



Congestion Mitigation *and* Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ)



FY2020 Competitive CMAQ Program for New Jersey

Webinar

March 20, 2020

Disclaimer

The aim of this webinar is to provide you a **general overview** of the FY2020 DVRPC Competitive CMAQ Program for New Jersey.

This webinar does not replace the CMAQ Program Guidance from DVRPC and FHWA.

Prior to applying, **you should still refer to the CMAQ Program Guidance** from DVRPC and FHWA and other helpful resources made available on the DVRPC CMAQ webpage at www.dvrpc.org/CMAQ.

Questions?

Use the Q&A chatroom in this webinar, or send me an email at khui@dvrpc.org.

Topics

1. About the Program
2. Funding
3. Schedule
4. Who is Eligible to Apply
5. Eligible Projects
6. Ineligible Project Types
7. Minimum Project Requirements
8. Project Sponsor Requirements
9. Project Selection Criteria
10. Application Submission

1. About the Program

- Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) is one of many types of **federal** funds created by transportation legislation: ISTEA in 1991 and reauthorized in 2015 by the FAST Act.
- CMAQ provides for **capital transportation projects** that will reduce emissions from surface transportation modes (e.g. cars) and congestion to **improve air quality** and/or **reduce congestion**.
- Projects awarded from this program must adhere to state and federal requirements.
- **This is not a grant.** Sponsor (public agency) pays first and is then reimbursed for costs incurred after federal authorization of CMAQ funds.

2. Funding

- DVRPC has set aside **\$5 million CMAQ** funds in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) over FY2022, 2023, and 2024.
 - Of the total amount, **\$1 million CMAQ** is dedicated to provide for construction-ready Circuit Trails.
- The federal Fiscal Year (FY) begins Oct. 1 until Sept. 30.
- Awarded projects must be authorized (not actually started or completed) between October 1, 2021 and August 31, 2024. Transit vehicle acquisitions would occur during this period via NJ TRANSIT's procurement process.
- "Authorization" or "Obligation" is the federal government's "commitment" to the federal share of the project cost. This happens first before a project physically begins.

2. Funding (Continued)

- No maximum project cost limit.
- Minimum cost request: \$250,000 for a construction project only
- Local match not required, but may make project more favorable.

3. Schedule

- **May 22, 2020 or earlier:** Meet with DVRPC about your project
- **May 29, 2020:** Applications due online (direct link is <https://www.dvrpc.org/asp/cmaqApplication/login.aspx>)
 - Application Form
 - Cost Estimate Table
 - Vehicle Inventory (only for transit projects)
 - Emission Analysis Form
- **June 30, 2020:** Commitment/support letters (required), resolutions, Buy America certification (if needed), and/or agreements due
- **June – September 2020:** Project screening, evaluation, air quality analysis, and selection
- **October/November 2020:** Awards and regrets notification

4. Who is Eligible to Apply

- Any local unit of government
- Transit operators
- State agencies
- Private firms and non-profits must partner with a local public agency sponsor (LPA)

Project Sponsor must be a Public Agency, even if it is a Private-Public Partnership (P3).

5. Eligible Project Types (Air Quality Benefit)

- Alternative Fuel Infrastructure
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities and Programs
- Congestion Reduction and Traffic Flow Improvements
- Experimental Pilot Projects
- Extreme Low-Temperature Cold Start Programs
- Freight/Intermodal
- Idle Reduction
- Inspection & Maintenance Programs
- Public Education, Outreach, and Training Activities

5. Eligible Project Types (Air Quality Benefit) (Continued)

- Transportation Control Measures
- Transportation Demand Management (TDM)
- Local Mobility Initiatives for the general public and comply with ADA
 - Transit Vehicle Purchase(s) to Expand an Existing Service
 - Transit Vehicle Purchase(s) to Introduce a New Service

Tip: You can use the DVRPC Transit Network Gap Analyzer at <https://www.dvrpc.org/Webmaps/RTSP/#gap/tool> to demonstrate the need for the proposed service.

