The Roles and Functions of the Memphis Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
Overview

- What is an MPO?
- Core MPO functions
- The Memphis MPO at a glance
What is an MPO?

- The MPO is a **federally mandated** transportation policy-making and planning body.
- The MPO **allocates** **scarce transportation funding resources** appropriately.
- Federal Law requires a **regional outlook for transportation planning**. Hence Planning needs have to reflect the **region’s shared vision** for its future.
- The MPO ensures federal spending on transportation occurs through a **comprehensive, cooperative and continuing** (3-C) process.
Who is the MPO?
Types of MPO’s

- **Two Types**
  - Large (population 200k or more) *(Memphis MPO)*
  - Small (population between 50K and 200K)

- **Large MPO’s (Tennessee has 4 Large MPOs)**
  - Also called Transportation Management Areas or TMAs
  - Require federal certification every 4 years
  - Receive direct allocations from Federal Government for STP funds (complete discretion to the MPO as to how they use these funds, within federal guidelines)

- There are more than 300 MPO’s in the nation
What laws apply to the MPO?

- **Federal Transportation Law – MAP-21**
  - Primary law that the MPO has to follow
  - Explains what funding programs are available and how they can be used
  - Defines the MPO’s role and mandated tasks

- **Clean Air Act – (Environmental Protection Agency)**

- **TITLE VI of the Civil Rights Act**
MPO Functions

Four Core Functions:

- Establish a setting – fair & impartial
- Maintain a Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)
- Develop a Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
- Involve the public – residents and key affected sub-groups
MPO Planning Process

PPP

UPWP

Land Use Model

Traffic Model

LRTP

Special Studies

Corridor Studies

Coordinated Human Services Plan

Bike Ped Plan

Congestion Management Plan

Transit Plan

ITS Architecture

Planning Process
## Major MPO Plans

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### Other MPO Plans

#### Public Participation Plan

- Describes strategies for engaging the public
- Provides basis for project/plan-specific involvement plans

#### Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan
Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

- MPO federal budget – covers 2 fiscal years
- Lists all the planning studies that MPO, MATA, TDOT and MDOT will do in the MPO area
- Identifies sources and allocation of federal, state, and local funding for MPO activities

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Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

- Short Range Plan – covers 4 fiscal years
- Multimodal Plan – Roads, Bridges, Transit, Bike, etc.
- Allocates transportation resources among jurisdictions based on regional priorities
- Amended on a continuous basis
- Fiscally constrained and conforms to air quality standards
- Includes federally funded projects and regionally significant local projects of highest priority

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**Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)**

- Long Range Plan – Looks 20+ years in the future
- Multi-modal transportation plan
- Describes transportation improvements through horizon year *(currently 2040)*
- Fiscally constrained – identifies project funding sources
- Conforms to national and local air quality standards
- Includes federally funded projects and regionally significant local projects

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THE MEMPHIS MPO
AT A GLANCE
*There are 5 Bi State MPO’s in Tennessee*
About the Memphis MPO

MPO Planning Area:
- Shelby Co.
- Western Fayette Co.
- Northern Desoto Co.

The MPO planning area contains the urbanized area as defined by the U.S. Census, as well as areas expected to be urbanized in the next 20 years.
Transportation Policy Board (TPB)

**State of Tennessee**
- TN Governor
- Shelby County
  - Arlington
  - Bartlett
  - Collierville
  - Germantown
  - Lakeland
  - Memphis
  - Millington
- Fayette County
  - Braden
  - Gallaway
  - Piperton

**State of Mississippi**
- MS Governor
- DeSoto County
  - Hernando
  - Horn Lake
  - Olive Branch
  - Southaven
  - Walls

**Transportation Agencies**
- MATA
- M/SC Airport Authority
- M/SC Port Commission
2040 LRTP

- Bicycle & Pedestrian
- Transit
  - Potential High Capacity Transit Corridors
- Freight
  - High Priority Projects
  - Intermodal Facilities
- Complete Streets
  - Community-oriented Streets
- Roadway Projects
  - Maintenance & Enhancement
Bicycle & Pedestrian

MAP DESCRIPTION:
- Study Area
- State Boundary
- County Boundary
- Bodies of Water
- Roadways
- Proposed Bike & Ped Connections
  - Regional
  - Primary
  - Secondary

SCALE:
0 1 2 4 6 Miles

LOCATION:
- Memphis
- Shelby County
- Tennessee
- Mississippi
- Arkansas

ADDITIONAL FEATURES:
- City Limits
- Major Roads
- Minor Roads
- Bike Routes
- Pedestrian Paths
Potential High Capacity Transit Corridors

Describes potential transit modes for various corridors
2040 LRTP TN Projects
2040 LRTP MS Projects
MPO & Related Plans

- MPO Regional Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan
- MATA Short Range Transit Plan
2011-14 TIP Projects

- **Major projects**
  - Completion of I-269 through TN & MS
  - Interstate widening projects – I-40
  - Highway interchange improvements – I-40@ Canada Rd
  - ITS projects (Highway DMS boards, Signal Coordination)
  - I-40/ I-240 Interchange
  - Crump Blvd. interchange
  - I-240 Widening - underway
2011-14 TIP: TN Projects
Recent & Current Projects

- **ARRA**
  - Repaving, Bridge Repair, Bike/Ped
  - 56 TN projects, totaling $26 million
  - 7 MS projects, totaling $2.45 million

- **STP & NHS**
  - Wolf River Blvd – June 2013
  - Alexander Rd, MS
  - Veterans Pkwy – Nov 13
  - I-269 / TN-385 - 2015

- **Other Funds (CMAQ, TE, etc.)**
  - Shelby Farms Greenline
  - Greenline Extensions
  - Signal Coordination
Recent & Current TN Projects
Questions?

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