

Metropolitan Council Transportation Management Area (TMA) Certification Review - 2024

Conducted by:
FHWA Minnesota Division
FTA Region 5

Presentation to:
Met Council Transportation Advisory Board (TAB)
June 18, 2025



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

Disclaimer






Except for the statutes and regulations cited, the contents of this presentation do not have the force and effect of law and are not meant to bind the States or the public in any way. This presentation is intended only to provide information regarding existing requirements under the law or agency policies.

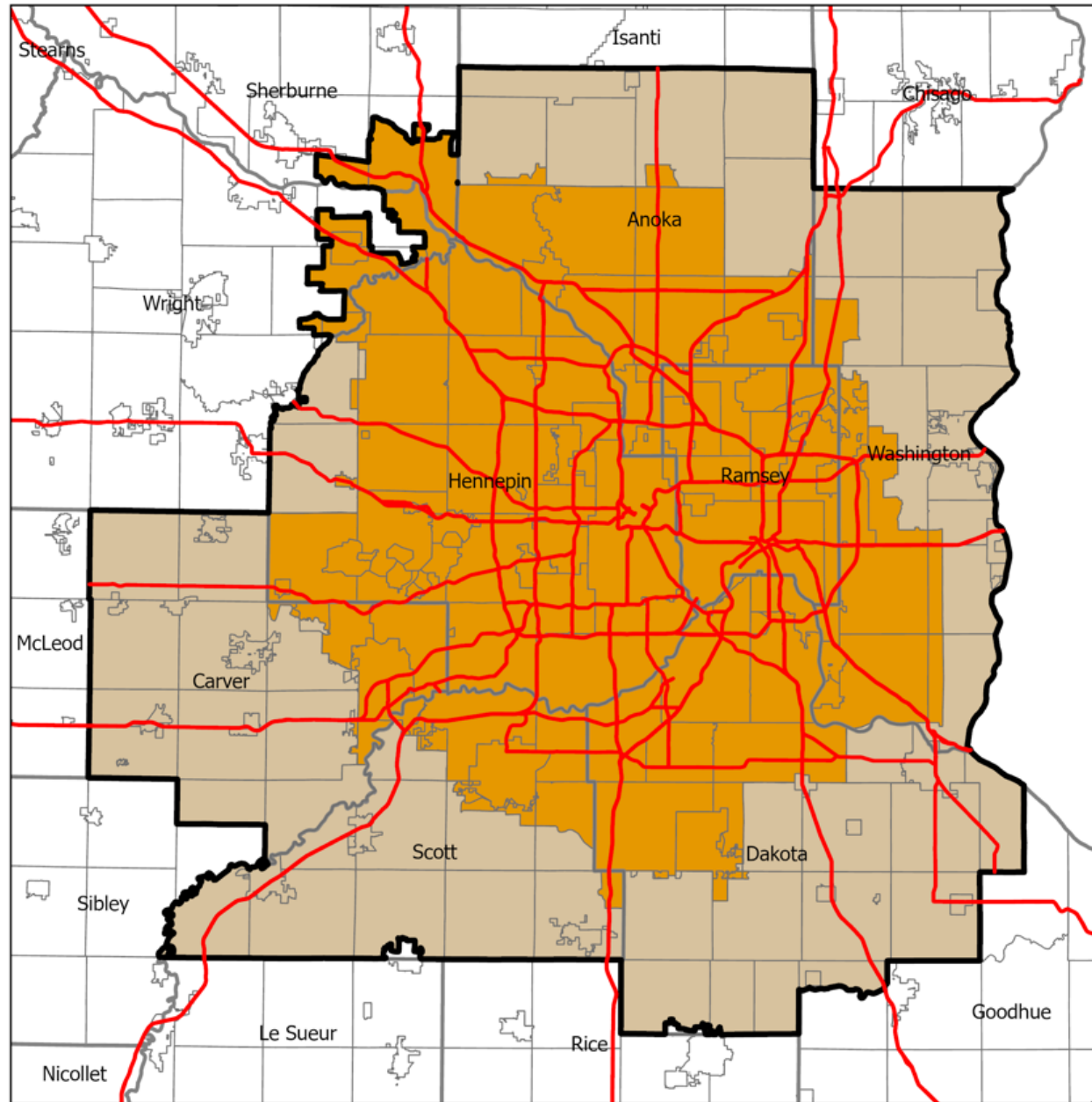
Transportation Management Area (TMA) Review Overview

- FHWA/FTA must jointly review the metropolitan transportation planning process for TMAs (MPOs with 200,000 or more population) every 4 years (23 CFR 450.220)
- FHWA/FTA provides formal advice, guidance, and technical assistance to all planning partners in a TMA, including the MPO, the State DOT, and the public transit operators
- FHWA Minnesota Division is lead agency for the review

Met Council Metropolitan Planning Area

Approved 2025

-  National Highway System
-  2020 Metropolitan Planning Area
-  County Boundaries
-  Municipal & Township Boundaries
-  2020 Urban Area Boundary



Source: Metropolitan Council

TMA Review is Risk-Based

28 Potential Planning Topic Areas

- Follow-up on incomplete recommendations from 2020 review
- New topic areas based on desk review and discussions with MPO staff, MnDOT and transit operators



Source: Microsoft 365 stock art



Source: Microsoft 365 stock art

Met Council 2024 TMA Review Risk Based Planning Topics

- Metropolitan Planning Area Boundaries
- MPO Structure and Agreements
- Unified Planning Work Program
- Consultation and Coordination
- Public Participation and Engagement
- Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)
- Transit Planning
- Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
- Transportation Safety
- Congestion Management Process
- PEL/Corridor Planning

TMA Certification Review: Potential Outcomes

Certification Finding (3)		Fully Meets Requirements	Substantially Meets Requirements	Does Not Meet Requirements	
Certification Category (4)		Certified	Certified with Conditions	Certified with Conditions & Restrictions	Not Certified
Management Tools	Commendations	Yes	Possible	Not Likely	No
	Recommendations	Yes	Yes	Possible	Possible
	Corrective Actions	None	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Project Funding Restrictions	None	None	Yes	Yes
	Withhold Funds	No	No	No	Yes

Source: USDOT TMA Certification Process Field Handbook, Revised November 2023

Met Council

2024 TMA Certification Review Finding

- Met Council was recertified as the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Twin Cities Urbanized Area on 03/19/2025
- TMA certification allows Met Council to continue receiving and distributing federal-aid funding within its defined Metropolitan Planning Area in cooperation with the State (MnDOT) and public transit providers
- Next TMA Certification review will be due by 03/19/2029

**Met Council
Transportation
Management
Area (TMA)
Review
Commendations**

6 Commendations



Source: By Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-SA](#)

10 Recommendations



Source: By Unknown Author is licensed
under [CC BY-SA](#)

Next Steps

- Joint FHWA/FTA quarterly check-ins with Met Council staff to monitor progress toward recommendations and provide technical support, as needed.