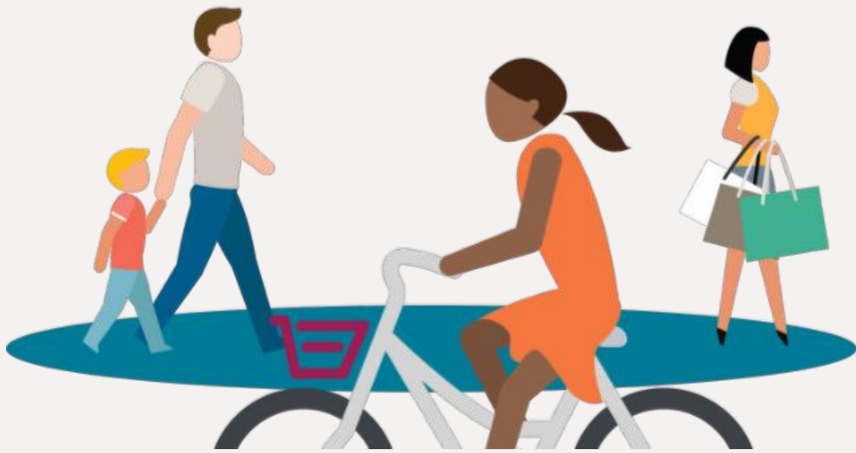
2019 TN SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION FORUM AND EXPO - KNOXVILLE, TN

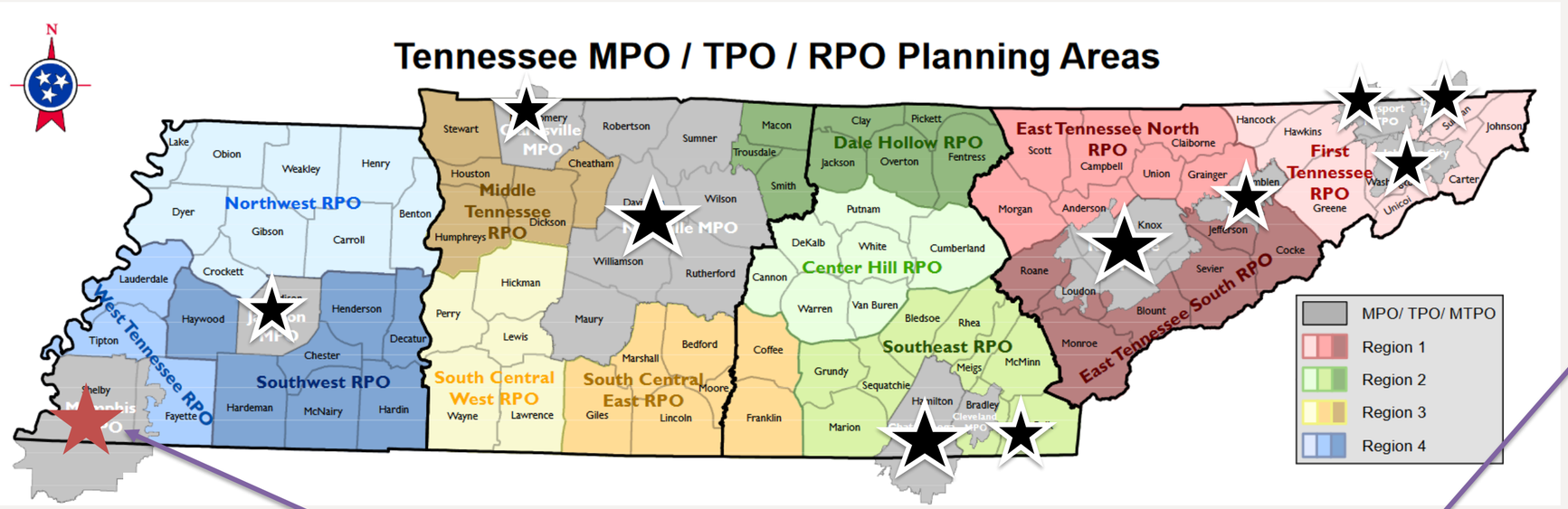
Transportation Impacts of the Built Environment



Memphis MPO

What is an MPO?

