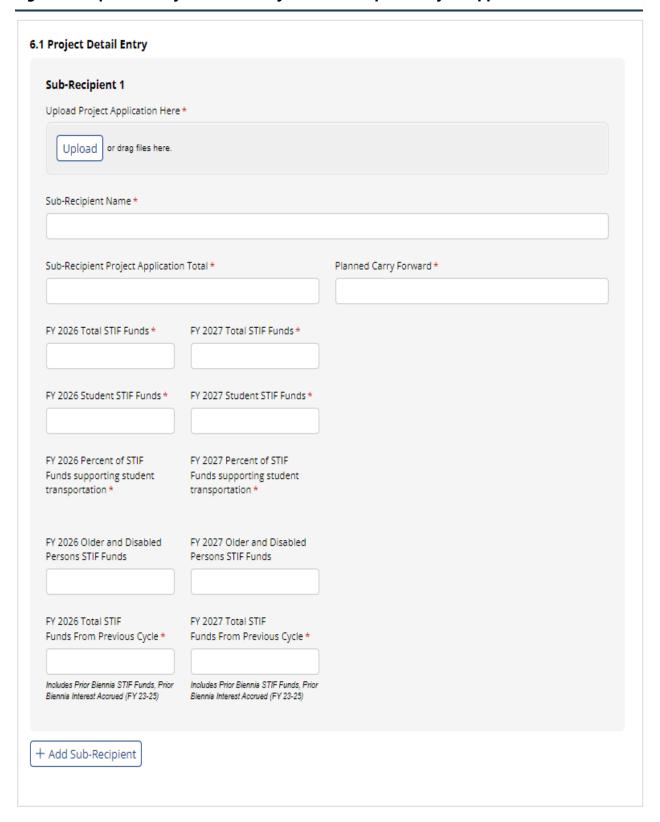
In addition to this, any Qualified Entities with their own STIF Plan projects may enter that information directly into the STIF Plan form or may choose to upload their own Sub-Recipient Project Application. In all cases, you cannot split information for a single entity between the STIF Plan and an uploaded Sub-Recipient Project Application. All project information for a given entity must be contained either solely within the Sub-Recipient Project Application or STIF Plan itself. Qualified Entities that use the Sub-Recipient Project Application for their project information must still upload a STIF Plan that includes all of the information in sections 1-5, as well as the fields in shown in Figure 18.

Figure 17: Optional Upload of Approved Sub-Recipient Project Applications

6. Projects	
You may upload Sub-Recipient Project Applications instead of manually entering the information for each sub-recipient. All uploaded Sub-Recipient Project Applications must have been submitted to the Qualified Entity's STIF Advisory Committee, approved by the Qualified Entity's Governing Body, and will be part of the Qualified Entity's STIF Plan.	
In addition to this, any Qualified Entities with their own Projects may enter that information directly into the STIF Plan, or may choose to upload their own Sub-Recipient Project Application. In all cases, you cannot split information for a single entity between the STIF Plan and an uploaded Sub-Recipient Project Application. All project information for a given entity must be contained either solely within the Sub-Recipient Project Application or STIF Plan itself.	
Important note: If you'd like to use this optional upload feature, please enter the total amount from each Sub-Recipient Project Application in the conditional boxes that will appear below (this information can be found in the last section of the Sub-Recipient Project Application). This will ensure that the sum of all Qualified Entity and sub-recipient projects are included in STIF Plan section 7. STIF Plan Summary.	
Would you like to upload any approved Sub-Recipient Project Applications for this STIF Plan? *	
○ Yes	
○ No	

If you'd like to use this optional upload feature, fill out the information requested from each Sub-Recipient Project Application in the boxes in Figure 18. This information can be found in the last section of the Sub-Recipient Project Application. The information you fill in here will be used to generate the values included in Section 7 (STIF Plan Summary) and providing this information will ensure that the STIF Plan Summary is accurate.

Figure 18: Optional Project Detail Entry for Sub-Recipient Project Applications



If you choose not to use this optional upload feature, continue to Section 6.1 and provide the following information for Project 1 (Figure 19):

Figure 19: Project Detail Entry for Project 1



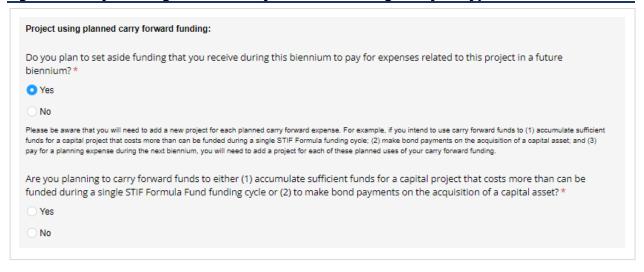
- Enter the appropriate Qualified Entity or sub-recipient name.
- Enter a project name in the field provided. ODOT recommends that a project name is concise, similar to names used in local plans, and applicable to all project elements. Multi- phase projects will need to use the same name in future STIF Plans. The name is restricted to 50 characters to facilitate data collection and analysis.
- Enter a project description in the field provided. The project description is an opportunity to provide information about the project purpose and service elements. Suggested elements include the project location or extent, service span, frequency, stops, intended customers, vehicles, equipment, and marketing or other activities needed to implement service.
- Next, determine whether you plan to set aside funding that you receive during this biennium to pay for expenses related to your project in a future biennium, and answer the question shown in Figure 20. The STIF Plan refers to this kind of project as a "project using planned carry forward funding." You will see the total funding you programmed for this kind of project in your STIF Plan as the "Planned Carry Forward Total" in the STIF Plan Summary (Section 7).

Figure 20: Project Using Planned Carry Forward Funding

ı	Project using planned carry forward funding:
	Do you plan to set aside funding that you receive during this biennium to pay for expenses related to this project in a future biennium? *
	○ Yes
	○ No
1	Please be aware that you will need to add a new project for each planned carry forward expense. For example, if you intend to use carry forward funds to (1) accumulate sufficient funds for a capital project that costs more than can be funded during a single STIF Formula funding cycle; (2) make bond payments on the acquisition of a capital asset; and (3) pay for a planning expense during the next biennium, you will need to add a project for each of these planned uses of your carry forward funding.

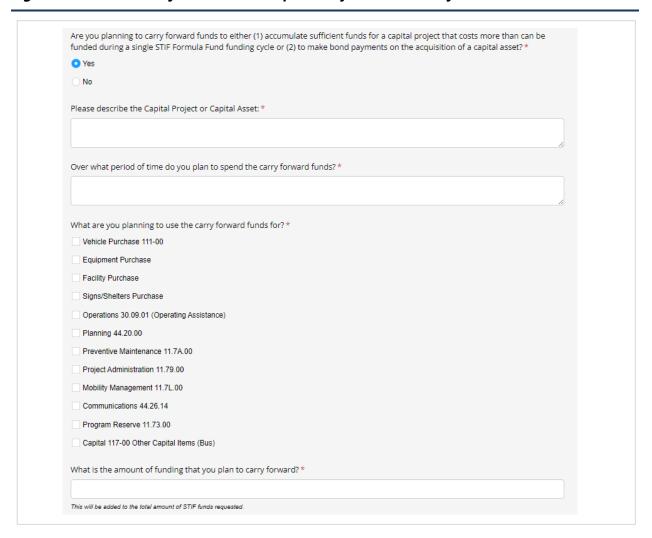
If you answer "Yes," to the question in Figure 20, another question will appear asking whether you are planning to carry forward funds to either (1) accumulate sufficient funds for a capital project that costs more than can be funded during a single STIF Formula Fund funding cycle or (2) to make bond payments on the acquisition of a capital asset? (Figure 21)

Figure 21: Project Using Planned Carry Forward Funding—Project Type



• If you answer "Yes," to that question, you will need to describe the capital project or asset, explain the time period in which you will be spending the funds, select a spending category to describe the project, and provide the total amount of funds you plan to carry forward (Figure 22).

Figure 22: Planned Carry Forward for Capital Project or Bond Payments



• If you enter "No" to that question, enter information about this project in the fields that appear in Figure 23. Less information is required for a planned carry forward project where you are not accumulating funds for a capital project or making bond payments on a capital asset.

