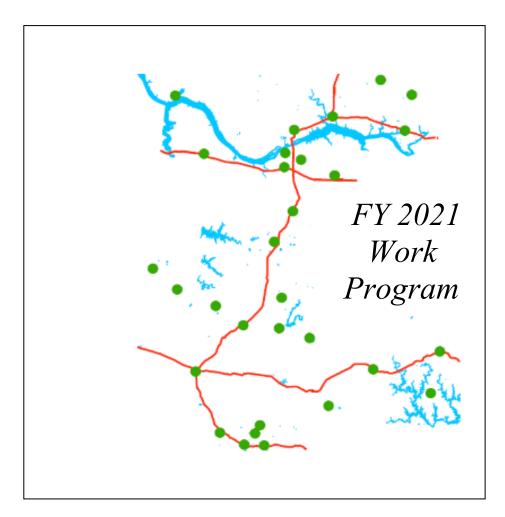
Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments (NACOLG)

Rural Planning Organization (RPO) Work Program



October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021

Prepared by the Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments for the Rural Planning Organization

August 2020

NORTHWEST ALABAMA COUNCIL OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION (RPO)

Work Program Fiscal Year 2021

This document is posted at <u>https://www.nacolg.org/</u> For information regarding this document, please contact Keith Jones, Executive Director Joseph E. Holt, Director of Transportation Planning Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments 103 Student Drive Muscle Shoals, AL 35661 jholt@nacolg.org (256)389-0517

Date adopted: August 27, 2020

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RPO Membership (NACOLG Board of Directors)

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Mr. Andy Mann At-Large

Resolution

Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments and Rural Planning Organization (RPO) adopting the Fiscal Year 2021 RPO Work Program

WHEREAS, the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) has contracted with the Northwest Alabama Council of Governments (NACOLG) and Rural Planning Organization (RPO) to administer the rural planning process for Colbert, Franklin, Lauderdale, Marion, and Winston Counties, pursuant to the requirements and applicable provisions of amended Title 23 USC 134 and 135 (as amended by the FAST Act, Sections 1201 and 1202), and others as may be relevant; and

WHEREAS, the Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments is concerned with the continued development of the non-metropolitan transportation consultation process, on-going public involvement, and data collection regarding the rural transportation needs and issues of the citizens of the counties of the region; and

WHEREAS, the Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments (NACOLG), is required to provide guidance to local governments in conducting the non-metropolitan cooperative planning process as set forth in Title 23 CFR 450.210(b); and

WHEREAS, the Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments, in cooperation with the Bureau of Transportation Planning and Modal Programs of the Alabama Department of Transportation, in accordance with 23 CFR 450.308(d), has prepared the FY 2021 Work Program that outlines the task necessary to accomplish the goals of the Rural Planning Organization; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, this 27th day of August 2020 that the Board of Directors of the Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments (NACOLG) and the Rural Planning Organization (RPO), having reviewed and approved the Annual RPO Work Program, does hereby adopt the said Work Program.

Chairman, NACOLG

Attest

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1.0 Purpose

The purpose of this document is to describe the work that will be performed by the Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments (NACOLG) in fiscal year 2021. The Rural Transportation Planning Cooperative Process will be organized in order to conduct a rural transportation planning process in the five northwestern Alabama counties of Lauderdale, Colbert, Franklin, Marion and Winston. The planning process will be a one-year program sponsored by the Alabama Department of Transportation and the Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments.

1.1 Goals

The goals of the cooperative process are 1) a well-managed rural transportation planning process; 2) an effective transportation committee structure; 3) a comprehensive data library and distribution source; and 4) reports that are useful to the ALDOT and the local governments.

1.2 Format

The work program is divided into five tasks. The tasks outline the transportation planning work that will be performed by the staff at the Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments (NACOLG) over a one-year period (Fiscal Year 2020). The description of each task includes the objective, proposed work, products, staffing and schedule.

1.3 Title VI Compliance

The Northwest Alabama Rural Planning Organization is committed to ensuring public participation in the development of all transportation plans and programs. It is the goal of the RPO that the transportation planning process will be accessible, transparent, and inclusive. The RPO is and will be compliant with all Title VI programs, processes, and procedures including, but not limited to, 42 USC 2000d.