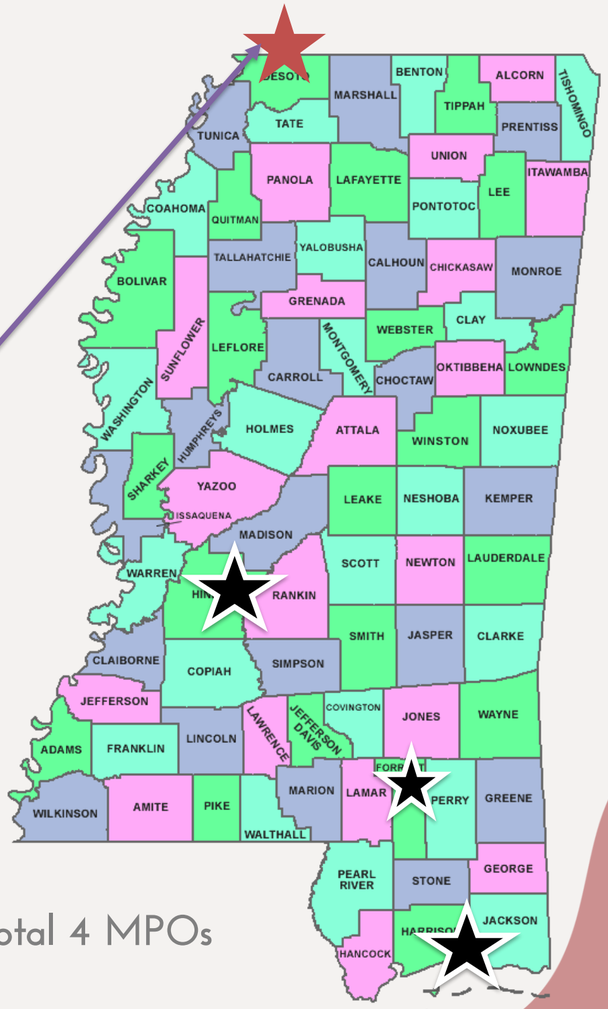
MPO= Metropolitan Planning Organization



Tennessee MPOs - Total 11 MPOs

5 Bi State MPOs

Memphis MPO



Mississippi MPOs - Total 4 MPOs

1 Bi State MPO

Federal Law requires regional transportation planning to reflect the region's shared vision for its future using a comprehensive, cooperative and continuing process.

Memphis Urban Area MPO

Quick Facts:
Population approx.
1.1 million

Land Area:
1348 sq. miles

3,703 center-line miles in the region

Primary Means of Transportation:

Memphis MSA
85.24% - Drive Alone
8.44% - Carpooled
3.73% – Work at Home
0.90% - Walked
0.11% - Bicycle

United States
76.4% – Drive Alone
8.90% - Carpooled
5.23% - Work at Home
2.65% - Walked
0.55% - Bicycle

- Bi-State MPO – Tennessee and Mississippi
- 2 full counties and 2 partial counties
  - Shelby County TN and Fayette County, TN
  - Desoto County MS and Marshall County MS
- Coordination with West Memphis MPO, AR
- 18 Municipalities

- Majority of the population drive alone in the Greater Memphis area (85.24%).
- Walking and biking rates are much lower
- Top three health conditions affecting residents in the Memphis Metro Area are diabetes (18.2%), Overweight/Obesity (15.9%), & Heart Disease (11.4%)
- Lack of Physical Activity is the 2nd ranking of contributing factors to health conditions

MPO Boundary Map

Website:
www.memphismpo.org

MPOs Role – Built Environment

MPO's use federal standards with a collaborative approach to ensure that active transportation is a feasible, safe and equitable transportation choice.

