



Question pertaining to the 2017 Community Mitigation Fund

Q: Can communities submit a joint application for a transportation planning grant?

A: There is no provision in the 2017 Community Mitigation Fund Guidelines (“Guidelines”) for joint applications by municipalities for transportation planning grants. However, each community should feel free to include in its narrative how its application could work with one or more applications from a neighboring community. The Commission has encouraged communities to work regionally. Indeed, we required Regional Planning Agency notification of planning proposals to encourage communities to work together.

The Guidelines state:

“[T]he Commission will make available funding for certain transportation planning activities for all communities eligible to receive funding from the Community Mitigation Fund in Regions A & B and for the Category 2 facility, including each Category 1 and Category 2 host community and each designated surrounding community, each community which entered into a nearby community agreement with a licensee, and any community that petitioned to be a surrounding community to a gaming licensee, each community that is geographically adjacent to a host community.” *Underlining added.*

“No application for a transportation planning grant shall exceed \$150,000....”

“[T]he Commission will evaluate requests for planning funds (including both the use of Reserve Planning Funds and Transportation Planning Grant Funds) after taking into consideration input the applicant has received from the local Regional Planning Agency (“RPA”) or any such interested parties. Although there is no prerequisite for using RPA’s for planning projects, consultation with RPA’s is required to enable the Commission to better understand how planning funds are being used efficiently across the region of the facility. Please provide details about the applicant’s consultation with the RPA or any such interested parties....”

“...Factors used by the commission to evaluate transportation planning grant applications may include but not be limited to:

...

Any demonstration of regional benefits from a mitigation award;”

Please note that all final decisions regarding Community Mitigation Fund grants and interpretations of its Guidelines are made by the Commission.



Massachusetts Gaming Commission