- Transit Operating Assistance (“Seed \$” for up to the first 3 years)

All local mobility initiatives applicants must not duplicate existing services and must contact NJ TRANSIT Community Transportation Manager Anna Magri at AMagri@njtransit.com before applying.

6. Ineligible Project Examples

(No Air Quality Benefit)

- Maintenance/State of Good Repair/reconstruction/rehab projects
- Construction of Single-Occupancy Vehicle (SOV) capacity projects
- Operating costs for bikeshare programs
- Traffic signal replacements/upgrades without interconnecting/optimizing
- Moving roadways or intersections
- Stand-alone projects to purchase fuel or vehicle fuel conversions
- Compliance with a government requirement
- Litigation costs
- Scrappage programs
- Streetscaping

6. Ineligible Project Examples

(No Air Quality Benefit)

- Transit vehicle purchase(s) for a service not open to the general public
- Pre-construction or pre-acquisition activities
- Transit facilities and transit-associated development activities

Due to Buy America processing delays:

- Diesel retrofit projects, *unless* a Buy America certification is submitted to DVRPC by June 30, 2020
- Advance technology vehicles, *unless* a Buy America certification is submitted to DVRPC by June 30, 2020

7. Minimum Project Requirements

- Result in reduced emissions and/or ease traffic congestion.
- Consistent with [DVRPC Long-Range Plan](#) and/or county master plan goals
- Transit projects must support DVRPC Equity Through Access Plan (www.dvrpc.org/ETA) and demonstrate need and the potential for/demonstrated success
- Location within a DVRPC Congested Subcorridor (www.dvrpc.org/congestionmanagement)
- Federal authorization between Oct. 1, 2021 and August 31, 2024.
- Project sponsor must be a public agency, even if it is P3.