2.1 Administration and Management

Objective

To effectively manage the rural transportation cooperative process

Proposed Work

- 1. The RPO Staff will manage the transportation planning process
- 2. The RPO Staff will maintain timesheets
- 3. The RPO Staff will prepare and submit invoices as required by the ALDOT
- 4. The RPO Staff will prepare semi-annual progress reports
- 5. The RPO Staff will participate in ALDOT approved training as needed. Out-of-state travel will be approved by ALDOT
- 6. The RPO staff will renew annual software licenses for one ArcView seat

Products

- 1. A well-managed transportation planning process
- 2. Employee timesheets
- 3. Monthly invoice reports
- 4. Semi-annual progress reports
- 5. Software Maintenance

<u>Staffing</u>

Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments

<u>Schedule</u>

FY 2021 End of Year Progress Report due date October 1, 2021

State	\$32,500		
Local Match	\$ 8,125		
Total	\$40,625		

2.2 Committee Service

Objectives

To effectively conduct Policy Committee and Sub-committee meetings

Proposed Work

- 1. The RPO Staff will develop and maintain Policy Committee and Sub-committees mailing lists.
- 2. The RPO Staff will prepare and distribute meeting notices for the Policy Committee and Subcommittee meetings.
- 3. The RPO Staff will hold the Policy Committee and Sub-committee meetings and other meetings that pertain to the transportation planning process.
- 4. The RPO Staff will take minutes at the Policy Committee and Sub-committee meetings.

Products

- 1. Policy Committee and Sub-committees mailing lists
- 2. Timely meeting notices
- 3. Well-organized Policy Committee and Sub-committee meetings
- 4. Well-written minutes of the Policy Committee and Sub-committee meetings

<u>Staffing</u>

Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments

Schedule

None

State	\$1,200	
Local Match	\$ 300	
Total	\$1,500	

2.3 Data Management

Objective

To gather, maintain and distribute data related to the transportation planning process

Proposed Work

- 1. The RPO Staff will gather the necessary data to conduct the committee meetings and produce the transportation planning documents.
- 2. The RPO Staff will maintain the transportation data within databases, spreadsheets, and GIS files.
- 3. The RPO Staff will distribute the transportation data to RPO members and the general public as needed.

Products

- 1. An organized method for researching transportation data
- 2. Transportation databases, spreadsheets and GIS files
- 3. Distribution systems and methods for transportation data

Staffing

Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments

<u>Schedule</u>

None

State	\$ 7,900	
Local Match	\$ 1,975	
Total	\$ 9,875	

2.4 Reports and Documents

Objective

To prepare reports for the transportation planning process committees and the ALDOT

Proposed Work

- 1. The RPO Staff will update and maintain bylaws that will govern the rural transportation planning process.
- 2. The RPO Staff will prepare a Fiscal Year 2022 Work Program.
- 3. The RPO staff will prepare and distribute information such as traffic count data, functional highway classification maps, project location maps and project database information for each county.
- 4. The RPO staff will document transportation needs that may arise from natural disasters.
- 5. The RPO staff will help coordinate American's with Disabilities Act (ADA) Transition Plan activities between the local governments and the state/FHWA.

Products

- 1. Bylaws
- 2. Traffic count data, functional highway classification maps, project location maps and project database information
- 3. FY 2022 Draft and Final Work Program

Staffing

Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments

Schedule

FY 2022 Draft Work Program – August 2021 FY 2022 Final Work Program – October 1, 2021

State	\$ 800
Local Match	\$ 200
Total	\$1,000

2.5 Short and Long Range Transportation Needs

Objective

To identify and receive feedback on the short and long range transportation needs of the rural areas.

Proposed Work

- 1. The RPO Staff will actively engage the Board in discussions of the long-range transportation needs of the region based on input received from the committees and the general public.
- 2. The RPO Staff will actively participate in the NACOLG Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) process to document the long-range transportation needs.
- 3. The RPO Committees will be invited to participate in the CEDS process.

Products

- 1. A process that communicates the long-range transportation needs of the region.
- 2. A well-informed public.
- 3. A well-informed committee.

<u>Staffing</u>

Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments

Schedule

None

State	\$3,600
Local Match	\$ 900
Total	\$4,500

Northwest Alabama Rural Planning Organization Cooperative Process Work Program Budget Fiscal Year 2021

Task	State Funding	Local Funding	Total Funding
1. Administration and Management	\$32,500	\$8,125	\$40,625
2. Committee Service	\$ 1,200	\$ 300	\$ 1,500
3. Data Management	\$ 7,900	\$1,975	\$ 9,875
4. Reports and Documents	\$ 800	\$ 200	\$ 1,000
5. Short and Long Range Transportation Needs	\$ 3,600	\$ 900	\$ 4,500
Total	\$46,000	\$11,500	\$57,500