



What is the Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council (MPOAC)?

Established by the Florida Legislature under Section 339.175(11), Florida Statutes, the MPOAC serves as a **statewide transportation planning and policy organization**.

It was created to **enhance the role of individual Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs)** by supporting their participation in a cooperative and coordinated statewide transportation planning process.

The MPOAC acts as the **principal forum for statewide policy coordination and discussion** among Florida's MPOs, strengthening the urban transportation planning process.

Mission

To improve transportation planning and education by engaging and equipping its membership to deliver results through:



Shared innovations



Best practices



Enhanced coordination, communication and advocacy

Roles and Responsibilities

The MPOAC meets quarterly to conduct business and address statewide transportation issues relevant to Florida's MPOs. Its key responsibilities include:

Aligning Plans: Collaborating with MPOs and the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to ensure consistency between local Long Range Transportation Plans (LRTPs) and the Florida Transportation Plan (FTP).

Statewide Coordination: Serving as a platform for communication and coordination among Florida's 27 MPOs.

Policy Support: Providing guidance and recommendations on transportation planning, policy development, and implementation strategies.

Technical Assistance: Offering training, tools, and resources to strengthen MPO planning capacity and performance.

Knowledge Sharing: Facilitating the exchange of information, data, and planning innovations across MPOs.

Legislative Monitoring: Tracking and analyzing legislation that may impact MPOs and advocating for policies that support effective transportation planning at local and state levels.



What is a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)?

An **MPO** is a federally mandated entity required for all urban areas in the United States with a population of 50,000 or more. These organizations are composed of representatives from local governments and transportation agencies within the urban area, ensuring that transportation planning is locally informed and regionally coordinated. MPOs serve as collaborative forums where local officials come together to make decisions about transportation investments, priorities, and strategies. By fostering cooperation among jurisdictions, MPOs play a vital role in shaping regional transportation systems that are connected, efficient, and responsive to the needs of the communities they serve.

Key Planning Documents

Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP):

A 20+ year vision that identifies future transportation needs and investment strategies for the region.

Transportation Improvement Program

(TIP): A short-term, five-year list of funded transportation projects.

Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP): A

two-year plan outlining the MPO's planning activities and studies.

Public Participation Plan (PPP): A framework

for engaging the public and ensuring meaningful input throughout the planning process.

Roles and Responsibilities

MPOs lead a regional transportation planning process that is:

Continuing, Cooperative, and Comprehensive (3-C):

MPOs guide regional transportation decisions by ensuring the planning process reflects local priorities and supports long-term goals.

Legally Compliant: MPOs develop and maintain transportation plans in accordance with federal and state laws and regulations.

Project-Focused: MPOs identify and prioritize transportation investments through the development of required plans and programs.

Community-Responsive: MPOs work to integrate the needs and concerns of residents, businesses, and local governments into the regional transportation planning process.

MPO Committees

MPO Board: Comprised of representatives from local governments and transportation agencies who approve the MPO's plans, policies, and projects.

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC):

Comprised of professional staff from local governments and transportation agencies who provide technical guidance.

Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC): Offers input from a public perspective to ensure the planning process reflects community values.

Additional Committees as Needed: May include freight, bicycle/pedestrian, or regional coordination committees, depending on local needs.