7. Minimum Project Requirements (Continued)

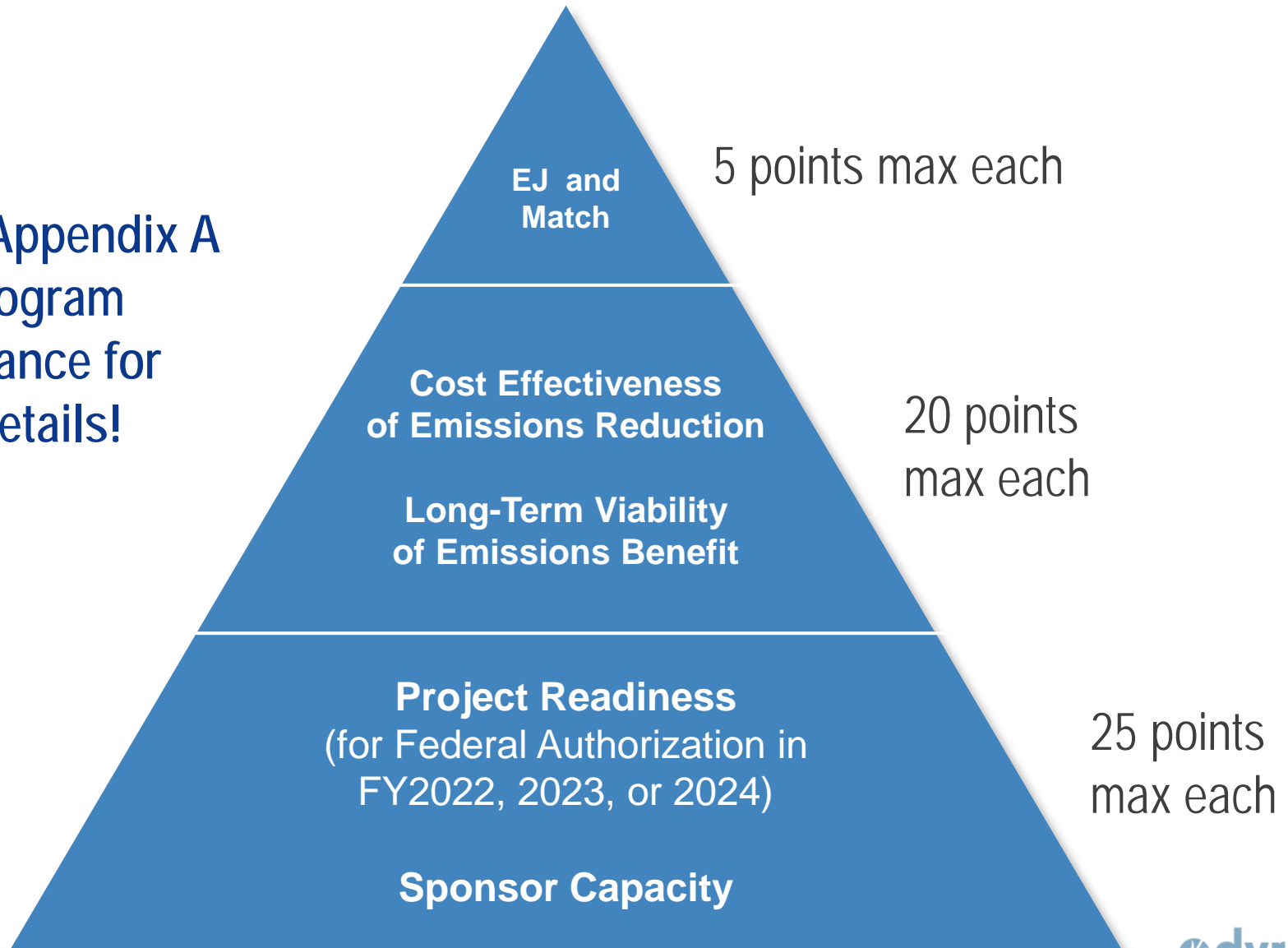
- Project sponsor must keep DVRPC, county/city, and appropriate state agency (e.g. NJDOT, NJ TRANSIT) informed of project's progress towards advancement in a timely and reasonable manner.
- Comply with Buy America (if needed, applicant must submit a Buy America certification by June 30, 2020).
- A traditional construction project must request at least \$250,000 CMAQ funds, which includes cost of construction inspection and management.

8. Project Sponsor Requirements

- Project Sponsor (Public Agency) must receive NJDOT Federal-Aid certification for a construction project.
- Project Sponsor will not be reimbursed for work/costs incurred before funding is federally authorized.
- Do not initiate activities for the federal CMAQ share of the project until:
 - Project is approved by the DVRPC Board for inclusion in the DVRPC NJ TIP;
 - Project Sponsor receives award letter from DVRPC; and
 - CMAQ award is authorized with a notice to proceed.
- After funds are authorized, Project Sponsor is responsible to implement and complete the project in a reasonable manner.

9. Project Selection Criteria

See Appendix A
of Program
Guidance for
full details!



Project Readiness (25 out of 100)

- Will your project be authorized within the time period of Oct. 1, 2021 and August 31, 2024?
- Will your project be implemented in a timely manner after receiving federal authorization?
- For construction projects, has the environmental work (e.g. CED) be completed or in progress of completion? See annual deadlines for document submission in Table 3 of Program Guidance (page 20).
- Is your schedule realistic?

Rating:

- **25 Points:** High Degree of Confidence
- **12.5 Points:** Somewhat Confident
- **No Points:** Slightly Confident or Not at All

Sponsor Capacity (25 out of 100)

- Project Sponsor's ability and commitment to deliver the project, its institutional capacity to manage project, and history of implementing federal-aid projects
- The applicant should convey the Project Sponsor's capacity by describing their experience successfully managing grants for similar projects, clearly defining the roles and responsibilities of each of the project partners, and demonstrating that matching funds and other sources of project funds (if any) are/will be secured in the application.
- **Rating:**
 - **25 Points:** High/Very Successful in authorization & implementation of federal-aid projects
 - **12.5 Points:** Sponsor has experience and has *adequate* capacity. No poor experience.
 - **No Points:** No confidence in Sponsor's capacity & commitment.