Figure 23: Other Planned Carry Forward Project

Are you planning to carry forward funds to either (1) accumulate sufficient funds for a capital project that costs more than can be funded during a single STIF Formula Fund funding cycle or (2) to make bond payments on the acquisition of a capital asset? * Yes No What are you planning to use the carry forward funds for? * Vehicle Purchase 111-00 Equipment Purchase Facility Purchase Signs/Shelters Purchase Operations 30.09.01 (Operating Assistance) Planning 44.20.00 Preventive Maintenance 11.7A.00 Project Administration 11.79.00 Mobility Management 11.7L.00 Communications 44.26.14 Program Reserve 11.73.00 Capital 117-00 Other Capital Items (Bus) What is the amount of funding that you plan to carry forward? *	
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Equipment Purchase Facility Purchase Signs/Shelters Purchase Operations 30.09.01 (Operating Assistance) Planning 44.20.00 Preventive Maintenance 11.7A.00 Project Administration 11.79.00 Mobility Management 11.7L.00 Communications 44.26.14 Program Reserve 11.73.00 Capital 117-00 Other Capital Items (Bus)	
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Signs/Shelters Purchase Operations 30.09.01 (Operating Assistance) Planning 44.20.00 Preventive Maintenance 11.7A.00 Project Administration 11.79.00 Mobility Management 11.7L.00 Communications 44.26.14 Program Reserve 11.73.00 Capital 117-00 Other Capital Items (Bus) What is the amount of funding that you plan to carry forward? *	
Operations 30.09.01 (Operating Assistance) Planning 44.20.00 Preventive Maintenance 11.7A.00 Project Administration 11.79.00 Mobility Management 11.7L.00 Communications 44.26.14 Program Reserve 11.73.00 Capital 117-00 Other Capital Items (Bus) What is the amount of funding that you plan to carry forward? *	_ Facility Purchase
Planning 44.20.00 Preventive Maintenance 11.7A.00 Project Administration 11.79.00 Mobility Management 11.7L.00 Communications 44.26.14 Program Reserve 11.73.00 Capital 117-00 Other Capital Items (Bus) What is the amount of funding that you plan to carry forward? *	Signs/Shelters Purchase
Preventive Maintenance 11.7A.00 Project Administration 11.79.00 Mobility Management 11.7L.00 Communications 44.26.14 Program Reserve 11.73.00 Capital 117-00 Other Capital Items (Bus) What is the amount of funding that you plan to carry forward? *	Operations 30.09.01 (Operating Assistance)
Project Administration 11.79.00 Mobility Management 11.7L.00 Communications 44.26.14 Program Reserve 11.73.00 Capital 117-00 Other Capital Items (Bus) What is the amount of funding that you plan to carry forward? *	Planning 44.20.00
Mobility Management 11.7L.00 Communications 44.26.14 Program Reserve 11.73.00 Capital 117-00 Other Capital Items (Bus) What is the amount of funding that you plan to carry forward? *	Preventive Maintenance 11.7A.00
Communications 44.26.14 Program Reserve 11.73.00 Capital 117-00 Other Capital Items (Bus) What is the amount of funding that you plan to carry forward? *	Project Administration 11.79.00
Program Reserve 11.73.00 Capital 117-00 Other Capital Items (Bus) What is the amount of funding that you plan to carry forward? *	Mobility Management 11.7L.00
Capital 117-00 Other Capital Items (Bus) What is the amount of funding that you plan to carry forward? *	Communications 44.26.14
What is the amount of funding that you plan to carry forward? *	Program Reserve 11.73.00
	Capital 117-00 Other Capital Items (Bus)
	Vhat is the amount of funding that you plan to carry forward? *
This will be added to the total amount of STIF funds requested.	
	his will be added to the total amount of STIF funds requested.

- Once you have filled out the information in Figure 22 or Figure 23 you have completed the last step for planned carry forward projects.
 - If there are other projects in this STIF Plan, select "+Add Project." Follow the instructions provided for Project 1 for all subsequent projects.
 - If there are no other projects on this STIF Plan, continue to Section 7 STIF Plan Summary.
- If you answer "No," to the question, "Do you plan to set aside funding that you receive during this biennium to pay for expenses related to this project in a future biennium?" another set of fields will appear. (Figure 24).
 - Enter the information requested in Figure 24, including designating how much of the project will "Improve or Expand Service," which "Local Plan from which this project is derived" and the "Local Plan page number." It should be clear how the project is derived from the local plan from the information on the page you enter in the "Local Plan page number" field.

If your answer to the question, "Is your project part of a larger, multi-phase project," is "Yes," you must complete the fields in Figure 25. For more information on this requirement, reference OAR 732-042-0015(3)(g).

Note: The questions in Figure 25 relate to major capital public transportation projects and other types of projects that cannot be completed within a single STIF Plan period. Applicants may have projects that extend over multiple STIF Plan periods.

 Once you have filled out the information in Figure 24 (and Figure 25, if necessary), continue to Section 6.1.1 Project Scope.

Figure 24: Not Planning to set aside funds for use in a future biennium

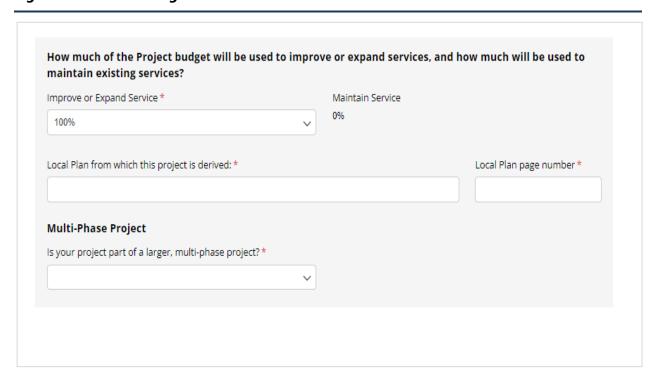
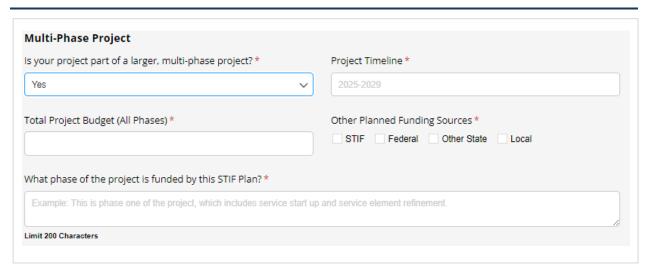


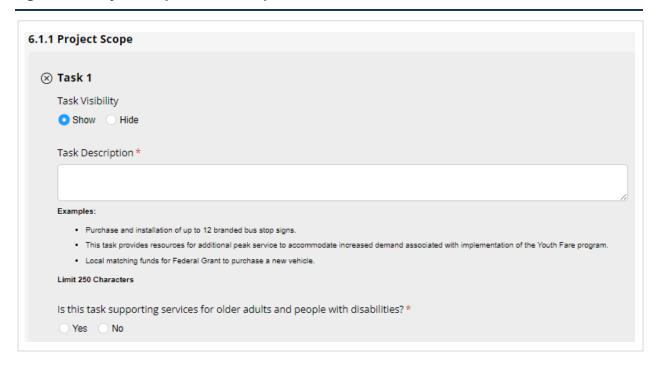
Figure 25: Project Is Part of a Multi-Phase Project



6.1.1 Project Scope

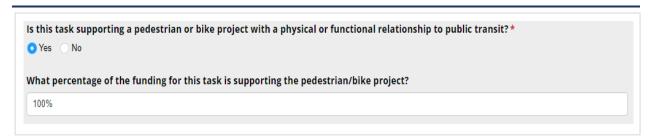
Enter a description for this task in the field provided (Figure 26). Use the examples provided when considering the amount of detail to include in this description. Also determine whether the task will support services for older adults and people with disabilities and select "Yes" or "No" depending on your answer to that question.

Figure 26: Project Scope Task Description



Next determine if the task will support a pedestrian or bike project with a physical or functional relationship to public transit. If you select "Yes," specify the percentage of the funding for the task will be supporting the bike or pedestrian project in the field that appears. (Figure 27). For more information about bicycle and pedestrian project eligibility, see the STIF and STN Guidebook.