- Through our planning products MPO's encourage a multimodal transportation system
- Prioritize projects that improves walkability, 50% of TIP's criteria points are connection &choices, safety, and sustainable growth
- Assist local agencies to implement projects
- Improve multimodal access to community and employment resources
- Bicycle, pedestrian, transit, and safety elements incorporated into many roadway projects

Regional VS Local

Regional: MPO's Does

- Facilitate planning for the overall transportation network, i.e. roads, bike/ped, transit
- Work with MPO members to allocate transportation funds appropriately
- MPOs engage community members to ensure that transportation plans and projects meet the communities' needs

Local: MPO Don't'

- MPO does not dictate what projects are pursued by jurisdictions. Local jurisdictions bring projects to the MPO.
- MPO does not construct roads or other transportation improvements
- Does not approve land use decisions, zoning etc.

Promote an efficient, interconnected, and accessible transportation network that provides various options for the movement of people

Memphis MPO – Bicycle & Pedestrian Overview

Public and Stakeholder Involvement:

Active Transportation Advisory Committee (ATAC)

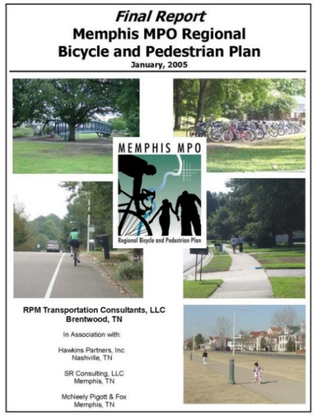
- Formed in 2013
- Provide Guidance on Issues Related to:
  - Bicycling, Walking, Public Transportation, Accessibility for Persons with Disabilities
- Membership from Broad Range of the Regional Community:
  - Greenways & Trails Groups, Municipalities (planners/engineers), Transit Providers, Advocacy Groups, State DOT
- Reports on Active Transportation Projects/Program that encourages regional initiatives and efforts

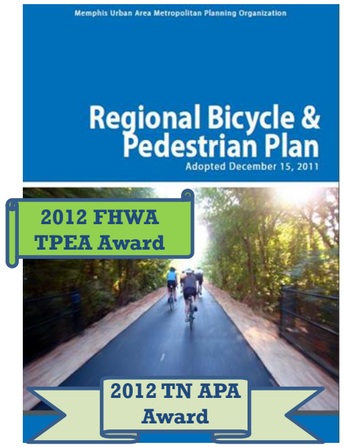
MPO Staff Involvement – Bicycle and Pedestrian:

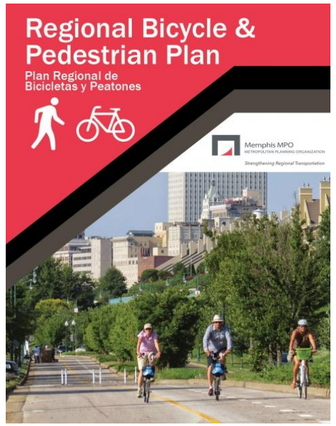
- Safety Committees
- Task Force Boards
- Advocacy Groups
- Representation throughout the Region

Public Outreach (Specific to Plans/Events etc.)

Active Transportation Timeline







2004

Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee Formed (BPAC)

2005

1st Comprehensive Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan

2008/2010

Bicycling magazine named Memphis one of the "Worse Cities for Cycling"

2010

Created Grouping and Set-Aside Funding for Bicycle and Pedestrian Projects (FY 2011-14 TIP)

2011

Extensive Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan - Prioritized Facilities for Jurisdictions

2012

Bicycling magazine named Memphis the "Most Improved City for Cycling"

2013

Active Transportation Advisory Committee (ATAC) Formed

2013/2014

Grant Program for Transportation Alternatives (TA) for Smaller Scale Transportation Projects