Cost Effectiveness of Emissions Reduction

(20 out of 100)

- CMAQ Portion of the Project Total Cost divided by sum of project's lifetime NO_x , VOC, and $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ emissions reductions
- Submit Emission Analysis Forms:
 1. Transit vehicle replacement
 2. Roundabout
 3. Bicycle and/or Pedestrian Improvements
 4. Carpool and Vanpool Improvements
 5. Signal Synchronization
 6. Intersections
- Applicants with project types that cannot be analyzed, or do not have Emissions Analysis Forms appropriate to their projects, must provide sufficient information about the projects in their application forms.
- Breakdown of points in Appendix A of Program Guidance.

Direct questions regarding the Emissions Analysis Form or this criterion to Sean Greene at sgreene@dvrpc.org and copy khui@dvrpc.org, with the subject line, "2020 NJ CMAQ Application Assistance."

Long-Term Viability of Emissions Benefit

(20 out of 100)

- Can your project's air quality/emissions reduction benefits be sustained over time?
- **Rating:**
 - **20 Points:** Over 10 years
 - **10 Points:** Between 5 and 10 years
 - **5 Points:** Less than 5 years or can't definitely demonstrate benefits beyond 5 years
- See Table 4 in Program Guidance for examples.
- Applicants should explain, as specifically as possible, the long-term outlook and lifespan of the air quality benefits of the project.

Direct questions regarding this criterion to Sean Greene at sgreene@dvrpc.org and copy khui@dvrpc.org, with the subject line, "2020 NJ CMAQ Application Assistance."

Environmental Justice, EJ (5 out of 100)

- What is the EJ score of a census tract that a project location may impact?
- How will the project benefit the EJ population groups: low-income, racial minority, and ethnic minority?
- Applicants should use the DVRPC Equity Analysis tool at www.dvrpc.org/webmaps/IPD to answer questions in the application form.
- Applicants should identify community groups or stakeholders in the project's geographic area that the Project Sponsor would partner with and mitigation and outreach strategies that will be included in the project scope of work. This qualitative section will be awarded up to 1 point.
- See Table 5 and Appendix A in the Program Guidance.

Direct questions regarding this criterion to Shoshana Akins at sakins@dvrpc.org and copy khui@dvrpc.org, with the subject line, "2020 NJ CMAQ Application Assistance."

Level of Match (5 out of 100)

- A larger local contribution will result in a higher score for this criterion.
- Provide the match amount in application form and “Cost Breakdown” table.
- The applicant should describe all preliminary work performed to prepare the project for implementation and quantify cash contributions and in-kind services dedicated to the project.
- **Rating:**
 - **5 Points:** More than 30% contribution to total project cost
 - **4 Points:** More than 20% but less than 30%
 - **2.5 Points:** More than 10% but less than 20%
 - **1 Point:** More than 5% but less than 10%
 - **0.5 Points:** Less than 5%
 - **No Points:** No % contribution

10. Application Submission

1. New and past applicants must create an online account at <https://www.dvrpc.org/asp/cmaqApplication/login.aspx>
2. Pass a quiz, then create a new project record in system.
3. Download, complete, and upload the project application form and other forms in the online system.
4. Email khui@dvrpc.org or call 215-238-2894 to schedule a meeting about your project before May 22, 2020.
5. Upload your application materials and “submit” by 5:00 p.m. on May 29, 2020.
6. Upload and submit letter(s) of intent/commitment/support, Buy America certification if needed), agreement(s), or governing resolutions, policies, etc. by 5:00 p.m. on June 30, 2020.



