



Memphis MPO
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Strengthening Regional Transportation

**Memphis Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan (CPT- HSTP)
Advisory Committee Meeting**

Thursday, March 17, 2022, 10:00AM

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SUMMARY OF MINUTES

Mr. Jordan Smith called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM, the following members were present:

Sonja Owens	<i>Shelby County Health Department</i>
Amanda Hicks	<i>West Memphis MPO</i>
Ashley Owens	<i>TDOT</i>
Emily Duchac	<i>TDOT</i>
Thiera Taylor	<i>TDOT</i>
Patrina Chambers	<i>MATA</i>
Scott Fox	<i>MATA</i>
April Washington	<i>ARDOT</i>
Shirley Wilson	<i>MDOT</i>

MPO Staff members present:

Ethan Greene, Clarke Shupe-Diggs, Mavrick Fitzgerald



1. Welcome and Introductions

Mr. Jordan Smith welcomed the committee members, outlined the agenda for the meeting, and introduced two new planners: Mr. Ethan Greene and Ms. Clarke Shupe-Diggs.

2. MPO Updates, Funding Opportunities

Mr. Smith gave an update on the Memphis MPO's 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), Moving Together: 2050 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), and recently distributed Infrastructure Funding guide. Mr. Smith noted that the MPO is currently finalizing the TIP project list following the application and scoring process completed earlier this year, and that the data collection and existing conditions analysis for the RTP has begun following the first round of public participation, which consisted of both in-person and virtual/online events. Finally, Mr. Smith explained that the MPO developed its Infrastructure Funding guide, *25 Competitive Infrastructure Funding Opportunities for Local Government*, to share information regarding existing, new, and expanded Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) grant programs. This document contains detailed information—including project eligibility, Federal matching requirements, and application deadlines—that may be relevant to CPT-HSTP programs and entities.

There were no questions or comments on the plan(s) or the funding opportunity document.

3. Member Updates

a. Section 5310 Updates

Ms. Emily Duchac (TDOT) explained that 5310 funds were administered by a 100% Federal share in 2021; however, they are currently experiencing a delay for mobility management funding in 2022. Ms. Duchac also announced that the Office of Mobility and Accessible Transportation (OMAT) coordinated planning process, which includes on-going stakeholder meetings, has begun in rural areas and the Southwest Tennessee region.

Mr. Smith asked Ms. Duchac if there were any updates on the OMAT strategic plan and/or annual report. Ms. Duchac responded that in 2021 they finalized the statewide plan and that they will begin developing regional plans this year. Ms. Duchac also noted that the 2021 annual report was relatively high-level, and that they will be releasing a five-year plan in 2022 following a strategic engagement process.

Mr. Scott Fox (MATA) explained that they are in the process of installing bus stop signage that is designed to be more accessible to riders and will potentially be utilizing 5310 funding for this project.

Ms. April Washington (ARDOT) explained that they are working to get their 5310 funding where it needs to be, and that procuring vehicles (as far as 5310 grant project implementation) is a problem across the board due to an ongoing national vehicle shortage. Ms. Washington also noted that their annual update will be shared with the legislature by March 31, 2022, and that the updated plan will be shared on their website shortly after that date.



b. General Updates

Mr. Fox provided updates on MATA’s Ready! curb-to-curb transit and Groove On-Demand shuttle services. Mr. Fox explained that Ready!, which is partially grant funded and designed to replace fixed-route bus service, is now available in three service areas—Zone 1 covers southwest Memphis (Boxtown, Westwood, and Whitehaven), Zone 2 covers Northaven and Frayser, and Zone 3 covers Cordova—and they have had considerable success in increasing ridership in Zone 1. Mr. Fox further explained that although Groove On-Demand is primarily operated by the Downtown Memphis Commission (DMC), MATA funds a large portion of the service and regularly coordinates with the DMC regarding service area boundaries and hours of operation.

Mr. Fox also noted that mobile payment has been available since December of 2019, that the MATAPlus paratransit service has been expanded to serve areas within 0.75 miles of a bus stop and areas with reduced bus service, and that there is a new MATA Tracker app for bus tracking. Finally, Mr. Fox announced that MATA is developing a cashless fair payment system, which will partially replace the existing system in the coming months.

4. Other Business

The next meeting will be held in Spring of 2023.

5. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 10:22 AM.