Figure 27: Task Supporting a Bicycle or Pedestrian Project



After you have answered those questions, choose the category that best describes this task (Figure 28).

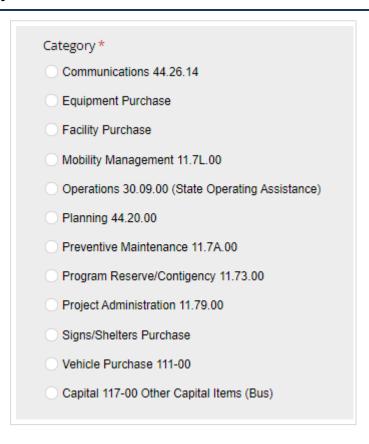
Depending on which category you select, new field(s) will appear for you to enter more information about the task. Here's an overview of the extra information asked for when you

choose each task category:

- 1. **Equipment, facility, and signs/shelters purchase:** Enter a brief description of the item followed by the quantity and unit cost.
- 2. **Operations:** Is this for fixed route, demand response service, or deviated fixed route service and what is the total cost (Task Category Amount)?
- 3. Planning, Preventive Maintenance, Project Administration, Mobility Management, Communications, and Program Reserve/Contingency: What is the total cost?
- 4. **Vehicle purchase:** Is this a replacement, expansion, or other type of capital vehicle purchase?
- 5. **Capital (Other Capital items):** What is the total cost and activity type?

Note: Program Reserve funds are a contingency funds, which may be used to provide funding flexibility and make up for unanticipated funding shortfalls. You must first make a request to your RTC by email and receive approval from ODOT before shifting funds between tasks in your STIF Plan. You must annotate what that contingency is for when you complete the task description, and failure to do so may result in rejection of a modification request. Please refer to the <u>STIF and STN Guidebook</u> and the <u>STIF Guidance for Determining Whether Expenditures are Substantially Compliant and Consistent with STIF Plan for more information.</u>

Figure 28: Category that Best Describes the Task Item



6.1.2 Expenditure Estimates

This section asks for you to provide estimates of the amount of funding you plan to spend on your task and to provide the source of that funding. (Figure 29). The first column in this section represents the first year of the STIF Plan period (FY 2026), and the second column represents the second year of the STIF Plan period (FY 2027).

Figure 29: Expenditures by Fund Source and Fiscal Year

Fund Type *	FY 2026 *	FY 2027 *	Total
STIF Population Funds			\$0.00
STIF Payroll Funds			\$0.00
Federal			\$0.00
Other State			\$0.00
Local			\$0.0
Other Funds			\$0.0
Prior Biennia STIF Funds			\$0.0
Prior Biennia Interest Accrued			\$0.0
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.0

If this project is supported only by STIF funding, check the box provided.

If this project will be supported with funds outside of what is requested in this STIF Plan, enter the information about those funds in the boxes provided.

If STIF Funding is being used as matching funds for another funding source, check the box provided.

Note: If your STIF Plan covers two biennia as detailed in Section 5.1 Period Covered by STIF Plan, two additional columns will appear so that you can estimate expenditures for FY 2028 and FY 2029.

Here is a brief overview of the various funds mentioned in the budget table shown in Figure 27:

- 1. **STIF Population Funds:** These are funds allocated to you based on the population formula. These funds must be used to support services for older adults and people with disabilities.
- 2. **STIF Payroll Funds:** These are the funds allocated to you based on the payroll tax formula. These funds can be used to fund any eligible STIF projects. The total of your STIF Population and STIF Payroll funds cannot be more than your total allocation of STIF funds. The STIF Plan funding balance will be in Section 7 of your plan, the STIF Plan Summary. That amount will include both STIF Population and STIF Payroll Funds.

- 3. **Federal:** These are funds expected from any federal sources to fund the transportation project activity, such as Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Sections <u>5310</u>, <u>5311</u>, and <u>5307</u>. You do not need to input the specific funding program, only the total amount of federal funding expected.
- 4. **Other State:** These are any other state funds expected to fund the task.
- 5. Local: These are any funds generated or collected by the district, county, city, or other local/special district, which are to be applied to the transportation project activity. Examples include local tax revenues, service agreements with local agencies, and general funds. It could also include contributions by private organizations to support the project activity, either directly or through the sub-recipient. ODOT suggests you enter only funds you can reasonably assume will be available within the STIF Plan timeframe based on historical trends or commitments based on local budgeting and agreement processes.
- 6. **Other Funds:** These are all other fund sources that are budgeted to fund this project, such as private contributions.
- 7. **Prior Biennia STIF Funds:** This is the amount of unspent STIF Formula funds that you are carrying over from the previous STIF cycle, including any unspent program reserve. The only exception is interest accrued on those funds. All unspent funds that you received in the prior STIF cycle should be programmed into the 2025-27 STIF Plan¹.
- 8. **Prior Biennia Interest Accrued:** This is the amount of interest accrued on unspent STIF Formula funds from a previous STIF cycle. All unspent STIF Interest Accrued from prior biennia should be programmed into the 2025-27 STIF Plan.

You may use the Federal, Other State, Local, or Other Funds sections if you are using your STIF funds as matching funds for another source.

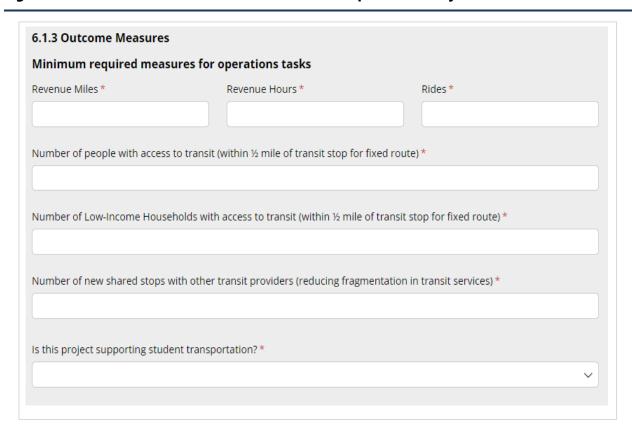
6.1.3 Outcome Measures

Qualified Entities must include anticipated outcomes for each STIF Plan project. Outcome measures are quantifiable, discrete ways to describe the benefits the provider expects to achieve from each project over the STIF Plan period.

ODOT has identified several required outcome measures for certain task categories. For other task categories, you must specify at least one outcome measure that best reflects the benefits of each task. These outcome measures help ODOT to compile and report STIF outcomes on a consistent, statewide basis. Qualified Entities should apply the FTA's National Transit Database (NTD) reporting definitions to the STIF Plan outcomes. The outcomes should fit into standard reporting procedures and methods that will be consistent with future reporting.

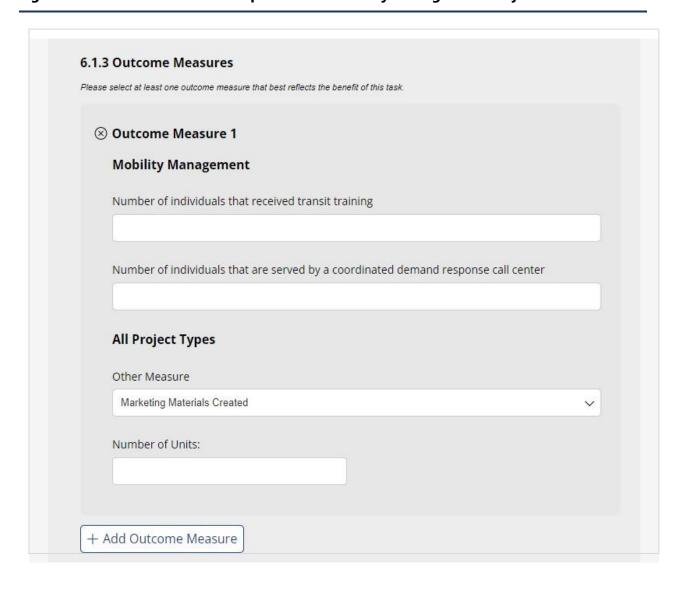
The outcome measures listed in this section are tied directly to the task categories chosen in Section 6.1.1 Project Scope. For example, the outcome measures associated with an operations project are shown in Figure 30.