Congestion Mitigation *and* Air Quality Improvement Program

CMAQ |

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Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ)

DVRPC's Competitive Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) seeks to fund transportation projects that will improve air quality and reduce traffic congestion in the DVRPC Region. CMAQ eligible projects will demonstrably reduce air pollution emissions and help the DVRPC region meet the federal health based air quality standards.

The CMAQ Program is not a grant program. The sponsor does not receive grant funds to start the project; rather, the sponsor is reimbursed for costs incurred after receiving funding authorization for the project and a notice to proceed. Costs incurred prior to project selection and notice to proceed are not reimbursed. All awarded projects must authorize federal CMAQ funds by the deadline stated in their award letters.

FY2020 Competitive CMAQ Program for New Jersey

Now Open!
Applications due May 29, 2020.

[Read the Program Guidance \[2 MB pdf\]](#)

[Register for the March 20, 2020 General Information Webinar \(Optional\)](#)

[Meet with DVRPC about a Project \(Required by May 22, 2020\)](#)

[Submit an Application \(Required by May 29, 2020\)](#)

[View the Program Schedule \(Subject to Change\) \[0.2 MB pdf\]](#)

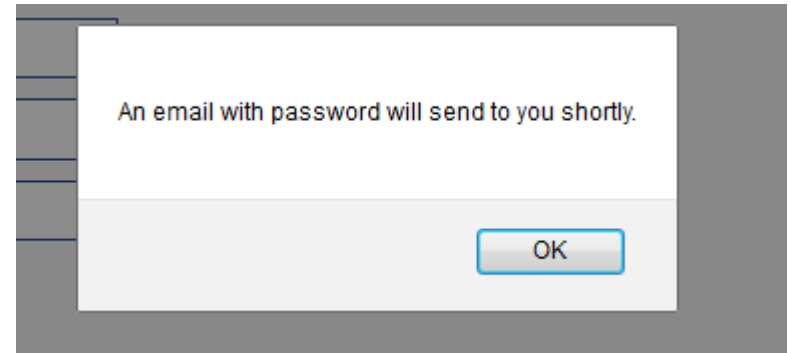
DVRPC FY2020 Competitive CMAQ Program for NJ Login



Email:

Password:

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If this is your first time on this page, select 'Create New Account' and enter your information. Then select 'Sign Up'. The system will send you an email confirmation with an auto-generated password. Please return to this webpage to log in.

To create a new project, log in, then pass a quiz by answering all the questions correctly. Afterwards, select "New Project" at the top right corner. When the "Create New Project Application" page opens, enter the project's General Information. Select "Save" to be directed to the "DVRPC CMAQ Application Checklist" webpage. On the checklist page, download and upload any materials required for submission. You can update the project's General Information at any time by selecting "Update" for a blue pop-up box to appear with the project's "General Information."

Applicants must meet with DVRPC by May 22, 2020. This is mandatory in order for the application to be considered.

All application materials must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. on May 29, 2020.

Commitment/support letters, resolutions, and/or agreements are due June 30, 2020.

Quiz Question #1.

The purpose of the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) program is to improve air quality by reducing emissions from mobile sources and congestion.

Hint: Chapter 1 of the Program Guidance.

True

False

Quiz Question #2.

This is a grant program, which means the Project Sponsor will first receive a check from the federal government to initiate the project after DVRPC announces the awards.

Hint: Chapter 1 of the Program Guidance.

True

False

Quiz Question #3.

Applicants must meet with DVRPC staff *before* submitting their application by no later than May 22, 2020.

Hint: Chapters 1 and 6 of the Program Guidance.

True

False

Quiz Question #4.

Pre-construction (i.e., environmental clearance, engineering, design, utilities, right-of-way) **or pre-acquisition** (i.e., vehicle specifications, lease arrangements, etc.) **activities are eligible activities in this program.**

Hint: Chapter 4 of the Program Guidance.

True

False

Quiz Question #5.

The Project Sponsor must contact the county and municipal government(s) in which the project will be implemented to inform them of the intent to apply and to coordinate the project application and implementation effort (e.g., support letters).

