

Nonmetropolitan Local Officials and RTPOs in State Transportation Planning

MAP-21 & FAST Act Provisions

August 24, 2016 WI MPO-RPC Conference

Nonmetropolitan Local Officials

- ▶ Increasing Emphasis
- ▶ Evolving Requirements for Involvement of Local Officials in Statewide Planning
- ▶ Regional Transportation Planning Organizations
 - Concept
 - Requirements

Nonmetropolitan Local Officials

Increasing Emphasis

- ▶ MAP-21 places a new emphasis on the importance of nonmetropolitan transportation planning.
 - Change in the title to the statutory section – Statewide and Nonmetropolitan Planning
 - Change in nature of interaction requires States to work more closely with nonmetropolitan areas.
 - States have opportunity to designate RTPOs to facilitate interaction with nonmetropolitan areas of the State.

Nonmetropolitan Local Officials

Increasing Emphasis

- ▶ Evolution since ISTEA to bring the role of nonmetropolitan local officials to a level consistent with that of metropolitan officials acting through the MPOs.
 - ISTEA (1991) The transportation needs of non-metropolitan areas should be considered through a process that includes consultation with local elected officials with jurisdiction over transportation.
 - TEA-21 (1998) required States to consult with non-metropolitan local officials in transportation planning and programming.

Nonmetropolitan Local Officials

Increasing Emphasis

- Regulation January 23, 2003 incorporated language developed and submitted jointly by NACO, NADO, AASHTO
- SAFETEA-LU – minor edits
- MAP-21 & FAST Act
 - Changed consultation to cooperation
 - Created optional RTPO structure


Nonmetropolitan Local Officials

MAP-21/FAST Act Requirement

- ▶ State shall cooperate with affected nonmetropolitan local officials with responsibility for transportation in –
 - Carrying out the statewide transportation planning process
 - Developing the statewide transportation plan
 - Developing the STIP
 - Selecting projects from the STIP for implementation (except projects on the NHS or funded with Bridge, IM, 5310, 5311 funding)

Nonmetropolitan Local Officials

Definitions

- ▶ ***Nonmetropolitan local officials*** means elected and appointed officials of general purpose local government in a nonmetropolitan area with responsibility for transportation.
 - ▶ ***Consultation*** means that one or more parties confer with other identified parties in accordance with an established process and, prior to taking action(s), considers the views of the other parties and periodically informs them about action(s) taken.
 - ▶ ***Cooperation*** means that the parties involved in carrying out the transportation planning and programming processes work together to achieve a common goal or objective.
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Nonmetropolitan Local Officials *Process*

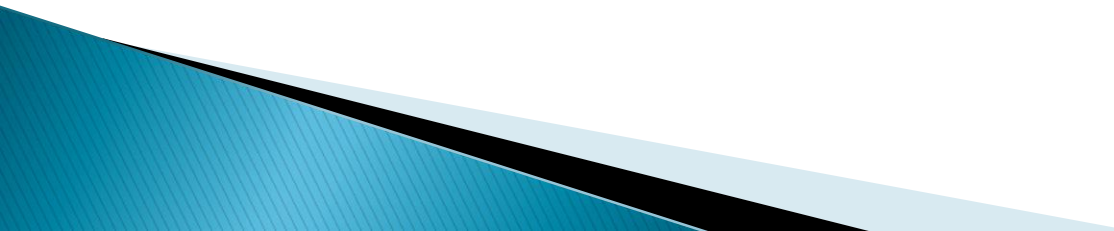
- ▶ The State shall have a documented process(es) for cooperating with nonmetropolitan local officials representing units of general purpose local government and/or local officials with responsibility for transportation
 - Separate and discrete from the public involvement process and
 - Provides opportunity for their participation in the development of the long-range statewide transportation plan and the STIP.
 - Subject to review every 5 years.

Nonmetropolitan Local Officials

Mechanisms

- ▶ The State itself is required to carry out all elements of the statewide and nonmetropolitan planning process and cooperate directly with affected nonmetropolitan local officials responsible for transportation.

or

- ▶ The State could opt to establish and designate Regional Transportation Planning Organizations (RTPOs) through which to cooperate with local officials in nonmetropolitan areas.
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RTPOs

Designation

- ▶ To carry out the statewide transportation planning process, a Governor may establish and designate regional transportation planning organizations to enhance the planning, coordination, and implementation of the long-range statewide transportation plan and STIP, with an emphasis on addressing the needs of nonmetropolitan areas of the State.

RTPOs

Designation

- ▶ In order to be treated as an RTPO for purposes of this Part, any existing regional planning organization must be established and designated as an RTPO under this section.