Figure 30: Outcome Measures Associated with an Operations Project



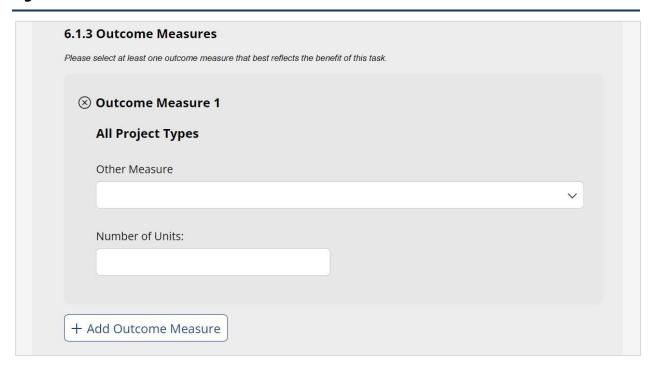
The questions in Figure 30 are crucial for reporting purposes for operations tasks, but they do not apply to all task categories. Figure 31 provides an example of the outcome measures required for a mobility management project.

Figure 31: Outcome Measures Required for a Mobility Management Project



Some task categories don't require the specific outcome measures that are built into the form for other task categories. In those instances, you must select at least one Outcome Measure from the drop-down list provided (Figure 32) and include the number of units, such as vehicles or signs to be purchased.

Figure 32: Quantifiable Outcome Measures



Designating a task as "supporting services for older adults and people with disabilities" will also affect the outcome measures that appear in Section 6.1.3.

Once you have completed the outcome measures, you are done entering information for the task. When this step has been completed, determine if there are other tasks to add for this specific project.

If there are other tasks for this project, press "+Add Task" and follow these same steps starting at Section 6.1.1 Project Scope.

If there are no other tasks for this specific project, continue to Section 6.2: Allocation of STIF Funds by Project.

6.2 Allocation of STIF Funds by Project

You must specify the percentage of Formula funds allocated to the eight STIF criteria listed in Figure 33, as outlined in OAR 732-042-0015. Identify what percentage of a STIF project budget is allocated to each of the criteria listed (e.g., providing transit to students in grades 9 through 12) by fiscal year.

Figure 33: Percentage of STIF Budget Allocated to Each of the Criteria by Fiscal Year

6.2 Allocation of STIF funds by project Please identify what percentage of this STIF project budget is allocated to each of the criteria listed below by fiscal year. Note: More information about requirements for criterion #7 can be found in OAR 732-042-0015(3)(i). More information about requirements for criterion #8 can be found in OAR STIF Criteria 1. Increased frequency of bus service to areas with a high percentage of Low-Income Households. 2. Expansion of bus routes and bus services to serve areas with a high percentage of Low-Income Households. 3. Fund the implementation of programs to reduce fares for public transportation in communities with a high percentage of Low-Income Households. 4. Procurement of low or no emission buses for use in areas with 200,000 or more. 5. The improvement in the frequency and reliability of service between communities inside and outside of the Qualified Entity's service area Coordination between Public Transportation Service Providers to reduce fragmentation in the provision of transportation services Implementation of programs to provide student transit service for students in grades 9-12. 8. Services for older adults and people with disabilities. FY 2026 STIF Total FY 2027 STIF Total Fund Allocation (Must not exceed 100% per criterion per fiscal year) If some criteria don't apply to this project, fill in with zeros. Do not add or remove any criteria from the table FY 2026 * FY 2027 * Criterion Criterion 1 0.0% 0.0% Criterion 2 0.0% 0.0% Criterion 3 0.0% 0.0% Criterion 4 0.0% 0.0% Criterion 5 0.0% 0.0% Criterion 6 0.0% 0.0% Criterion 7 0.0% 0.0% Criterion 8 0.0% 0.0% 0.00% 0.00%

The total for each criterion in each fiscal year may not exceed 100 percent but may be a percentage that ranges from 0 to 100 percent. A single project may have benefits that meet more than one criterion. In these instances, use your best professional judgment to specify which percentage of the funding meets each of the applicable criteria. The STIF Plan will autocalculate the amount of funding allocated to each of the eight criteria based on the percentages you specify. This will enable ODOT to report the amount of funds allocated to each of the eight areas, recognizing that many projects will meet multiple criteria.

The percentage entered for criterion seven, which pertains to funding for student transit services for students in grades 9 through 12, is used to calculate whether the Qualified Entity will meet the statutory requirement of spending at least one percent of Formula Fund funds received each year on transportation services for students in grades 9 through 12, if practicable (see definition

of Student Transit Services in OAR 732-040-005).

The percentage entered for criterion eight, which pertains to funding for older adults and people with disabilities, is used to calculate whether the Qualified Entity will meet the statutory requirement of allocating funds received via the population-based formula to transit service for older adults and people with disabilities. The total amount of funding in your plan designated for transit services for older adults and people with disabilities must be equal or greater to the total amount of population-based funds you receive from ODOT.

6.3 Oregon Public Transportation Plan Goals

Each project in your plan must be consistent with Oregon Public Transportation Plan (OPTP) goals and policies (Figure 34). The OPTP is an essential plan for supporting the development of the statewide public transportation system. The title for each OPTP goal is listed in this section next to a checkbox, and you must select at least one goal that applies to each specific STIF Plan project. To learn more about the intricacies and policies associated with each goal, consult page eight of the OPTP.

Figure 34: Identify How Projects Are Consistent with OPTP Goals and Policies

6.3 Oregon Public Transportation Plan Goals Select at least one goal.
For more information about these goals, please refer to page eight of the Oregon Public Transportation Plan.
Select the OPTP goals that apply to your STIF Plan Projects. *
Goal 1 Mobility: Public Transportation User Experience
Goal 2: Accessibility and Connectivity
Goal 3: Community Livability and Economic Vitality
Goal 4: Equity
Goal 5: Health
Goal 6: Safety and Security
Goal 7: Environmental Sustainability
Goal 8: Land Use
Goal 9: Funding and Strategic Investment
Goal 10: Communication, Collaboration, and Coordination

6.4 Project Summary

The Project Summary is a breakdown showing how you have programmed your funding for an

individual project. The data in this section are auto-calculated based on responses entered about a specific project in previous sections (Figure 35). For more information how the values in the Project Summary are calculated, see Appendix B, Section 1 ("Calculations in the Project Summary (Section 6.4)").

Figure 35: Auto-Calculated Project Summary

6.4 Project Summary

Project Name

STIF Project Grand Total

Includes Prior Biennia STIF Funds and Prior Biennia

Interest Accrued (FY 23-25)

FY 2026 STIF Project Total FY 2027 STIF Project Total

\$0.00

\$0.00

Includes Prior Biennia STIF Includes Prior Biennia STIF
Funds and Prior Biennia Interest Funds and Prior Biennia Interest
Accrued (FY 23-25)

Accrued (FY 23-25)

Funds Supporting Student Transportation

FY 2026 STIF Funds supporting FY 2027 STIF Funds supporting

\$0.00

student transportation student transportation

\$0.00

supporting student supporting student transportation transportation

FY 2026 percent of STIF Funds FY 2027 percent of STIF Funds

Funds Supporting Older and Disabled Persons Transportation

FY 2026 STIF Funds

supporting older and disabled supporting older and disabled

FY 2027 STIF Funds

persons transportation persons transportation

persons transportation

FY 2026 percent of STIF Funds FY 2027 percent of STIF Funds supporting older and disabled supporting older and disabled persons transportation

Funds from Previous Biennia "Old Money"

FY 2026 STIF Funds from

Previous Cycle

\$0.00

The total of Prior Biennia STIF Funds and Prior Biennia Interest Accrued (FY

FY 2027 STIF Funds from Previous Cycle

The total of Prior Biennia STIF Funds and Prior Biennia Interest Accrued (FY 23-25)

Note: All the steps from Section 6.1 Project Detail Entry to Section 6.4 Project Summary are for one project only. If your STIF Plan contains only one project, then continue to Section 7 STIF Plan Summary. If there are additional projects to be added, select the "+Add Project" button and repeat these instructions starting at Section 6.1 Project Detail Entry.

