



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Highway
Administration**



South Jersey
Transportation
Planning Organization



**Federal Transit
Administration**

Seeking Public Input for FHWA and FTA's Certification of SJTPO's Planning Process

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What is a Certification Review?

At least once every four years, FHWA Divisions and FTA Regions formally review the transportation planning process of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO) with urbanized area populations of 200,000 or more. FHWA and FTA evaluate the transportation planning process for compliance with Federal requirements.



What is a Certification Review?

Part of FHWA and FTA's oversight is to ensure that the planning process is producing the required products and the MPO and its staff are addressing the needs of its member jurisdictions.

Done in the spirit of cooperation to help enhance the quality of the transportation planning process.

FHWA and FTA undertake a stewardship role to determine what is or is not working and, when appropriate, to *help* make improvements.



What is the Federal Planning Process?

Process by which transportation decisions are made and projects are planned, selected and prioritized for implementation within your region.

Why is this important?

- Decides how your share of federal transportation funding is spent
- Gain understanding of how SJTPO prioritizes limited funding to best meet regional needs
- Lays the framework for the future transportation system



Metropolitan Transportation Planning Process

Who is involved?

- SJTPO
 - Policy Board
 - Technical Advisory Committee
 - Citizen Advisory Committee
- New Jersey Department of Transportation
- NJ TRANSIT
- Local Public Transportation Providers
- Cross County Connection
- Salem County
- Cumberland County
- Atlantic County
- Cape May County
- Vineland
- Atlantic City
- All local municipalities
- Local Citizens
- Interest Groups
- FHWA and FTA



Metropolitan Transportation Planning Process

Products of the process include:

- Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)
- Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)
- Congestion Management Process (CMP)
- Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
- Public Participation Plan (PPP)



Unified Planning Work Program

The UPWP describes the following:

- Planning priorities in the metropolitan planning area
- Planning activities to be completed
- Who will complete work
- Cost and schedule to complete work
- Financial summary of Federal, State, and local funding
- Description of all metropolitan transportation planning and transportation-related air-quality planning activities



Metropolitan Transportation Plan

The MTP describes the following:

- 20-year multimodal guide to regional transportation needs and potential solutions
- Financially feasible
- Contains:
 - Financial plans
 - Local goals and objectives
 - Public and stakeholder involvement



Congestion Management Process

The CMP provides short-term and long-term strategies

- Short-term – looks at current traffic and transit problems and tries to solve them
- Long-term – seeks to prevent problems from occurring



Transportation Improvement Program

The TIP provides:

- 4-years of financially feasible projects
- Document prioritizing regional projects for funding and implementation
- If the region has air quality problems, the mix of projects in the TIP must be within given air quality emission limits



Public Participation Plan

MPOs and their planning partners shall develop PPPs so the public can be involved in all their work including:

- MTP
- TIP
- CMP
- Air Quality Conformity

It is important that all voices are heard during public participation, including those from traditionally underserved and underrepresented communities.



What are the components of the certification review?

Review of MPO's written procedures and policies, required planning documents, and other planning documents.

On-Site Review with MPO staff, member agencies, other stakeholders, and the public

Final report delivered to the MPO with findings from the review.



What types of findings come out of the report?

Corrective actions: Items that the MPO must address in order for the planning process to be compliant with regulations

Recommendations: Ideas for improving the MPO's planning process in ways that go beyond regulatory compliance.

Commendations: Best practices and exemplary efforts that are worthy of formal recognition.



Topics Covered in this Certification Review

- Planning Process
- Performance Based Planning and Programming / Transit Activities
- Consultation and Coordination
- Support of Economic Vitality and Enhancement of Travel and Tourism
- Non-motorized Bicycle Pedestrian Transportation Planning



Topics Covered in this Certification Review

- Planning Environmental Linkage and Environmental Mitigation
- Transportation Safety and Resiliency Planning
- Title VI and Non-Discrimination, Environmental Justice, and Limited English Proficiency
- Public Outreach
- Congestion Management Process / Intelligent Transportation Systems



Where do you (the public) come in?



What sort of feedback are we looking for from you?

- In what ways does SJTPO currently plan well for the region?
- What can be improved?
- How well does SJTPO's planning process currently include you and your interests?



When will comments be accepted?

Comment period is currently underway!

Comments will be accepted until April 10, 2019.



How can you give comments?

Comments may be submitted via the following:

- Online form
- E-mail at certification@sjtpo.org,
- Mail 782 South Brewster Road, Unit B6, Vineland, NJ 08361,
- Fax (856-794-2549),
- Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/SJTPO/>
- Twitter <https://twitter.com/SJTPO>
- Provided in-person at the March 25, 2019 public meeting at Vineland City Hall, 2nd Floor Caucus Room, 6:00 PM



How can you give comments?

Comment Forms

Written mailed or emailed freeform comments

<https://www.sjtpo.org/public-comment/>

And---Right now, at this meeting!



What will be done with public comments?

The comments will be summarized in the final report to SJTPO for its consideration.



Disabled and needing assistance?

Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids for service should contact SJTPO by writing or calling:

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Public Outreach Planner

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Questions?

Please feel free to reach out to the following federal individuals if you have additional questions or comments to provide:

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