

**SHOALS AREA  
METROPOLITAN  
PLANNING ORGANIZATION**

---

**UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM**

**FISCAL YEAR 2022**

**10/01/2021 – 09/30/2022**

August 10, 2021

**Shoals Area Metropolitan Planning  
Organization (MPO)**

**Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)**

**Fiscal Year 2022**

This document is posted at  
<http://nacolg.org/documents>

For further information please contact the  
Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments  
103 Student Drive  
Muscle Shoals, AL 35661  
(256) 389-0500  
Contact: Mr. Joseph E. Holt  
Director, Transportation Planning  
Email: [jholt@nacolg.org](mailto:jholt@nacolg.org)

Date adopted: August 10, 2021  
Date amended:

This UPWP was prepared as a cooperative effort of the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT), the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT), and local governments, in partial fulfillment of requirements in Title 23 USC 134 and 135, amended by the FAST Act, Sections 1201 and 1202, December 2015. The contents of this document do not necessarily reflect the official views or policies of the U.S. Department of Transportation.

# **Shoals Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)**

## **MPO and Advisory Committee Officers**

### **Shoals Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)**

Joe Hackworth, Chairman  
Mike Lockhart, Vice-Chairman

Lauderdale County Commission  
Mayor, City of Muscle Shoals

### **Shoals Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC)**

William Foster, Chairman  
Jeremy Robison, Vice-Chairman

City of Tuscumbia  
Colbert County

### **Shoals Area MPO Staff**

Keith Jones, Executive Director  
Jesse E. Turner, Director of Planning and Transportation  
Joseph E. Holt, Transportation Planning Director  
Ryan Hayse, Transportation Planner

**RESOLUTION 21-34**

**Shoals Area Metropolitan Planning Organization  
Adopting the FY 2022 Unified Planning Work Program**

**WHEREAS**, the Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments (NACOLG) is the organization designated by the Governor of the State of Alabama as recipient of Shoals Urbanized Area planning funds for the Shoals Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), and who is responsible, together with the State of Alabama, for implementing the applicable provisions of 23 USC 134 and 135 (amended by the FAST Act, Sections 1201 and 1202, December 2015); 42 USC 2000d-1, 7401; 23 CFR 450 and 500; 40 CFR 51 and 93; and,

**WHEREAS**, the U. S. Department of Transportation requires all urbanized areas, as established by the U. S. Bureau of the Census, doing area-wide urban transportation planning, to submit a Unified Planning Work Program as a condition for meeting the provisions of Title 23 USC 134 and 135; and,

**WHEREAS**, consistent with the declaration of these provisions, the staff of the Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments (NACOLG), in cooperation with the Bureau of Transportation Planning and Modal Programs of the Alabama Department of Transportation, has created the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for the Shoals Urban Area for Fiscal Year 2022; and,

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to its duties, functions, and responsibilities, the Shoals Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Policy Committee, as authorized by amendment of Bylaws dated 18 October 2012, did review, and evaluate the aforementioned Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for FY 2022, summarized on the attached pages; now,

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Shoals Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) that the same body does hereby endorse and adopt said Unified Planning Work Program.

**ADOPTED THIS 10<sup>th</sup> DAY OF AUGUST 2021**

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_

Joe Hackworth, Chairman,  
Metropolitan Planning Organization

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary, Shoals Area MPO

# Table of Contents

Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) .....	i
MPO and Advisory Committee Officers .....	ii
RESOLUTION 21-34 .....	iii
Table of Contents .....	iv
Introduction .....	1
Purpose of the UPWP .....	1
The Transportation Planning Process .....	1
Title VI in the Preparation of the UPWP .....	1
Organization and Management .....	2
Scope of the Planning Process .....	2
Special Planning Considerations .....	3
Livability Principles and Indicators .....	3
Transportation Performance Management .....	4
Public Involvement .....	5
1.0 Administration and Public Involvement .....	6
1.1 MPO Administration .....	6
1.2 Unified Planning Work Program Development .....	7
1.3 MPO Planning Staff Education and Training .....	8
1.4 Capital and Operating Purchases .....	9
2.0 Data Collection and Analysis .....	10
2.1 Data Collection and Maintenance .....	10
3.0 Public Involvement .....	11
3.1 Public Involvement and Outreach .....	11
3.2 Title VI Planning, Environmental Justice and Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Participation .....	12
4.0 Transportation Systems .....	13
4.1 Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) .....	13
4.2 Transportation Model Development and Maintenance .....	14
4.3 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) .....	15
4.4 Public Transit Planning .....	16
4.5 Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning .....	17
4.6 Freight Planning .....	18
4.7 Air Quality Planning .....	19
4.8 Transportation Management and Operations Planning .....	20
4.9 Transportation Safety Planning .....	21
5.0 Future Planning Activities .....	22
5.1 Future Planning Studies .....	22
Appendices .....	23
A. MPO Planning Area Map .....	24
B. MPO Organization .....	25
C. Livability Principles and Indicators .....	27
D. Abbreviations, Acronyms, and Terms .....	29
E. Budget Summary Tables .....	32
F. Other Major Planning Activities in the Metropolitan Planning Area FY 2022 .....	34