7. STIF Plan Summary

The STIF Plan Summary is a breakdown showing how you have programmed your funding across your entire Plan. The data in this section will auto-calculate based on the data that have been entered for each project (Figure 36). For more information about how the values in the Project Summary are calculated, see Appendix B, Section 2 ("Calculations in the STIF Plan Summary (Section 7").

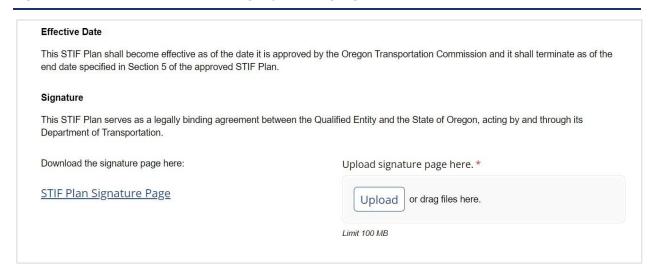
Figure 36: Auto-Calculated STIF Plan Summary

7. STIF Plan Summary	
STIF Plan Grand Total	Planned Carry Forward Total
\$0.00	\$0.00
STIF Plan Grand Total: Includes STIF	Planned Carry Forward Total: The total
Plan Total, as well as Prior Blennia STIF Funds and Prior Blennia Interest Accrued	amount of funding that is set aside to pay for project expenses in a future blennium.
(FY 23-25)	re project coperate in a tasset element.
STIF Plan Total (Plan Maximum)	
\$0.00	
	that ODOT will be authorized to distribute under this plan when it is approved by the OTC. This does not include Prior Biennia STIF Funds or
FY 2026 Total Prior Biennia	FY 2027 Total Prior Biennia
Funds	Funds
\$0.00	\$0.00
The total of Prior Blennia STIF Funds and Prior Blennia Interest Accrued (FY 23-25)	The total of Prior Blennia STIF Funds and Prior Blennia Interest Accrued (FY 23-25)
FY 2026 Total STIF Funds	FY 2027 Total STIF Funds
\$0.00	\$0.00
FY 2026 Total STIF Funds from Sub-Recipient Applications	FY 2027 Total STIF Funds from Sub-Recipient Applications
S0.00	S0.00
30.00	30.00
FY 2026 Student STIF Funds	FY 2027 Student STIF Funds
\$0.00	\$0.00
FY 2026 Percent of STIF Funds	FY 2027 Percent of STIF Funds
supporting student	supporting student
transportation	transportation
Unless it is not practicable, each year,	the percentage of STIF Funds supporting student transportation must equal or exceed 1% of the FY Total STIF Funds.
Please explain why your allocation	n of STIF Funds to support student transportation is less than 1%. *
Limit 600 Charaoters	
FY 2026 Older and Disabled	FY 2027 Older and Disabled
Persons STIF Funds	Persons STIF Funds
\$0.00	\$0.00
FY 2026 Percent of STIF Funds	FY 2027 Percent of STIF Funds
supporting older and disabled	supporting older and disabled
persons transportation	persons transportation
The amount of STIF Funds that suppo population-based formula funds.	rt transit services for Older and Disabled Persons. This amount must equal or exceed the Qualified Entity's allocation of

The STIF Plan Summary section also includes the percentage of STIF Formula funds that will be dedicated to transportation services for students in grades 9 through 12 for each year of the STIF Plan. If less than one percent of STIF Plan Formula funds are proposed to be used for student transportation in any single fiscal year, a text box will appear requiring you to explain why it isn't practicable to dedicate at least one percent of Formula Fund money for this purpose each fiscal year. Consider the definition of Student Transit Services in OAR 732-040-0005 (37) when writing an explanation.

This STIF Plan serves as a legally binding agreement between the Qualified Entity and the State of Oregon, acting by and through its Department of Transportation (Figure 37).

Figure 37: STIF Plan Serves as a Legally Binding Agreement



The person who signs the STIF Plan is certifying that they are authorized to execute this STIF Plan on behalf of their Qualified Entity and at the direction of their Governing Body. They also are legally binding their Qualified Entity and acknowledging and representing on behalf of their Qualified Entity each of the following:

- The Qualified Entity, through its agents, officers, or employees responsible to administer the STIF Plan and oversee completion of the projects included in the STIF Plan, has read and understands ORS 184.751 through ORS 184.766 and OAR chapter 732, divisions 40 and 42.
- The Qualified Entity agrees to be bound by ORS 184.751 through ORS 184.766 and OAR chapter 732, divisions 40 and 42 and any other laws applicable to STIF Formula Fund program administration and to the completion of the projects described in this STIF Plan.
- The STIF Plan is complete and includes all of the required documentation and information.
- The STIF Plan does not contain and is not based on any false or fraudulent information.
- The STIF Plan does not contain any statement or representation that is untrue in whole or part.
- The STIF Plan does not omit information that could have a material effect on the value, validity, or authenticity of the STIF Formula Fund distributions made to the Qualified Entity.
- The Qualified Entity agrees to deliver the projects described in this STIF Plan within the identified timelines.

The Qualified Entity understands that it may request STIF Formula Fund distributions from ODOT
after the Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC) has approved the STIF Plan but may not
make a request for funding prior to July 1, 2025.

Payments to the Qualified Entity are conditioned on the Qualified Entity satisfying all terms and conditions of this agreement.

 The Qualified Entity is required to repay, in full, any distributions paid to the Qualified Entity if the Oregon Transportation Commission determines that the recipient has failed to meet any terms or conditions of this agreement.

Select the link next to "Download the signature page here" and have an authorized person complete and sign the form (Figure 38). Upload the signed signature page using the "Upload" button.

Figure 38: Download and Upload the Signature Page

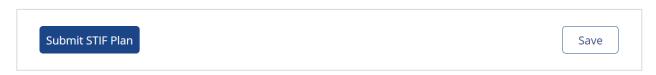
Signature	
This STIF Plan serves as a legally binding agreement Department of Transportation.	between the Qualified Entity and the State of Oregon, acting by and through its
Download the signature page here:	Upload signature page here. *
STIF Plan Signature Page	Upload or drag files here.
	Limit 100 MB

When your STIF Plan has been completed, check that all hidden files are changed to "show", press the "Save" button one last time before selecting

the "Submit STIF Plan" button at the bottom of the form (Figure 39).

Note: Remember to "show" any hidden fields before you submit your STIF Plan.

Figure 39: Saving and Submitting the STIF Plan



Appendix A—Application Feedback and Responses

Comment	Response
Many of the formulas in Cognito are hard to understand and do not seem to function correctly. Please consider adding some guidance on where the formulas are drawing numbers from. In the STIF Plan Summary Please check the total funds for Student STIF Funds formula. It appears to be miscalculating the totals and may be missing numbers from the subrecipient unspent funds. It would be nice if we had some idea what was being added together under the different summaries. There was some attempt but request some additional clarity. In the STIF Plan Summary please correct the funds for disabled individuals and older adult's total numbers. They are just drawing from a yes/no selection on the projects. This does not mean those totals are all going to be applied to these communities. The amount in/amount out of district on the sub-recipients' portions of the Cognito application is confusing and is hard to determine how the formula is capturing the numbers	We have conducted an audit of all the formulas in the application to correct any errors. We have added additional explanation describing where the formulas in the application are drawing numbers, which is now included as the "Calculation Glossary" in Appendix B of this document
3.1, Local plan requirements cites the wrong OAR, should be OAR 732-040-0005(19) not (18).	Thank you for pointing out this typographical error. It has been corrected.
The form is not adequate to capture multiple local plans, which is necessary to meet the requirements set out in the OARs. Many of the types of plans listed will not include all the necessary information. The application needs to provide a way to include more than one local plan. Too easy to add/change/remove items by	We have edited the local plan section to clarify that QEs may rely on multiple local plans, if necessary, to meet the local plan requirements. More than one plan can be added by selecting the "add plan" option at the end of section 3. Providers with questions about local-plan compliance should contact their RTCs. Cognito, unfortunately, does not have an
accident (the data disappears as well)	"autosave" feature available, which we understand can lead to issues when completing your application. Please

I thought the last STIF Plan application worked extremely well. My biggest complaint is to require us to fill out each section before we can proceed to the next section, we are adults, we can be responsible to go back and make sure we completed the entire plan. Last time I filled in the blanks with grabble to move to the next section, I don't know who thought that was a good idea. A concern I had when I was doing the grants for 5304, 5310 Discretionary and 5339 Discretionary in OPTIS, I kept thinking I cannot image doing a 120-page plus STIF Plan using this program. OPTIS is clunky and it takes a lot of getting us too and it not really friendly.

