
FDOT MPO Joint Certification

MPO Name: Hernando/Citrus MPO

Calendar Year of Review Period: January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025

Date Completed: 2/10/2026

Purpose

Each year, the District and the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) jointly certify the metropolitan transportation planning process, as described in [23 Code of Federal Regulations \(CFR\) 450.336](#). The FDOT MPO Joint Certification includes confirmation of the metropolitan transportation planning process, a summary of the MPO's noteworthy achievements, and, if applicable, a list of recommendations and/or corrective actions. The District must report corrective actions and how they were resolved by the MPO directly to the MPO Board.

The MPO completes Part 1, while the FDOT District completes Part 2. Please read and answer each question in the document. The FDOT MPO Joint Certification must be submitted to the Office of Policy Planning (OPP) by **June 1**.

Part 1: MPO

The MPO completes Part 1 of the Joint Certification.

Section 1.1: Statement of Compliance

The MPO Executive Director must review and sign the statement below to certify compliance with federal and state requirements.

I acknowledge and confirm that the MPO (check all):

- Incorporates the 10 Federal Planning Factors [[23 CFR 450.306](#)] into its planning process.
- Develops transportation plans and programs through a continuing, comprehensive, and cooperative process [[23 CFR 450.306\(b\)](#)].
- Ensures that federal-aid funds are expended in conformity with applicable federal and state laws, including [23 United States Code \(USC\) 134](#), [49 USC 5303](#), [2 CFR 200](#), and [s.339.175, Florida Statutes \(FS\)](#) and policies and procedures prescribed by FDOT and FHWA.

- Requires its consultants and contractors to comply with applicable federal and state laws pertaining to the use of federal-aid funds.
- Uses a financial management system that complies with the requirements outlined in [2 CFR 200.302](#).
- Ensures records of costs incurred under the terms of the FDOT/MPO Agreement are always maintained and readily available upon request by FDOT during the period of the FDOT/MPO Agreement, as well as for five years after final payment is made.
- Submits supporting documentation in sufficient detail for proper monitoring, when required, to FDOT.
- Maintains and updates required agreements between the MPO and FDOT, other MPOs, and local stakeholders.

Please select options applicable to the MPO:

- The MPO is a standalone entity, a direct recipient of federal funds, and subject to an annual single audit.
- The MPO uses a federal or state-approved indirect cost rate.

If **Yes**, please indicate which indirect cost rate the MPO uses:

- Actual indirect costs (with receipts)
- An approved Indirect Cost Allocation Plan (to be completed by the MPO, submitted to FDOT Office of Comptroller for review and approval PRIOR to contract execution)
- De Minimus Rate: A percentage of Modified Direct Costs (currently, the De Minimus rate is 15%)
- If **Yes**, please check the box if the MPO submitted a Cost Allocation Plan.
- The MPO charges all eligible costs as direct costs.
- FDOT and the MPO certify the metropolitan transportation planning process is carried out according to applicable requirements described in 23 CFR 450.336.**

By signing below, I certify the above information is true and accurate.

MPO Executive Director Signature: Robert M. Esposito

Name: Robert M. Esposito

Title: MPO Executive Director

Date: Select Date

FDOT Transportation Development Director Signature: _____

Name: Insert name

Title: Insert title

Date: Select Date

Section 1.2: Noteworthy Achievements and Practices

List the MPO's noteworthy achievements and practices below by year.

Month	Year	Noteworthy Achievement or Practice
10	2024	Adoption of the 2050 LRTP
Qtrly	2025	Regional Coordination with Lake-Sumter MPO and Ocala-Marion TPO
Qtrly	2025	Coordination on major projects with FDOT and Pasco County on County Line Road

Section 1.3: MPO Comments

List items that require follow-up or action.

Once adopted, implementation of the 2050 LRTP continues. The MPO continually follows-up on activities and projects with its jurisdictions and District 7 FDOT.

Part 2: FDOT District

The FDOT District completes Part 2 of the Joint Certification.

Section 2.1: Risk Assessment

FDOT, as the recipient of federal-aid funds for the State, is responsible for ensuring that these funds are expended in accordance with [2 CFR 200.332\(b\)](#), [s.215.971, FS](#), and [s.216.3475, FS](#). After coordination with the Office of Policy Planning (OPP), any of the considerations in [2 CFR 200.331\(b\)](#) may result in an MPO being assigned the high-risk level.