2014

Latest Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan Developed – Data Driven + Encouraged Connectivity and Accessibility in Bike/Ped travel

Bicycle and Pedestrian Data Collected

1,100+surveys

40 manual count locations

2017

Created Bicycle and Pedestrian Report

2019

Update to Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan: Focus on Shared Mobility and Safety

Fundina Built Environment Proiects

Built Environment Funding Stats

- Upcoming FY 2020-2023 TIP
- Dedicated Bike/Ped and TA Groupings
- Active Transportation Projects make up approximately 12% of MPO managed funds

Funding Opportunities

- TDOT Multimodal Grant
- Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG)
- Transportation Alternative (TA) Program (MS and TN)
- Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program (CMAQ)

Memphis MPO has increased its commitment to prioritize transportation projects that improve areas of well being and health

Active Transportation Projects Memphis Greater Area

- Wolf River Greenway
- Central Library Pedestrian Access Project, Memphis
- Navy Road Streetscape Phase II, Millington
- Germantown Greenway (Multi-Modal Trail), Germantown
- Crosstown Corridor Superstop Enhancements, MATA
- Bicycle Access to Transit Project, MATA
- Canada Road Pedestrian and Bicycle Trail, Lakeland
- Fletcher Creek Greenway, Phase II and III
- Shelby Farms Greenline: Cordova Station to Lenow, Shelby County
- Harahan Bridge – Big River Crossing

- And many more!

Connections and Choices: Regionalism

Harahan Bridge/Big River Crossing

- 2012 – TIGER IV Grant Award ($15 M)
- Longest Public Pedestrian/Bike Bridge across Mississippi River with two rail lines
- 2016 (October) – Opened to Public
    - 20,000 visitors crossed first week of operation
- Public/Private Partnership:
    - Memphis, TN & West Memphis, AR
    - TDOT, ARDOT, USDOT
    - Autozone, Plough Foundation, Hyde Foundation, and many others (Private Partners)

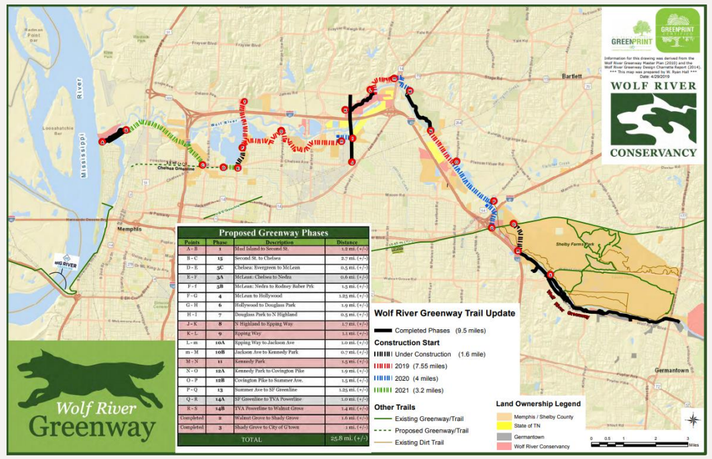
Shelby Farms Greenline

Shelby Farms Greenline:

- Trail featuring pathways for walking, jogging, and biking trails, running 10.5 miles connecting Midtown Memphis, Shelby Farms Park & Cordova
- STBG & CMAQ Grant
    - Increased bike/ped infrastructure
    - Improved public health, safety and air quality
    - Model for reduced traffic congestions

Other Modes

Wolf River Greenway



- Greenway – 36 miles from Memphis to Collierville
- Built in Phases
  - First phase completed 2010 (2.6 miles)
  - Currently Developing Five Phases (Phase 4, 5A, 5B, 8, & 14A)
  - Intersects with other trail systems including the Shelby Farms Greenline