At the outset, the whole application was difficult to navigate and figure out what information was being requested. The sections were disjointed.

Project lists got lengthy very quickly! Maybe have an option to collapse project details while entering data.

Allow for nesting of projects and tasks so that they can be collapsed

For Simplification/Navigation, creating clear delineation between projects and tasks. Much appreciated

Unwieldy

My feedback regarding STIF Application Navigation: Split the application into project areas or categories. The ability to easily move between projects even if a project has not yet been completed. This would help slim down the excessive length of the application on our screens.

I would like for the application to be split up into project areas like carryover projects on one page, maintenance/preservation of existing service on one page, ADA/STIF population projects on a page, a third with other projects like capital projects, etc. They could do this by having page categories for each section and we would Add Project in that category. Once complete with adding

remember to manually save your application every time you close the form.

We kept the STIF Formula Application in Cognito for the 2025-2027 biennium.

Instead of requiring each section of the application to be completed before moving to the next, we have returned to a single page application.

To address the concerns about navigating the application that we have heard, we have created "show/hide" options for sections 1-5 of the application, each project, and each task. A user can hide those portions of the application so that less information is displayed on the page at any given time while the user is completing the application.

Please remember that it is important to reopen any hidden sections before submitting your application.

We have returned to single page application and added the "show/hide" options in order address concerns about navigating of the application. We have elected to retain the general organizational structure of the application, with the application organized as a series of projects, broken down by task. We have also retained the numbering system that was used in prior applications.

We hope to see how helpful that the changes we have made are in practice before we decide whether to make more significant changes to the structure of the application. projects under that category we would move forward with the next category and Add Project again and on and on. We should have the ability of course to move back and forth between categories and delete and add projects as necessary. I am hoping that will help slim down the excessive length of the application on our screens

We will be reaching out for further feedback following the deadline for submitting applications in January of 2025.

Simplified and clearer, sequential numbering (example now: 3, 3.1., 2.2., 3.1., 2).

Generally, try to simplify. The form can be very challenging for small providers, who are also the most dependent on STIF for funding.

As discussed above, to improve navigation, we have modified the application so that the full application appears on a single page, adding the "show/hide" feature for parts of the application. We have elected to retain the general organizational structure of the application, as well as the current numbering format.

We have also made edits to the text of the application, as needed, for clarity.

Is it possible to consolidate elements of the plan into one task? For example, all services such fixed route bus, paratransit, etc. being grouped into a single operating task? However, if not, for the same service mode, do the elements need to be split into preservation, expansion, etc.?

For the 25-27 biennium, the STIF Plan will continue to be structured as a series of projects, each made up of a set of distinct tasks. That means that the task categories (e.g., operations, planning, program administration, etc.) should still be assigned to individual tasks within each project, rather than consolidating all the activities associated with a category into a single task. Therefore, all operations activities should not be consolidated into a single operations task. This helps ODOT to collect more meaningful data for the metrics associated with each activity. However, multiple tasks in the same category can be included within a single project, and providers can write both project and task descriptions broadly enough to provide some flexibility in their plans.

For example, Transit Provider could create a project in its STIF Plan that includes two operations tasks, one for a fixed route bus line, and a second for paratransit services. It could also choose to include one of those tasks in one project ("project 1"), and another

in a separate project ("project 2"). Transit Provider should not create one "operations" task in which it includes both a fixed route bus line and a separate paratransit service. As we understand the inquiry regarding splitting elements between "preservation" and "expansion" of services, there has been no change to the application. Providers should continue assign a percentage to the degree that a task is "improving or expanding" service and "maintaining" service to each task. A single task can both "improve or expand" and "maintain" a service. If you have further questions about this issue, please reach out to your RTC. If you could figure out how we could jump to Unfortunately, these suggestions posed project to project without scrolling that would technical challenges and were not feasible to complete in the timeframe available to be very helpful. update the application to be ready for this Automatically populate zeros biennium. Consolidate PTSP/subrecipient applications into the final STIF Plan. We will be reaching out for further feedback following the deadline for submitting applications in January of 2025, and we will be considering additional changes at that time. We have elected to differentiate between STIF Please differentiate between STIF Payroll Funds and STIF Population Funds on the Payroll and STIF Population funds in the project expenditure estimates section. While "Expenditure Estimates" section of the 25-27 it is all STIF funding, it is for different uses application. Users can now specify whether a and would be good to be split for compliance task is being funded by population or payroll STIF funds. and tracking purposes. Have a separate calculation for STF funds Population funds must be used for tasks that (clarification on intended to benefit seniors/disabled). Subrecipient didn't have an provide transit services to older adults and option for non-profits, or other eligible people with disabilities. entities under STF. I'll add support for distinguishing between population and payroll funding. I'd like to see the Prior Biennia items under We have added definitions to the application, 6.1.2 Expenditure Estimates be worded a above the "Expenditure Estimates" table, different way, like Prior 21-23 Biennia STIF which will hopefully clarify the meaning of Funds; seem picky, I know, but would add those terms. At this point we have not elected clarity. to change the way those terms are worded in

	the table so that the terms remain consistent with the terms used in the application for the 23-25 biennium.
Not sure what exactly what is meant by the question: "Do you plan to expend funding in a future STIF plan period?"	That question referred to funding that a QE receives in the current biennium but is planning to carry forward to spend in a future biennium. We have rewritten this question and the section of the application discussing "planned carry forward funding" to clarify this issue.
With regards to the Projects section, I wish you would make the boxes larger for the items like "only funded by STIF" Funds or the box we are meeting capital requirement, it is very easy to miss those boxes.	Unfortunately, increasing the size of these fields was not a practical change, because doing so would have increased the font size for the entire application. If you encounter any issues while filling out
	the application, please reach out to Brian Roth for assistance.
A pdf version would be nice	A PDF of an incomplete STIF Plan can
An option to PDF the application prior to submission.	choosing "save as PDF."
	Please reach out to Brian Roth if you need additional assistance.
Add a category for matching funds so that use as a match can be assigned as a task within a project.	We have elected not to add a category for matching funds this biennium, because a "matching funds" task could potentially fit into any spending category. As a result, creating a "matching funds" category would complicate the outcome measures included in the STIF Plan, since any outcome measure could potentially apply to a "matching funds" task.
	To assist providers with programming STIF Funding for use as matching funds, we have added a box to Section 6.1.2 that users should check to indicate that they intend to use STIF funds in task as a match for another funding source.
	In addition, we would encourage providers to do the following to designate that STIF funds are being used as a match for another funding source:

	 (1) Indicate that the STIF funds will be used as matching funds in the project and task descriptions; (2) Use the "Fund type" fields in the "Expenditure Estimates" section of the plan to include the expected amount of funding from other sources (whether local, state or federal) that STIF funding will be used to match.
	For example, if you intend to use \$10,000 in STIF money in your plan as a 20% match for a federal grant to purchase a vehicle, you can include that information in the relevant project and task descriptions, and then include \$50,000 in the "federal funding" line of the Expenditure Estimates section for that task. Remember to check the box indicating that you are using STIF funding as a match for another source of funding.
In the QE STIF Plan in the STIF Plan Summary section please update to include total fiscal year amounts for the combined subrecipients included in the QE plan. Please make these amounts factor into the STIF revenues for plan period total.	We have added a field to Section 7 of the STIF Plan that reflects the sum of all of the values entered in the "Sub-Recipient Project Application Total" field for all sub-recipient project applications. Sub-recipient project application totals are accounted for in calculations for the STIF Plan
	Grand Total and STIF Plan Total (Plan
Option should include a way to consolidate the demand and commuter services into one task.	Maximum). We have added an option for "deviated fixed route" service. This option can be used for service that generally operates along an established route, but where vehicles deviate from that route to pick up or drop off riders. Separate fixed route and demand services should be programmed as separate tasks.
Add a cover page to approved STIF plans. Purpose is to summarize the STIF Application with Agency, Execution Dates and provisions detailing the Maximum Estimated funding in lieu of a contract document. Include a contract number as listed in OPTIS for reference. These items are needed for Finance departments.	We are still exploring whether to include some or all of this information in the final STIF Plans. This will not be reflected in the application, but there may be changes to final STIF Plans after the applications are completed.