The questions in this section assign a risk level to each MPO. The risk level determines the minimum frequency with which the District MPO Liaison reviews the MPO's supporting documentation for invoices for the following year.

Figure 1 shows the risk assessment and monitoring timeline.

Figure 1. Risk Assessment Process



1. MPO Invoice Submittal

How often does the MPO submit invoices to the District for reimbursement?

Quarterly

The MPO must submit invoices within 90 days of the end of the invoice period. An invoice is late if it is submitted after 90 days. How many invoices did the MPO submit late? 0

2. MPO Invoice Review Checklist

The [MPO Invoice Review Checklist](#) identifies significant findings, i.e., items that require correction for the MPO to be reimbursed. How many significant findings did the MPO invoice checklists have in the past year? 0

3. MPO Supporting Documentation Review Checklist

The [MPO Supporting Documentation Review Checklist](#) identifies significant findings, i.e., items that require correction for the MPO to be reimbursed. How many significant findings did the MPO supporting documentation checklists have in the past year? 0

4. Risk Assessment Score

Please use the table below to select the MPO's risk level.

Total number of late invoices and significant findings: 0

Level of Risk: Low

Total Number of Late Invoices and Significant Findings	Risk Level	Frequency of Monitoring
Less than 10	Low	Annual
10-20	Moderate	Bi-annual
21-30	Elevated	Tri-annual
More than 30	High	Quarterly

Section 2.2: Planning Documents

1. Complete the table below.

Planning Document	Date Adopted	End/Horizon Date	Date Uploaded in GAP (if applicable)	Was the document made available to the public consistent with applicable federal regulations and the procedures identified in the MPOs PPP?
L RTP	10/3/2024	10/3/2029	12/19/2024	Yes
TIP	6/5/2025	6/30/2026	6/10/2025	Yes
UPWP	5/2/2024	6/30/2026	5/10/2024	Yes
CMP	5/2022	N/A		Yes
PPP	9/30/2014	N/A		Yes

2. Did the MPO identify all FHWA Planning Funds (PL and non-PL) in the TIP?

Yes

3. Was the Public Participation Plan (PPP) made available for public review at least 45 days before adoption?

Yes

Section 2.3: District Questions

List District questions or observations that require follow-up or action.

Please describe the MPO's process and timeline for early coordination with local jurisdictions ahead of the annual TIP and LOPP refresh, including any formal meetings held to align board-approved priorities and local priorities, project schedules, and funding expectations.

Proposed updates to the List of Priority Projects (LOPP) were discussed with FDOT D7 in April of 2025. The draft LOPP was then presented to the Technical Advisory Committee, Citizens Advisory Committee, and the Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee on April 24, 2025, and then to the MPO Board for review and approval on May 1, 2025. In early February-April 2025, requests were made from jurisdictions for their capital improvement lists, project schedules, and funding expectations which are then included in the TIP in its appendices. Representatives of the jurisdictions are members of the Technical Advisory Committee.

What processes does the MPO use to document and apply lessons learned and best practices following updates to major planning documents (e.g., LRTP, TIP, UPWP) or after complex or controversial board decisions?

The Hernando-Citrus MPO has had the benefit of having consensus with its decision-making bodies to date. However, best practices would include documenting the issues and ensuring timeliness in providing information.

Section 2.4: Recommendations and Corrective Actions

Identify any recommendations and corrective actions based on the information in this review below.

Corrective actions should include a date by which the MPO must address them. The District must report corrective actions and how they were resolved by the MPO directly to the MPO Board.

Status of Recommendations and Corrective Actions from Prior Certifications

Recommendation/Corrective Action	Applicable Date/Response Date
The MPO should consider developing a methodology to assist with ranking projects on the MPO's Priority Lists.	Ongoing
The MPO should communicate challenges, questions, and concerns to FDOT Liaison staff directly to facilitate appropriate resolution.	
The MPO should continue to coordinate with local governments to identify low-cost solutions to transportation challenges.	Ongoing

Current Recommendation(s) for this Certification Cycle

The MPO should develop a methodology to assist with ranking projects on the MPO's Priority Lists.

The MPO should coordinate with local agencies to ensure prioritized projects are still needed and to identify low-cost solutions to transportation challenges.

The MPO should implement procedures for tracking board member requests and resolving them internally.

Current Corrective Action(s) for this Certification Cycle

N/A