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NCDOT - Comments

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General Comment

Regarding the annual TAP Report, clarification of the purpose of the report would be beneficial. Does the current report meaningfully allow USDOT to make informed policy decisions and provide program oversight? The report currently captures program inputs (funding amounts, applications received, etc.) as opposed to outcomes that reflect the program's intent. The report would be more valuable if the data was tied to funding authorizations to show what progress is being made with the funds since funds are only authorized when a project is ready to move forward with a particular phase of work. Since the data for the report is largely "plug-and-play", the primary challenge for the report compilation is the coordination required to gather consistent information from across the State as well as the TMA's. A sub-recipient reporting structure would reduce administrative burden while maintaining the necessary oversight requirements. (i.e. have the TMA's submit their own report vs. requiring the states to coordinate that). The template distributed each year is a final reporting document as opposed to a data collection tool. This leads to a fair amount of follow-up and manual compilation for each cycle. There's confusion on which phase(s) need reporting on. It would be helpful to specify which phases are needed or split out the reporting for the PE, ROW/UTL, and CON phases. There's confusion on what constitutes a project, specifically when TAP funds are used for ADA ramp installation. Guidance on what should be a single project vs multiple projects will lead to less confusion and more consistent reporting among all states.