ODOT has the information on estimated Including the amount of estimated prior carryover amounts. That information could be biennium funds (the amount of funds carried automatically filled in for each entity using over from the last biennium to the new the QE's identifying information. biennium) in the application would require ODOT to estimate in August each Qualified Entities' spending for the remainder for the biennium. We have elected not to make this change, because we believe that QEs are in a better position to estimate their spending for the remainder of the biennium than ODOT. Information not required by tribes should be We understand the concern that not all so stated. In fact applications should be information in the application may be different for tribes due to the amount relevant all applicants, including to tribes. allocated to tribes and differences in service. However, due to time and resource constraints, we will be waiting to examine how best to address this issue until after the application period is complete. We will be reaching out to providers for further feedback at that time. The application all worked alright...it's just We understand that the application is that so much information is required. I know complicated and requires a significant it's what the legislature wants to see, but to amount of time to complete. We hope that add all the other funding sources, come up the navigation changes we made for this with all the possible metrics, add all the biennium will ease the administrative burden details for any vehicle replacements... The on providers. We will be examining additional whole plan development and application changes after the application period is input just really does take a lot of time. compete, and we will reach out to providers for additional feedback at that time. The FTA Activity Line-Item codes in the STIF Why are we using FTA activity line-item codes? If we're going to use them, we need Formula Application are included to match to be more consistent, and should probably the codes that are currently used in OPTIS. It just use the highest level code. The way we is important that we keep these codes are including this information is not very consistent with the codes in OPTIS, so we clear. have generally retained the same ALI codes that existed in the previous application. We have modified the code for the "operations" task category to remove the irrelevant indication in OPTIS that STIF Plan operations tasks have a "50% Federal Share." It would be helpful to have a fuller We are required by STIF statute and rule to explanation of why we are asking for the data collect data relating to transit services for we're asking for. Best example is the grades students in grades 9-12. We understand that 9-12 information, this is not something transit some of this data is not information that providers would normally collect providers typically collect, and we are

	exploring how to better support providers in collecting information for this, and other, outcome measures.
ODOT applications particularly struggle with the concept of overmatch - it typically requires an exact minimum match when calculating a project total, which may not actually account for the actual project costs, scalability, or a QE putting in more than the minimum funds required towards match. I'm in agreement. The current 5310 Cognito application will not let you proceed if the match amount is over and not correctly aligned. It would be good to avoid this in updating the STIF application	We understand there is a concern regarding "overmatch" in ODOT applications. However, there are not any matching requirements built into the STIF Formula application. We will consider this issue as it applies to other applications for future funding cycles.
Better page/section navigation – You should be able to land on any page in the application and know exactly what project and task you're looking at. Each project and task should have its own page and the top of each page should identify the project # and name, if not also task # and name. If this is not possible, then at a minimum, identify which project number (and preferably name) each task belongs to (e.g. instead of just "Task 1," put "Project 1, Task 1").	We are engaged in ongoing work to improve the navigation and readability of the final "STIF Plan" documents. We will attempt to address these issues before final STIF Plans become available. We will reach out to Cognito with the ADA accessibility concerns raised, and we will work on a solution to those issues.
More readable spacing – The way the applications are currently structured makes it extremely difficult for your eye to process the information (there is both too much space and not enough space – paragraph spacing like in the word docs attached would be so much easier to read).	
ADA Accessibility – Use Styles (pre-set hierarchical headings, body text, etc.) to make the application more accessible for people using an e-reader (without this, e-readers treat everything like one big paragraph, without breaks or emphasis). In addition to making it more accessible, it also makes it more navigable for us (if using Word) because it makes the navigation pane operable.	

Appendix B—Calculations Glossary

This appendix includes explanations of the how the values shown in the 2025-27 STIF Plan are calculated. These calculations are broken down between Section 6.4 and Section 7.

1. Calculations in the Project Summary (Section 6.4)

STIF Project Grand Total:

- For all projects other than planned carry forward projects, this is the sum of the numbers entered in the STIF Payroll, STIF Population, Prior Biennia STIF Funds, and Prior Biennia Interest Accrued fields in the Expenditure Estimates table (Section 6.1.2) for all tasks included in the project.
- This value does not include any numbers you entered in the Federal, Other State, Local, or Other Funds fields.
- For planned carry forward projects, this is the number entered in response to the question "What is the amount of funding that you plan to carry forward?"

• Amount in District:

- This value is the result of multiplying the Project Grand Total by the percentage assigned to "Percent of project budget in district" for the Project.
- For example, if you assigned 50% to the **"Percent of project budget in district,"** and the **Project Grand Total** is \$100,000, the calculation will be \$100,000 x .5, resulting in an **"Amount in District"** of \$50,000.

Amount out of District:

This value is the Project Grand Total minus the Amount in District.

FY 2026 STIF Project Total:

- The sum of all numbers you entered in the STIF Payroll, STIF Population, Prior Biennia STIF Funds, and Prior Biennia Interest Accrued fields in the Expenditure Estimates tables (Section 6.1.2) in the FY 2026 columns, for all tasks within the project.
- This value does not include any numbers entered in the Federal, Other State, Local, or Other Funds fields.
- This value does not apply to planned carry forward projects, because they are not broken down by year in the STIF Plan.

• FY 2027 STIF Project Total:

- The sum of all numbers you entered in the STIF Payroll, STIF Population, Prior Biennia STIF Funds, and Prior Biennia Interest Accrued fields in the Expenditure Estimates tables (Section 6.1.2) in FY 2027 columns, for all tasks within the project.
- This value does not include any numbers you entered in the Federal, Other State, Local, or Other Funds fields.
- o This value does not apply to planned carry forward projects, because they are not

broken down by year in the STIF Plan.

• FY 2026 STIF Funds supporting student transportation:

- This value is the Fiscal Year 2026 STIF Project Total multiplied by the percentage that you entered for Criterion 7 in FY 2026 column of Fund Allocation Table (Section 6.2).
- For example, if the Fiscal Year 2026 Project Total is \$100,000, and you entered 2% for Criterion 7 in FY 2026 column of Fund Allocation Table (Section 6.2), then the calculation will be \$100,000 x .02, leading to a result of \$2,000.
- This value does not apply to planned carry forward projects, which are not broken down by year in the STIF Plan.

• FY 2027 STIF Funds supporting student transportation

- This value is the Fiscal Year 2027 STIF Project Total multiplied by the percentage that you entered for Criterion 7 in FY 2027 column of the Fund Allocation Table (Section 6.2).
- o For example, if the **Fiscal Year 2026 Project Total** is \$100,000, and you entered 2% for Criterion 7 in FY 2027 column of the Fund Allocation Table (Section 6.2), then the calculation will be \$100,000 x .02, leading to a result of \$2,000.
- This value does not apply to planned carry forward projects, which are not broken down by year in the STIF Plan.

• FY 2026 percent of STIF Funds supporting student transportation

- This value is the result of dividing FY 2026 STIF Funds supporting student transportation by the 2026 STIF Project Total.
- For example, if the FY 2026 STIF Funds supporting student transportation is \$5,000 and the FY 2026 STIF Project Total is \$100,000, then the calculation would be \$5,000/\$100,000, leading to a result of 5%.
- o This value does not apply to planned carry forward projects

• FY 2027 percent of STIF Funds supporting student transportation

- This value is the result of dividing FY 2027 STIF Funds supporting student transportation by the 2027 STIF Project Total.
- For example, if the FY 2027 STIF Funds supporting student transportation is \$5,000 and the FY 2027 STIF Project Total is \$100,000, then the calculation would be \$5,000/\$100,000, leading to a result of 5%.
- This value does not apply to planned carry forward projects

FY 2026 STIF Funds supporting older and disabled persons transportation

- This value is the result of multiplying the FY 2026 STIF Project Total by the percentage entered for Criterion 8 in FY 2026 column of the Fund Allocation Table (Section 6.2).
- For example, if the FY 2026 STIF Project Total is \$50,000 and the percentage you entered 10% for Criterion 8 in FY 2026 column of the Fund Allocation Table (Section

- 6.2), the calculation would be \$50,000 x .10, leading to a result of \$5,000.
- o This value does not apply to planned carry forward projects.