Bus Stop Study Guidelines

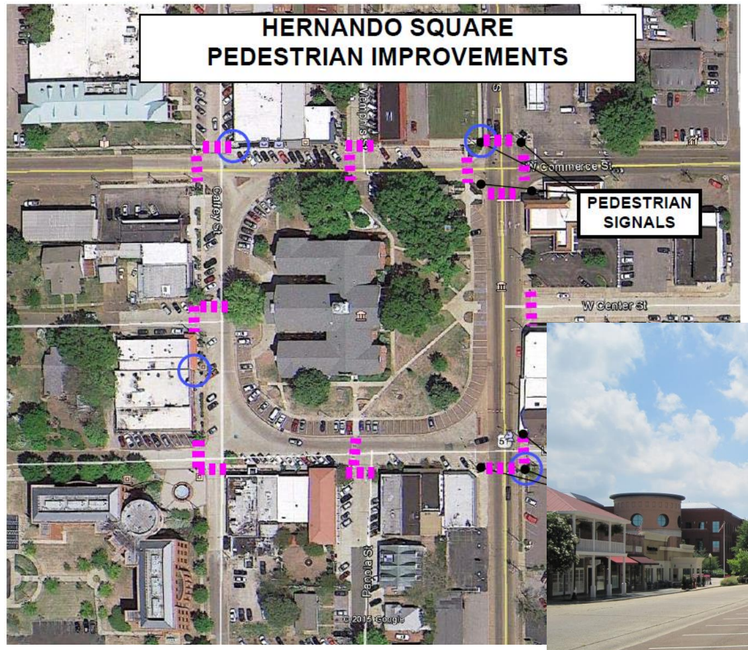
To improve the quality of bus stops, the MPO, in partnership with the Memphis Area Transit Authority (MATA), developed a set of guidelines for the improvement of current and proposed bus stops. The intent is to facilitate proper siting, design, installation, and maintenance of existing and proposed bus stops.

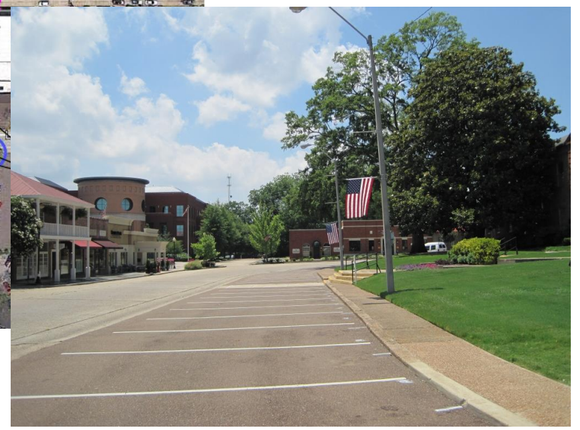
Local Improvements

Central Library Pedestrian Access, Memphis, TN

- The project will install a median refuge island, high-visibility crosswalks, and a pedestrian-activated flashing beacon.
- The refuge island will narrow the crossing distance and safely break up the crossing into two stages. Currently, under construction.