Hint: Chapters 1 and 6 of the Program Guidance.

True

False

Quiz Question #6.

In the selection criteria, a project's air quality impact (Cost Effectiveness of Emissions Reduction and Long-Term Viability of Emissions Benefit) has the highest weight at 40 out of a maximum 100 points, followed by Project Readiness and Sponsor Capacity.

Hint: Chapter 5 of the Program Guidance.

True

False

Quiz Question #7.

A local match is not required, but the match is part of the evaluation criteria.

Hint: Chapters 2 and 5 of the Program Guidance.

True

False

Quiz Question #8.

The Project Sponsor must be a public agency, even in a Public-Private Partnership, as the Sponsor is ultimately responsible for ensuring staff capacity to satisfy all project requirements and has primary control of the CMAQ funded project.

Hint: Chapter 3 of the Program Guidance.

True

False

Quiz Question #9.

If an awarded project experiences cost overruns or potential delay(s) to authorization, the Project Sponsor must contact DVRPC and appropriate state agency and not expect additional funding from this program.

Hint: Chapter 7 of the Program Guidance.

True

False

Quiz Question #10.

Awarded projects must achieve federal authorization between October 1, 2021 and August 31, 2024.

Hint: Chapter 1 of the Program Guidance.

True

False



[New Project](#) [Logout](#)

DVRPC FY2020 Competitive CMAQ Program for NJ

Show entries

Search:

ID Project Title Project Type County Municipality CMAQ Request Local Match Total Cost Meeting Date Status

No data available in table

Showing 0 to 0 of 0 entries

[Previous](#) [Next](#)

Create New Project Application

Please fill in general information to create a new record in the database.

Save

Project Title

County

Municipality

Other Locations

Sponsor

Requested CMAQ Amount (Round to the nearest thousand. Enter numerical digits only. Do not enter the dollar sign \$)

Local Match Amount if Any (Round to the nearest thousand. Enter numerical digits only. Do not enter the dollar sign \$)

Total Project Cost

Project Type

Project Summary (In 300 words or less, please concisely and accurately summarize your project and what CMAQ funds would provide for in the project.)

DVRPC CMAQ Application Checklist

Sample Project Title for Webinar (Status: Saved)

County: Burlington, Camden, Gloucester, and Mercer Municipality: Pennsauken, Cherry Hill, Deptford, and Trenton Other Location:
 Request Amount: \$250,000 Local Amount: \$10,000 Total Cost: \$260,000 Sponsor: A Public Agency

Project Type: Congestion Reduction and Traffic Flow Improvements










Project Summary:

This is a sample project.

DVRPC CMAQ Eligible: FHWA CMAQ Eligible:

[Update](#)
[Submit](#)

Please download, complete, and upload all required application materials for this proposed project by deadline. Use the icons to delete (red) or upload (green) any file. To provide additional information for project (e.g. map, support letters), click 'Upload' in the 'Additional Information' section at the bottom of this page. When you are completely satisfied with your uploaded materials and ready for formal submission, click 'Submit' at the top right corner of this page. Otherwise, the system will automatically 'save' the uploaded documents.

Application Contents	Requirement	Notes	
Project Application form	Required for all projects		
Cost Breakdown Excel	Required for all projects		
Vehicle Inventory	Required for transit projects		
Project Emissions Analysis form(s), as needed. See below.			
1. Transit Vehicle Replacement	If applicable		
2. Roundabout	If applicable		
3. Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements	If applicable		
4. Carpool and Vanpool Improvements	If applicable		
5. Signal Synchronization	If applicable		
6. Intersections	If applicable		

Additional Information, as needed (e.g. maps, reports, letters) 

Do not select “Submit” until you are satisfied with all materials uploaded.

Thank You!

Kwan Hui | 215.238.2894 | khui@dvrpc.org

www.dvrpc.org/CMAQ

