



TRANSPORTATION
POLICY PLAN

TMA Certification Review

Transportation Committee

June 12, 2017

Background

- Every four years, FHWA and FTA jointly review the Planning Process for MPOs with over 200,000 in population
- Review Consists of:
 - Three month desk review
 - Onsite in-depth two day meeting
 - Public meeting
 - Final Report
- Results in a certification that the MPO processes are in compliance with federal requirements

Review Topics

- Organizational Structure
- Planning Area Boundaries
- Planning Agreements
- Public Participation
- Performance-Based Planning
- Safety
- Travel Demand Modeling
- Environmental Mitigation
- Congestion Management Process
- Freight Planning
- Air Quality
- Intelligent Transport Systems
- Public Transit
- Bicycle/Pedestrian Planning
- Environmental Justice/Civil Rights
- Financial Planning
- Security
- Land Use and Livability
- Management and Operations
- Annual List of Obligated Projects

Findings

- **Commendation:** A noteworthy practice that demonstrates innovative, highly effective procedures for implementing planning requirements
- **Recommendation:** Procedures that could improve regulatory compliance
- **Corrective Action:** Practices that fail to meet the requirements of the transportation statutes and regulations
- **Received:** 4 Commendations, 14 Recommendations, no Corrective Actions

Commendations

- **Transportation Improvement Program (TIP):**
Use of equity as a project selection criteria
- **Environmental Justice:** MPO and MnDOT participation in Ladders of Opportunity Every Place Counts Design Challenge for I-94 Corridor
- **Planning Process:** APTA 2016 Transit System of the Year Award; ridership, access, community relations
- **Transportation Safety Best Practice:**
Incorporating MnDOT's State Traffic Safety office into Highway Safety Improvement Project (HSIP) selection

Recommendations

- **MPO Structure:** Update Memorandum of Understanding with MnDOT and transit providers
 - In process, to be complete within one year
- **Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP):** Elevate UPWP as a critical planning document
 - In process, upcoming UPWP will reflect changes
- **Performance-Based Planning:** Collaboratively develop performance metrics and targets into TPP
 - In process, metrics identified and to be included in TPP Update
- **Metropolitan Transportation Plan:** Integrate scenario planning
 - TPP Update will reflect outcomes of alternative investment scenarios

Recommendations (continued)

- **Metropolitan Transportation Plan:** Improve procedures and transparency for selecting capital investments; Better identify regionally significant projects
 - TPP Update to reflect better description of project selection
 - TPP Update to include map and identification of major preservation projects
- **TIP:** Projects in 1st two years must have committed federal funds; clarify procedures for establishing year-of-expenditure
 - Complete
- **TIP:** Better identify performance and investment need for Regional Solicitation projects
 - In process, A-minor Spending Study

Recommendations (continued)

- **Public Participation:** Enhance the Public Participation Plan (PPP) with visualization techniques, evaluation methods
 - In process, revised Transportation PPP
- **Environmental Justice:** Analyze TPP impacts on disadvantaged communities by travel distances, time and air quality
 - TPP Update to reflect additional analysis
- **Consultation and Coordination:** Improve coordination with environmental agencies
 - In process with TPP Update

Recommendations (continued)

- **Transportation Safety:** Explore more detailed corridor planning studies that look at lower-cost alternatives
 - On-going discussions with MnDOT and counties
- **Congestion Management Process (CMP):** Improve CMP to fully comply with 8-step federal process; CMP is not fully compiled and implemented
 - In process, must be complete within two years
 - Peer review session held May 23-24
 - CMP working group formation
 - Consulting funds provided within UPWP
 - TPP Update will include revisions

Questions?

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