Central Library Pedestrian Access & Hernando Square Pedestrian Improvements





Hernando Square Pedestrian Improvements, Hernando, MS

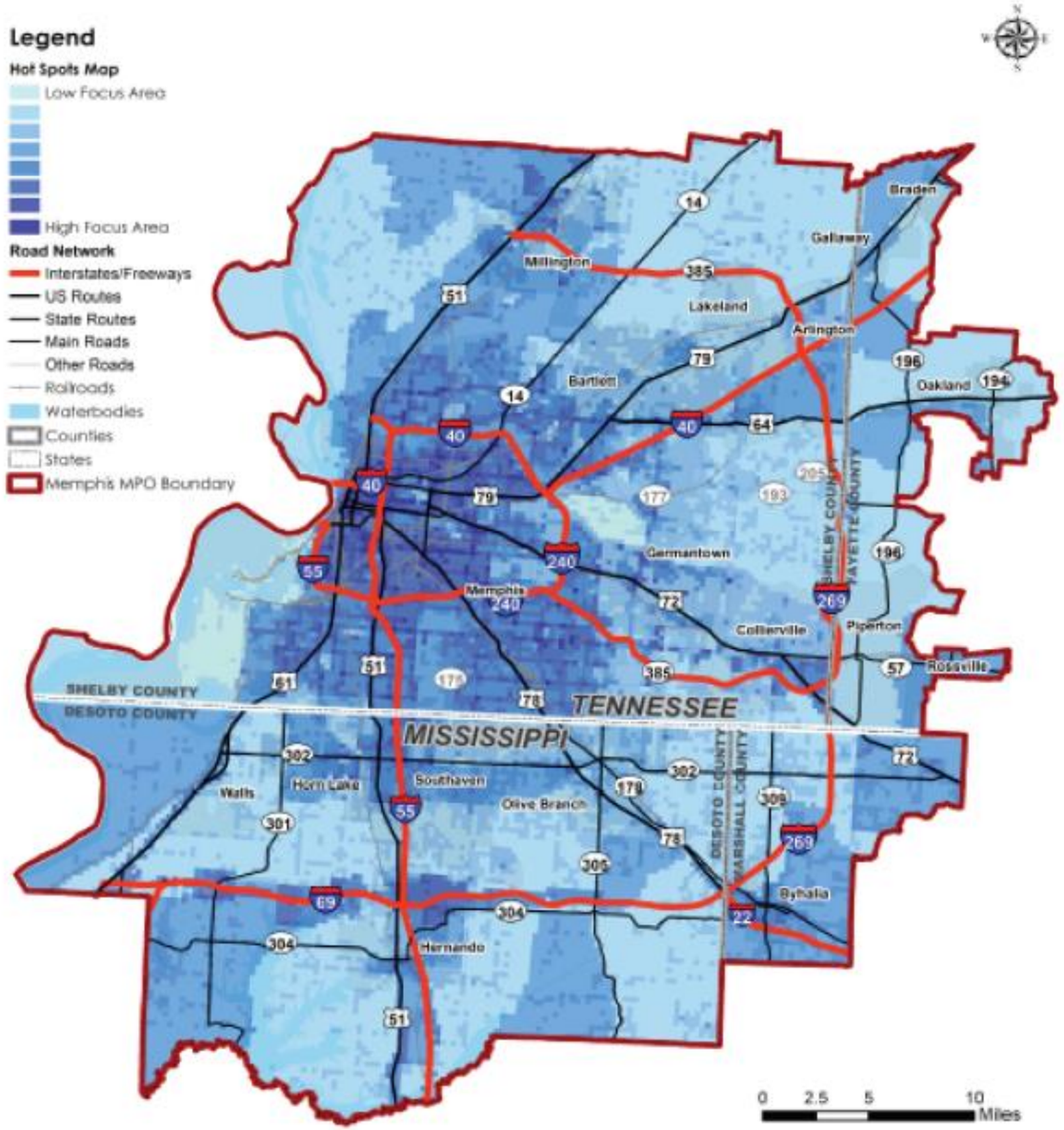
- The project consists of pedestrian improvements for safe circulation and connectivity around the square
- Improvements consists of pedestrian and crosswalks with advanced warning sign around the perimeter of the square.

Safety

- Increase the safety and security of the transportation system for all users
- Region's Most Notable Safety Issues is the high rate in pedestrian crashes **in the Memphis Greater Area (2014-2017):**
  - 1,483 reported crashes involving pedestrians
  - 389 report crashes involving bicyclists

2020 Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan (Update)

- Shared Vision for Walk and Bike Friendly Region
- Emphasis on Safety Efforts
- Expand Knowledge on Shared Mobility
- Confirm Regional Priorities
- Technical Resources and Design Guidance



2050 RTP Livability Bike/Ped Hot Spot Analysis

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Memphis MPO
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Strengthening Regional Transportation