

Western Riverside Council of Governments VMT Mitigation Program

Overall Structure

WRCOG would serve as the Project Administrator. Other agencies can choose to participate in the Program by providing credit-generating items (projects or programs which reduce VMT) to the Program. WRCOG would then make these credit-generating items available for purchase to credit users (public agencies or private parties that have a land use or transportation project which requires VMT mitigation. The attached figure provides an overview of the program.

Type of Program

The WRCOG VMT Mitigation program would be structured as an exchange rather than a bank or fee. Key elements of an exchange include:

1. Voluntary program (VMT fee programs would be mandatory)
2. Credit-users purchase specific VMT-reducing transportation projects or programs (banks do not require the purchase of specific items but sell credits directly)

Eligible Participants

Any public agency can submit credit-generating items. Any agency wishing to submit credit-generating items must sign a participation agreement which establishes the rights and responsibilities of the various parties involved in the transaction. Private parties are not allowed to submit credit-generating items but can purchase credit-generating items along with public agencies.

WRCOG's Role

WRCOG would serve as the Program Administrator and would be responsible for the overall operation of the Program. WRCOG would serve as the intermediary between credit-generators and credit-users to ensure there is no direct contact between these parties, which is an attempt to limit liability for all parties involved. WRCOG would also hire an independent third party to calculate VMT reductions for any credit-generating items.

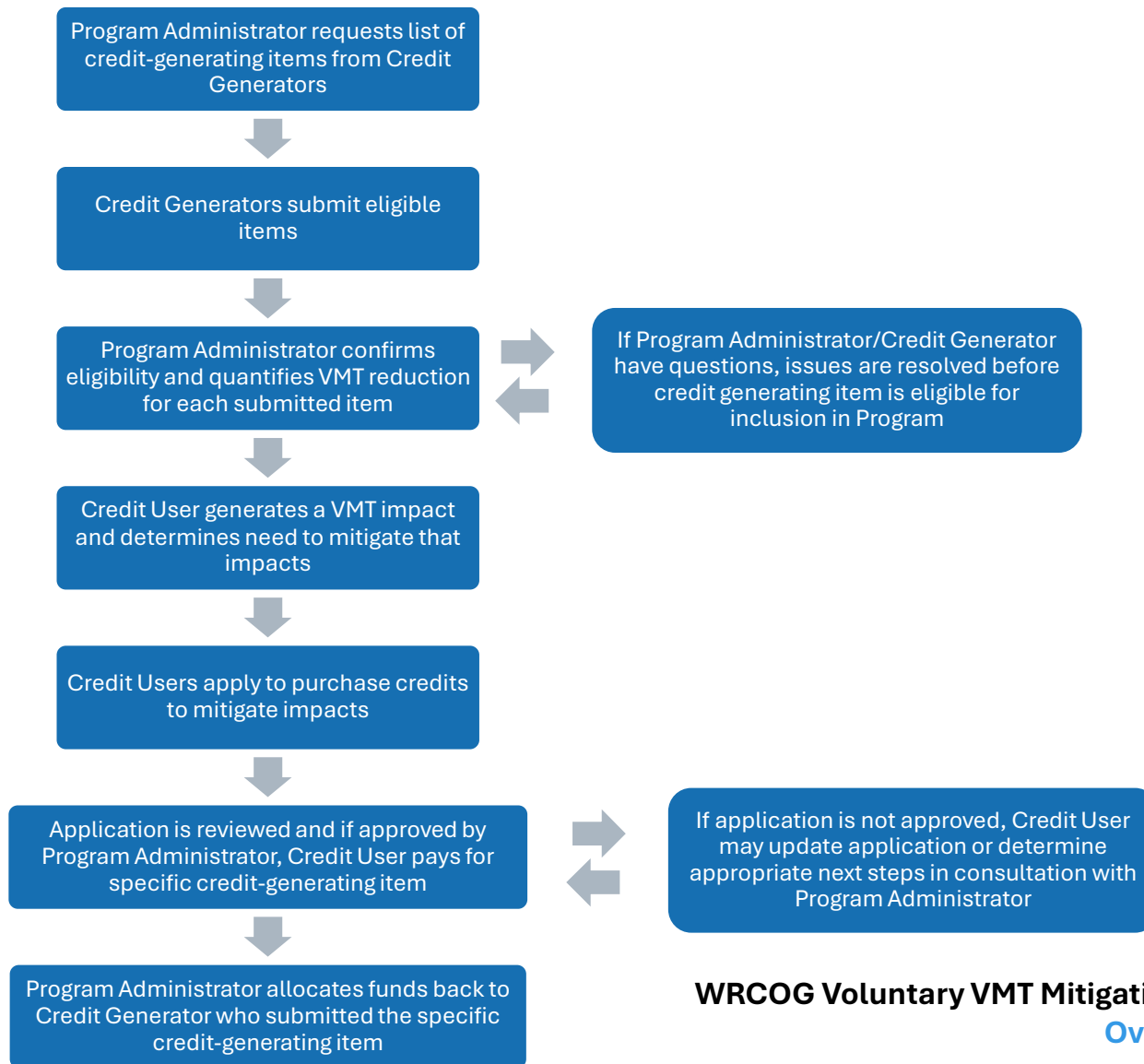
Potential Credit-Generating Items

Programs or projects eligible for the program include but are not limited to:

- Transit passes or transit fare subsidies
- Bicycle/pedestrian infrastructure
- Affordable housing
- Habitat conservation

Program Status

WRCOG will be bringing the Program to the WRCOG Staff and Elected Official Committees for formal approval in April/May of this year.



WRCOG Voluntary VMT Mitigation Exchange Program
Overall Program Process