

July 3, 2003

To: Metropolitan Policy Committee
From: Tom Schwetz
Subject: Item 4c: Preview of First Quarter FY04 MPO Work Program

Background

As indicated in June, results from the federal Certification Review will provide focus to the MPO work activities for FY04. Specifically, preliminary indications from FHWA and FTA indicate that the MPO will need to do work in the following areas beginning this fiscal year:

- Develop Congestion Management System (CMS) Plan
- Update Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)
- Update TIP and Project Selection Process for STP-U Funds
- Update Public Involvement Process Including Citizen's Guide to Transportation Planning
- Update Air Quality State Implementation Plan
- Update Assessment Process for meeting Title VI and Related Requirements
- Revise MPO Agreements
- Revise MPO Planning Boundary

Other issues raised include the need to more aggressively consider freight needs in the planning and TIP processes, consideration of intelligent transportation systems (ITS), the need to update existing regional agreements, and the need to formalize the new MPO planning boundary.

This memo summarizes the work program required during the first quarter of FY04 (July through September '03) to begin to address these issues. For each element of work, a brief description of what is required, a schedule for overall completion of the work and likely work activities in the first quarter is provided. The attached Table provides these details on the MPO first quarter work program. It should be noted that, in addition to the work described below, there are ongoing tasks associated with administration of MPO operations (staffing of MPC and TPC, administration of federal grants, coordination of state, federal, and local planning activities, etc.). MPO staff are also working with ODOT and local agency staff on the development of a plan for implementation of ITS in the MPO area.

Action Requested: Information and Discussion.

Summary of Major MPO Work Elements and First Quarter FY04 Schedule

Work Element	Description	Schedule for Overall Completion	Likely First Quarter Work Activities
<u>Develop Congestion Management System (CMS) Plan</u>	<p>The Congestion Management Plan is a federal requirement for TMAs and is meant to provide for “effective management of new and existing transportation facilities through the use of travel demand reduction and operation management strategies”. A CMS is a systematic process that provides information on transportation system performance and alternative strategies to alleviate congestion and enhance the mobility of persons and goods. The intent of the CMS is to protect the region's investment in, and improve effectiveness of, the existing and future transportation networks. The initial CMS needs to include: Identification of current and future system deficiencies, identification and evaluation of needed improvements including roadway options and non-auto alternatives (transit, bike, TDM, etc.), and identification of options to preserve new capacity (Access Management, TDM, land use changes, etc.).</p>	<p>Federal requirements indicate that the region needs to produce an initial CMS by January 8, 2004.</p> <p>Given the short timeframe in which the initial CMS needs to be developed, it will be based on the currently adopted TransPlan. This initial CMS would be refined as part of the RTP Update.</p>	<p>Based on the currently adopted TransPlan:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify current and future system deficiencies, 2. Identify and evaluate needed improvements, and 3. Identify options to preserve new capacity.
<u>Update Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)</u>	<p>The Certification Review indicates that this next update needs to address, at a minimum, the new TMA boundary and an updated planning horizon (2025).</p> <p>Note that the schedule could change if, as is expected, Congress changes the 3-year update cycle requirement to a 5-year cycle; something we won't know for sure for at least another year.</p>	<p>The RTP Update needs to be completed by December 2004 (~18 months) to meet federal requirements.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Scope process for 18 month update of RTP 2. Continue update of statewide coordinated revenue forecasts 3. Begin update of data needed for model (land use, demographic, network, etc.) 4. Begin update of forecasts and model refinements for use during RTP update

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<u>Update TIP and Project Selection Process for STP-U Funds</u>	<p>The TIP is required to have a minimum 3-year program, and can have up to a 6-year program. Currently the TIP only extends to 2004, or 2 years. A related issue involves changing the process for allocation of STP funds which come directly to the MPO (STP-U funds).</p>	<p>TIP Update scheduled for MPC adoption at October 8th 2003 meeting.</p> <p>Additional work related to TIP amendments and continued refinement of the STP allocation process will be conducted throughout the year.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. MPC Reviews Draft Criteria and Process 2. Hold Public Workshop on Draft Criteria and Process 3. MPC holds Public Hearing and Adopts Criteria and Process 4. Develop Draft Project Priorities and Funding Allocations and TIP Update 5. MPC Reviews Draft STP-U Project Priorities and Funding Allocations and Other Aspects of TIP Update 6. Hold Public Workshop on Draft STP-U Project Priorities and Funding Allocations 7. MPC holds Public Hearing and Adopts TIP Update
<u>Update Public Involvement Process Including Citizen's Guide to Transportation Planning</u>	<p>The MPO is required to have an up to date Public Involvement Plan (PIP) which describes the process the MPO will follow in conducting its various processes (plan or TIP development, air quality conformity determinations, etc.). A PIP (The Citizen's Guide to Transportation Planning) was last developed for the region and adopted by MPC back in 1995 at the start of the TransPlan update process. .</p>	<p>There is no specific federally required date by which the PIP needs to be updated. However it is expected that an updated PIP would be used in conjunction with the RTP update. For this reason, staff is suggesting that an updated PIP be prepared by December, 2003.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. MPC Approves Set of Recommendations for Modifications to MPO Public Involvement Process (based on Subcommittee recommendations) 2. Develop Implementation Strategies for Modifications to Public Involvement Process 3. Review current PIP for consistency with RTP Policies, Objectives and Goals 4. Begin Draft of Updated PIP

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<u>Update Air Quality State Implementation Plan</u>	The region is currently half way through a 20-year maintenance period for carbon monoxide (CO) pollution. The MPO needs to update the area's implementation plan (SIP) to verify that the area is on track toward maintaining the CO standards over the last 10 years of the maintenance period.	There is no specific federally required date by which the SIP needs to be updated. However, MPO and LRAPA staff will be completing this work by the end of June 2004 .	Given priorities in other elements, first quarter work on this element will be limited to working with LRAPA staff to develop scope for SIP update.
<u>Update Assessment Process for meeting Title VI and Related Requirements</u>	The MPO is required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to actively ensure that there is no discrimination in the MPO process on the basis of race, color, or national origin. We are also required to ensure that there are no disproportionately high and adverse human health and environmental effects stemming from the MPO programs, policies, or activities on minority populations and low-income populations (Environmental Justice requirements). A baseline analysis of 2000 Census data needs to be completed to allow the MPO to demonstrate compliance with these requirements on an on-going basis.	Similar to work on the PIP, there is no specific federally required date by which this work needs to be completed. However it is expected that the baseline analysis will be needed for several purposes over the course of the year. For that reason staff is suggesting that the baseline analysis be completed by the end of October 2003 .	Completing the baseline analysis involves the following tasks: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop Census Block summaries of population by age, race and poverty level 2. Develop analysis to identify concentrations of elderly, minority and low-income populations 3. Develop methodology for application of analysis to MPO plans and projects. 4. Prepare report, maps, and graphs summarizing analysis and application methodology.
<u>Revise MPO Planning Boundary</u>	The MPO boundary needs to be formally revised by MPC to reflect the 2000 Census results (the new Urbanized area).	Staff is preparing a draft of this boundary and will be bring it to MPC for it's consideration at the August 14th .meeting.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop Draft MPO Planning Boundary for MPC approval 2. MPC Review, Revision, and Approval of boundary
<u>Revise MPO Agreements -</u>	The MPO needs to update existing agreements between the MPO and ODOT, LTD and LRAPA	The Certification Review indicates that these revised agreements need to be in place by the end of June 2004	Given priorities in other elements, now work is anticipated on this element in the first quarter.