• FY 2027 STIF Funds supporting older and disabled persons transportation

- This value is the result of multiplying the FY 2027 STIF Project Total by the percentage entered for Criterion 8 in FY 2027 column of the Fund Allocation Table (Section 6.2).
- For example, if the FY 2027 STIF Project Total is \$50,000 and the percentage you entered 10% for Criterion 8 in FY 2027 column of the Fund Allocation Table (Section 6.2), the calculation would be \$50,000 x .10, leading to a result of \$5,000.
- This value does not apply to planned carry forward projects.

• FY 2026 percent of STIF Funds supporting older and disabled persons transportation

- This value is the result of dividing the FY 2026 STIF Funds supporting older and disabled persons transportation by the FY 2026 STIF Project Total.
- For example, if the FY 2026 STIF Funds supporting older and disabled persons transportation is \$7,500 and the FY 2026 STIF Project Total is \$100,000, then the calculation would be \$7,500/\$100,000, leading to a result of 7.5%.

• FY 2027 percent of STIF Funds supporting older and disabled persons transportation

- This value is the result of dividing the FY 2027 STIF Funds supporting older and disabled persons transportation by the FY 2027 STIF Project Total.
- For example, if the **FY 2027 STIF Funds supporting older and disabled persons transportation** is \$7,500 and the **FY 2027 STIF Project Total** is \$100,000, then the calculation would be \$7,500/\$100,000, leading to a result of 7.5%.

FY 2026 STIF Funds from Previous Cycle

- The sum of the numbers entered in the **Prior Biennia STIF Funds** and **Prior Biennia Interest Accrued** fields in the FY 2026 columns from Expenditure Estimates Tables (Section 6.1.2) for all tasks within the Project.
- This value <u>does not</u> include any numbers entered in the Federal, Other State, Local, or Other Funds fields. It does not include the STIF Population or STIF Payroll fields.
- This value does not apply to planned carry forward projects, because they are not broken down by year in the STIF Plan.

FY 2027 STIF Funds from Previous Cycle

- The sum of the numbers entered in the **Prior Biennia STIF Funds** and **Prior Biennia Interest Accrued** fields in the FY 2027 columns from Expenditure Estimates Tables (Section 6.1.2) for all tasks within the Project.
- This value does not include any numbers entered in the Federal, Other State, Local, or Other Funds fields. It does not include the STIF Population or STIF Payroll fields.
- This value does not apply to planned carry forward projects, because they are not broken down by year in the STIF Plan.

2. Calculations in the STIF Plan Summary (Section 7)

• STIF Plan Grand Total

The sum of the Project Grand Total for every project and the values entered in Sub-Recipient Project Application Total field for every Sub-Recipient for which you uploaded a Sub-Recipient Project Application.

Planned Carry Forward Total

 The sum of all the **Project Grand Total** for all Planned Carry Forward Projects and the values entered in the **Planned Carry Forward** field for every Sub-Recipient for which you uploaded a Sub-Recipient Project Application.

Amount in District

 The sum of the Amount in District for every project, plus the values entered in the Amount in District field for every Sub-Recipient for which you uploaded a Sub-Recipient Project Application.

Amount out of District

 The sum of the Amount out of District for every project, plus the value that appears in the Amount out of District field for every Sub-Recipient for which you uploaded a Sub-Recipient Project Application.

• STIF Plan Total (Plan Maximum):

- This value is the STIF Plan Grand Total minus the total amount of Prior Biennia Funds for the STIF Plan.
- If the STIF Plan Grand Total is \$1,000,000 and the total of FY 2026 Prior Bienna Funds is \$50,000 and the FY 2027 Prior Bienna STIF Funds is \$100,000, then the STIF Plan Total (Plan Maximum) will equal \$850,000.
- Planned Carry Forward Funding is included in this amount.

FY 2026 Total Prior Biennia Funds:

 The sum of the FY 2026 STIF Funds from Previous Cycle for every project, plus the values entered in the FY 2026 Total Funds from Previous Cycle field for every Sub-Recipient for which you uploaded a Sub-Recipient Project Application.

• FY 2027 Total Prior Biennia Funds

The sum of the FY 2027 STIF Funds from Previous Cycle for every project, plus the values entered in the FY 2027 Total Funds from Previous Cycle field for every Sub-Recipient for which you uploaded a Sub-Recipient Project Application.

• FY 2026 Total STIF Funds

 The sum of the FY 2026 STIF Project Total from every Project, plus the values entered in the FY 2026 Total STIF Funds field for every Sub-Recipient for which you uploaded a Sub-Recipient Project Application.

FY 2027 Total STIF Funds

o The sum of the FY 2027 STIF Project Total from every Project, plus the values entered

in the **FY 2027 Total STIF Funds** field for every Sub-Recipient for which you uploaded a Sub-Recipient Project Application.

• FY 2026 Total STIF Funds from Sub-Recipient Applications

o The sum of the values entered in the **FY 2026 Total STIF Funds** field for every Sub-Recipient for which you uploaded a Sub-Recipient Project Application.

FY 2027 Total STIF Funds from Sub-Recipient Applications

o The sum of the values entered in the **FY 2027 Total STIF Funds** field for every Sub-Recipient for which you uploaded a Sub-Recipient Project Application.

• FY 2026 Student STIF Funds

 The sum of the FY 2026 STIF Funds supporting student transportation from every project, plus the values entered in the FY 2026 Student STIF Funds for every Sub-Recipient for which you uploaded a Sub-Recipient Project Application.

FY 2027 Student STIF Funds

 The sum of the FY 2027 STIF Funds supporting student transportation from every project, plus the values entered in the FY 2027 Student STIF Fund field for every Sub-Recipient for which you uploaded a Sub-Recipient Project Application.

• FY 2026 Percent of STIF Funds supporting student transportation

- This value is the result of dividing the FY 2026 STIF Funds supporting student transportation by the FY 2026 Total STIF Funds.
- For example, if the FY 2026 STIF Funds supporting student transportation is \$10,000 and the FY 2026 Total STIF Funds is \$200,000, then the calculation is \$10,000/\$200,000, leading to a result of 5%.

• FY 2027 Percent of STIF Funds supporting student transportation

- This value is the result of dividing the FY 2027 STIF Funds supporting student transportation by the FY 2027 Total STIF Funds.
- For example, if the FY 2027 STIF Funds supporting student transportation is \$10,000 and the FY 2027 Total STIF Funds is \$200,000, then the calculation is \$10,000/\$200,000, leading to a result of 5%.

FY 2026 Older and Disabled Persons STIF Funds

 The sum of the FY 2026 percent of STIF Funds supporting older and disabled persons transportation from every project, plus the values entered in the FY 2026 Older and Disabled Persons STIF Funds field for every Sub-Recipient for which you have uploaded a Sub-Recipient Project Application.

• FY 2027 Older and Disabled Persons STIF Funds

- The sum of the FY 2027 percent of STIF Funds supporting older and disabled persons transportation from every project, plus the values entered in the FY 2027 Older and Disabled Persons STIF Funds field for every Sub-Recipient for which you have uploaded a Sub-Recipient Project Application.
- FY 2026 Percent of STIF Funds supporting older and disabled persons transportation

- This value is the result of dividing the FY 2026 Older and Disabled Persons STIF Funds by the FY 2026 Total STIF Funds.
- For example, if the FY 2026 STIF Older and Disabled Persons STIF Funds is \$20,000 and the FY 2026 Total STIF Funds is \$100,000, then the calculation is \$20,000/\$100,000, leading to a result of 20%.
- FY 2027 Percent of STIF Funds supporting older and disabled persons transportation
 - This value is the result of dividing the FY 2027 Older and Disabled Persons STIF Funds by the FY 2027 Total STIF Funds.
 - For example, if the FY 2027 STIF Older and Disabled Persons STIF Funds is \$20,000 and the FY 2027 Total STIF Funds is \$100,000, then the calculation is \$20,000/\$100,000, leading to a result of 20%.