

8895.0500 PROJECT SELECTION, MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS, AND RANKING.

Subpart 1. **Project selection.** The commissioner shall consider the following factors in selecting projects for funding through the program:

A. economic considerations, including determinations of:

(1) whether the projected additional revenue generated by the improvement project will be sufficient to recover its costs;

(2) the overall economic impact of the project as determined by a benefit-cost analysis;

(3) the potential loss of local income, taxes, or jobs if the project is not completed;

(4) added costs to shippers, receivers, and the local or regional economy if failure to complete the project causes significant delay or stoppage of vessel movement; and

(5) the added costs of full replacement of a facility over the costs of responding to an improvement need if the project is implemented; and

B. safety considerations, including determinations of:

(1) improvements in vessel or cargo-handling safety at the facilities;

(2) improvements in working condition safety in dock cargo-handling and storage areas; and

(3) improvements that enhance the movement of cargo or passengers at navigation facilities.

Subp. 2. **Project funding; minimum requirements.** A project does not qualify for program funding if:

A. the project is inconsistent with criteria in parts 8895.0100 to 8895.1100;

B. the application is incomplete or inaccurate; or

C. the proposed project is incompatible with applicable harbor development or local comprehensive plans.

Subp. 3. **Project ranking.** The commissioner shall establish timetables for the ranking of projects. The ranking of projects determines the priority in which funding will be considered.

Subp. 4. **Criteria for ranking projects.** The commissioner shall consider the following criteria to determine project ranking:

A. ability of the project to expedite, retain, or generally improve the movement of passengers or cargo;

B. ability of the project to enhance the commercial vessel construction and repair industry;

C. ability of the project to promote identifiable economic development in and around the port and harbor;

D. ability of the project to produce a regional or community benefit independent of an individual facility; and

E. ability to repay a loan on the basis of the benefit-cost analysis.

Subp. 5. **Application may be resubmitted.** If the commissioner determines that an application is not eligible for ranking or is not ranked high enough for funding selection, that application may be resubmitted for the next funding cycle.

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