## **Introduction**

The Unified Planning Work Program is to provide the Shoals Study Area with a work allocation plan that promotes a transportation planning process that is cooperative, comprehensive, and continuing as required under the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1962. All significant elements of the area-wide planning process used in developing transportation plans and programs are included. The program also contains transportation planning support activities including those related to land use, social, economic, and demographic factors. Both federally funded tasks and those funded entirely at state and local levels are included. The Unified Planning Work Program is sufficiently comprehensive to provide descriptions of the specific technical activities and funding levels necessary to carry out the transportation-planning program for fiscal year 2022. Development of the work program is the joint responsibility of the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT), and other agencies authorized to carry out transportation planning and implementation activities.

### **Purpose of the UPWP**

The Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) is the planning document that guides the MPO staff in fulfilling its planning responsibilities for the upcoming year. The primary objective is the development of an integrated planning program which considers the planning activities of each modal group and coordinates these activities to produce a total transportation plan serving all segments of the population. The UPWP presents the budget and work tasks necessary to accomplish and maintain the transportation planning process within the Shoals Study Area for FY 2022.

### **The Transportation Planning Process**

The transportation planning process is a cooperative, continuous, and comprehensive planning process that allows involvement of all users of the transportation system. This planning process follows a formal public involvement process that includes input from the business community, civic groups, environmental groups, freight operators, transit operators, and the general public, for inclusion into plans and programs conducted by the Shoals Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT).

### **Title VI in the Preparation of the UPWP**

The Shoals Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is committed to ensuring public participation in the development of all transportation plans and programs. It is the overall goal of the MPO that the transportation planning process be open, accessible, transparent, inclusive, and responsive. The MPO is and will be compliant with and follow all Title VI laws, processes, and programs to include the following:

- Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 USC 2000d, et seq. which prohibits exclusion from participation in any federal program on the basis of race, color, or national origin.
- 23 USC 324 which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, adding to the landmark significance of 2000d. This requirement is found in 23 CFR 450.334(1).

- Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 USC 701 Section 504, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of a disability, and in terms of access to the transportation planning process.
- Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 which prohibits discrimination based solely on disability. ADA encourages the participation of people with disabilities in the development of transportation and paratransit plans and services. In accordance with ADA guidelines, all meetings conducted by the MPO will take place in locations which are accessible by persons with mobility limitations or other impairments.
- Executive Order 12898 or referred to as Environmental Justice, which requires that federal programs, policies and activities affecting human health or the environment will identify and avoid disproportionately high and adverse effects on minority or low-income populations. The intent was to ensure that no racial, ethnic, or socioeconomic group bears a disproportionate share of negative environmental consequences resulting from government programs and policies.
- Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Plan which is required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Executive Order 13166, and FTA Circular C 4702.1B, October 2012. The Shoals Area MPO has completed a Four Factor Analysis of the Shoals Area Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA) to determine requirements for compliance with the Limited English Proficiency (LEP) provisions. Based on the analysis, the MPO has identified a population within the MPA that may require MPO assistance in participating in the planning process. A Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Plan has been developed and can be accessed within the Public Participation Plan at <https://www.nacolg.org/images/pdf/Shoals--FY-2019--Public-Participation-Plan.pdf>.

## **Organization and Management**

The organization that is responsible for the overall efforts of the transportation planning process is the Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments (NACOLG) that hosts the Shoals Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The central unit of the MPO is the Policy Board, which consists of elected officials from the cities, towns, and counties within the designated planning area, as well as designated officials of pertinent state and federal agencies who interface with the planning staff at the MPO.

