

Regional Governance Models

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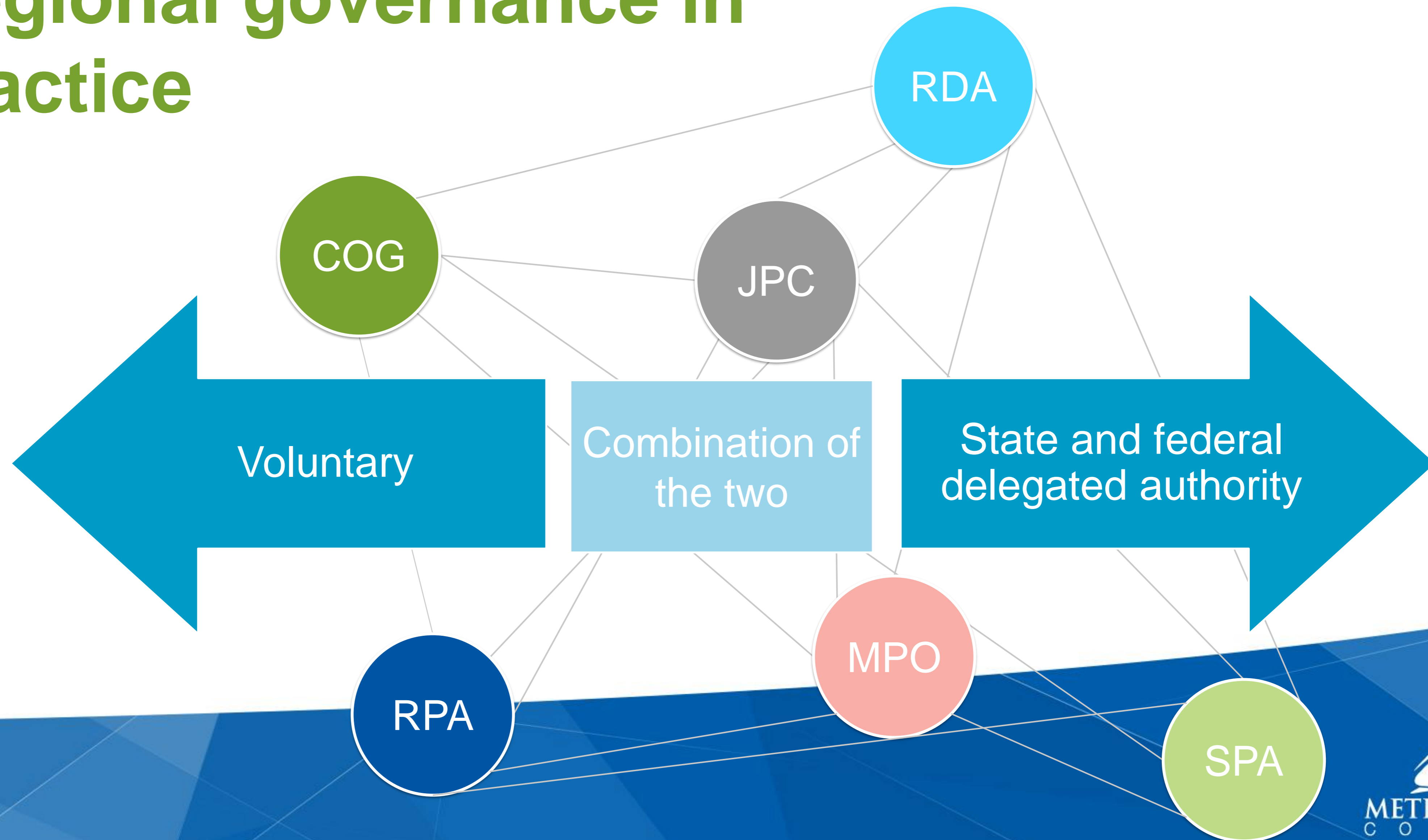
Governor's Blue Ribbon Committee



Common models - definitions

- **Councils of government (COG):** Voluntary member organization of local governments that plays a coordinating role and/or addresses regional issue(s)
- **Metropolitan planning organizations (MPO):** designated to carry out the federal metropolitan transportation planning process and requirements
- **Regional development authority (RDA):** generally designated to coordinate the economic development of a region. Typically allowed for and defined under state statutes and responsibilities and roles vary from state to state and from agency to agency.
- **Regional planning agency (RPA):** voluntary or set in statutes, formed to address issues that transcend regional boundaries. Policy areas can vary from narrow single-topic agencies to comprehensive planning agencies

Regional governance in practice



Peer Region Examples

- Portland – Metro
- Denver – Denver Region Council of Governments
- Boston – Metropolitan Area Planning Council
- Chicago – Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
- Seattle – Puget Sound Regional Council
- Atlanta – Atlanta Regional Council
- Twin Cities – Metropolitan Council

In the Field, a Summary

Region	Type	Representatives	Transportation	Growth Management / Land Use	Housing	Wastewater	Transit	Parks	Solid Waste	Environment/Water Resources	Arts/Culture/Aging/Other	Geography	Population
Portland: Metro	Regional Planning Agency & MPO, created in state law	Elected across the region, represent geographic districts that do not coincide with political/jurisdictional boundaries. 6 councilors and 1 president serve 4-year terms. Metro Auditor is also elected and conducts performance audits of Metro's programs and oversight of annual financial statements.	P	P	P	P	P	P/O	P/O	P	P/O	3 counties, 25 municipalities	~1.5 million
Twin Cities: Metropolitan Council	Regional planning agency & MPO, created in state law	16 member representing geographic districts, plus a chair at large - all gubernatorial appointees	P	P	P/O	P/O	P/O	P		P		7 counties, 181 cities and townships	~3.1 million
Denver: Denver Region Council of Governments (DRCOG)	MPO & Regional Planning Association; voluntary non-profit organization	One elected representative from each member jurisdiction in the Council; 58 jurisdictional members, 3 gubernatorial non-voting appointees, and 1 non-voting member representing the Regional Transportation District (transit agency)	P	P			P			P		More than 50 local governments covering 10 counties	~3 million
Boston: Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC)	Regional Planning Agency (Boston Region MPO is the MPO for this region), created in state law	Board and Council - 101 municipal representatives on the Council, 21 gubernatorial appointees, 9 state officials, and 3 City of Boston officials.	P	P	P		P	P			P	101 municipalities	~4.5 million