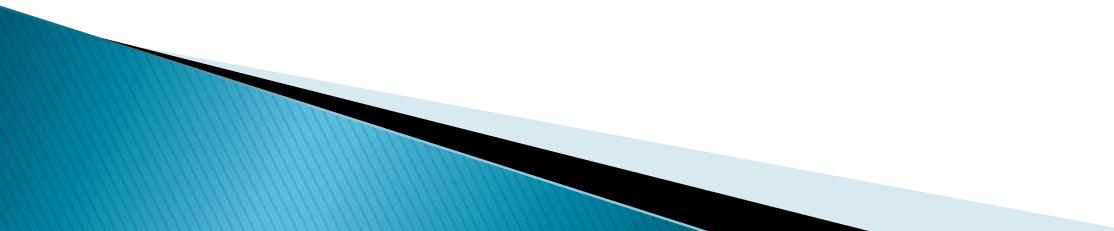
RTPOs

Structure

- ▶ Where established, an RTPO shall be a multijurisdictional organization of nonmetropolitan local officials or their designees who volunteer for such organization and representatives of local transportation systems who volunteer for such organization.

RTPOs

Structure

- ▶ A policy committee, the majority of which shall consist of nonmetropolitan local officials, or their designees, and, as appropriate, additional representatives from the State, private business, transportation service providers, economic development practitioners, and the public in the region; and
 - ▶ A fiscal and administrative agent, such as an existing regional planning and development organization, to provide professional planning, management, and administrative support.
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RTPOs

Duties

- ▶ Developing and maintaining, in cooperation with the State, regional long-range multimodal transportation plans;
- ▶ Developing a regional TIP for consideration by the State;

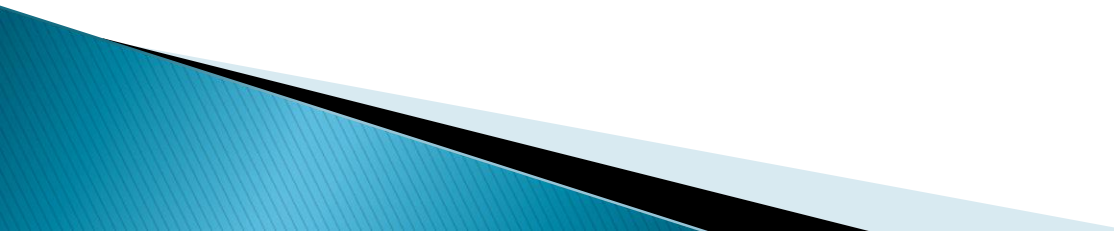
RTPOs

Duties

- ▶ Fostering the coordination of local planning, land use, and economic development plans with State, regional, and local transportation plans and programs;
- ▶ Providing technical assistance to local officials;

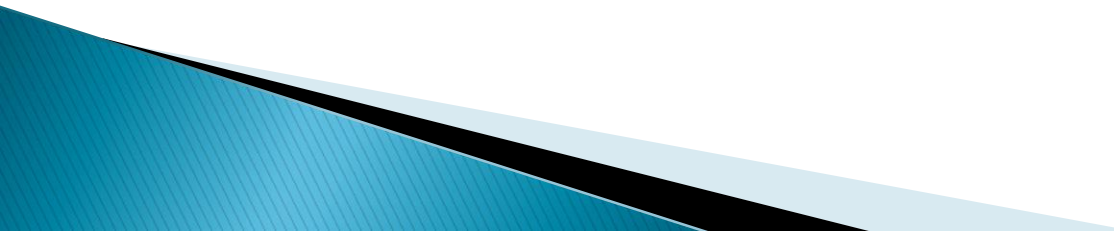
RTPOs

Duties

- ▶ Participating in national, multistate, and State policy and planning development processes to ensure the regional and local input of nonmetropolitan areas;
 - ▶ Providing a forum for public participation in the statewide and regional transportation planning processes;
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RTPOs

Duties

- ▶ Considering and sharing plans and programs with neighboring RTPOs, MPOs, and, where appropriate, Indian Tribal Governments; and
 - ▶ Conducting other duties, as necessary, to support and enhance the statewide planning process under § 450.206.
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RTPOs

Funding

- ▶ MAP-21 & FAST provide no dedicated funding for RTPOs
- ▶ Eligible funding sources include:
 - State Planning and Research Program
 - Surface Transportation Program
 - Formula Grants for Rural Areas (49 U.S.C. 5311) funds, provided they are in addition to funding awarded to a State under 49 U.S.C. 5305 for planning activities that are directed specifically at the needs of the rural areas in the State.

Nonmetropolitan Local Officials

WisDOT

- ▶ Process for Cooperation and Consultation with Local Officials and Governments in Non-Metropolitan Areas, March 3, 2016
 - ▶ Public Involvement for Statewide Long-Range Transportation Plans, Draft June 29, 2016
 - ▶ Public Involvement for the Wisconsin State Highway Investment Plan and System-Plan Environmental Evaluation, Draft June 29, 2016
 - ▶ Public Involvement Plan for the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program, Draft June 29, 2016
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