Serving the Policy Board in an advisory capacity is the Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC). This committee includes planners, engineers, and other designated representatives, who have a direct relationship to the transportation planning process within a specific jurisdiction on the federal, state, or local level.

The actions of the TCC are that of advising, reviewing, and supporting the Policy Board through analysis and evaluation of transportation projects, plans, and studies. This includes review and recommendations concerning the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), and the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). The everyday working knowledge and input of the people on this committee are invaluable to the transportation planning process for the planning area.

## **Scope of the Planning Process**

In developing the UPWP, the MPO must consider the current surface transportation legislation. The Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act added two planning factors to the eight retained from the

Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) as the Scope of the Planning Process. Under the FAST Act, the MPO will consider projects and strategies that are within the scope of the planning process and include:

- a. Support the economic vitality of the metropolitan area, especially by enabling global competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency.
- b. Increase the safety of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
- c. Increase the security of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
- d. Increase the accessibility and mobility of people and for freight.
- e. Protect and enhance the environment, promote energy conservation, improve quality of life, and promote consistency between transportation improvements and State and local planned growth and economic development patterns.
- f. Enhance the integration and connectivity of the transportation system, across and between modes, for people and freight.
- g. Promote efficient system management and operation.
- h. Emphasize the preservation of the existing transportation system.
- i. Improve the resiliency and reliability of the transportation system and reduce (or mitigate) the stormwater impacts on surface transportation.
- j. Enhance travel and tourism

The MPO process considers all factors in accordance with FAST Act regulations as the UPWP is prepared. This UPWP, between the Shoals Area MPO and the Alabama Department of Transportation, considers all of the above listed factors specified by FAST Act. This work program will enable the MPO to meet all deadlines and requirements with the result being an efficient functional Metropolitan Planning Process.

The UPWP tasks are all linked in some fashion, and when taken as a whole, provide the means for a cooperative, continuing, and comprehensive planning process that considers the factors specified by SAFETEA-LU. The development of the UPWP is the joint responsibility of ALDOT Local Transportation Bureau and the staff of the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO).

## **Special Planning Considerations**

### **Livability Principles and Indicators**

Increasingly, federal and state agencies are using Performance Measures as a way of ensuring greater accountability for the expenditure of public funds in an ever-growing number of programs and activities across a variety of disciplines. Within the transportation sector and the planning processes associated with transportation infrastructure development, ALDOT has adopted the Livability Principles and Indicators as a sustainability measurement against future actions.

All planning tasks must be measured against these Livability Principles:

- 1) Provide more transportation choices
- 2) Promote equitable, affordable housing
- 3) Enhance economic competitiveness
- 4) Support existing communities
- 5) Coordinate policies and leverage investment



## 6) Value Communities and neighborhoods

As a measure of sustainability of these principles, the MPO will provide the following Livability Indicators:

- Percentage of workforce using transit service
- Transit trips per capita
- Vehicle miles traveled per household
- Percentage of household income spent on housing and transportation
- Transportation costs per household
- Percent of housing units located within 0.5 miles of primary employment centers
- Percentage of LRTP funding that will be used to improve existing facilities
- Percent of transportation projects where more than one federal funding source is utilized
- Percentage of housing units within a 0.25 mile of retail services and parks
- Automobile greenhouse gas emissions per household

A description of the principles and the indicators can be found in Appendix D.

## Transportation Performance Management

MAP-21 and the FAST Act created a performance-based surface transportation program with requirements for State Departments of Transportation, Metropolitan Planning Organizations, and transit agencies. Federal Laws require MPOs to adopt targets or accept the state target for the following categories:

- Serious Injuries per Vehicle Miles Traveled, Fatalities per vehicle miles Traveled, Total Serious Injuries, Total Fatalities, Non-Motorized Fatalities and Serious Injuries;
- Percentage of Pavement on the Interstate in Good Condition, Percentage of Pavement on the Interstate in Poor Condition, Percentage of Pavement on the Non-Interstate NHS in Good Condition, Percentage of Pavement on the Non-Interstate NHS in Poor Condition, Percentage of Bridge Decks on the Non-Interstate NHS in Good Condition, Percentage of Bridge Decks on the Non-Interstate NHS in Poor Condition.
- Percentage of Person-Miles Traveled on the Interstate that are Reliable, Percentage of Person-Miles Traveled on the Non-Interstate NHS that are Reliable, Truck Travel Time Reliability Index, Annual Hours of Peak Excessive Delay Per Capita, Percent of Non-Single Occupancy Vehicle (SOV) Travel, Total Emissions Reduction.

FTA's final rule defined the term "state of good repair" (SGR) and established a minimum Federal requirement for transit asset management. This requirement applies to all recipients and subrecipients who own, operate, or manage public transportation capital assets. Three SGR performance measures include:

- Rolling Stock (Revenue Vehicles): % by type that exceed Useful Life Benchmark (ULB)
- Equipment (over \$50,000): % of non-revenue service vehicles by type that exceed ULB
- Facilities: (FTA Sponsored): % rated less than 3.0 on the TERM scale.

On July 19, 2018, FTA published the Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) Final Rule, which requires certain operators of public transportation systems that receive federal funds under FTA's

Urbanized Area Formular Grants to develop safety plans that include the processes and procedures to implement Safety Management Systems (SMS). The PTASP Final Rule below measures must be reflected in Metropolitan Transportation Plans and Transportation Improvement Programs updated or amended after July 20, 2021.

- Fatalities and Rate of Fatalities
- Injuries and Rate of Injuries
- Safety Events and Rate of Safety Events
- Mean Distance between Major Mechanical Failures

## **Public Involvement**

The MPO will comply with all federal, state, and local rules and regulations, including Title VI, Environmental Justice, the American Disabilities Act (ADA), and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The MPO will make every effort to comply with these rules and regulations during the Transportation Planning Process.

The public will have an opportunity to provide input into the development of the UPWP during the MPO Policy Board Meeting held May 4, 2021. An open public comment period will be from May 4, 2021 to early September 2021, before the final adopted UPWP.

All MPO Policy and Technical meetings are advertised on the NACOLG website, under the Events section. The public is allowed to participate in discussions held at all committee meetings. This draft UPWP is placed on the NACOLG website.

# Unified Planning Work Program Tasks

## 1.0 Administration and Public Involvement

### 1.1 MPO Administration

**Purpose** – The purpose of this task is to provide administrative support to develop a continuing, comprehensive, and cooperative transportation planning process for the metropolitan planning area.

**Previous Work** – During FY 2021 the MPO staff developed invoices, semi-annual reports, prepared financial audits, and participated in other meetings concerning administration of the transportation planning program. The MPO staff developed agendas, legal notices, advertisements and attended all meetings of the Policy Board and the Technical Coordinating Committee.

**Proposed Work** – The MPO staff will prepare agendas, meeting notices, advertisements, invoices, annual reports, cost allocation plans, and a financial audit. The staff will review the Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) and involve the private sector in the transportation planning process. The staff will attend Policy and Technical Board Meetings, staff meetings, NACOLG board meetings.

**Product(s)** – Monthly Invoices, Annual Audit Reports (Summer 2022), Meeting Agendas, Legal Notices, Minutes, Annual Reports (October 2021), Continuity of Operations Plan review (Spring 2022), Purchase office supplies for the MPO staff. Attend meetings, workshops and presentations concerning the transportation planning process.

**Staffing** – Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments (MPO Staff)

**Schedule** – October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022

If applicable, estimated completion dates are listed under the Product(s) section.

### **Financial Responsibilities**

<b>Funding Type</b>	<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Planning (PL)	PL-FHWA/FTA	\$80,000
Local Match	MPO	\$20,000
Total		\$100,000
The FHWA PL and FTA 5303 planning funds have been consolidated into the PL category		

## 1.2 Unified Planning Work Program Development

**Purpose** – The purpose of this task is to prepare a realistic and useful schedule of transportation planning tasks that will be performed by the MPO staff. These tasks will be accompanied by an accurate budget, necessary to support completion of each of these efforts during the current fiscal year.

**Previous Work** – In previous years, the MPO staff has developed an annual Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), working closely with the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) and the MPO Policy Board and Committees. Also in the past, the MPO staff has prepared a draft document in the month of June and the Policy Board has approved the final document in the month of August, after a public review and comment period.

**Proposed Work** – The MPO staff, in conjunction with the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) and the MPO Policy Board and Committees, will develop a fiscal year 2022 UPWP, as well as update the fiscal year 2021 UPWP, if needed. The MPO staff will prepare and present the Livability Indicator data as required on page 4. This data will be displayed in the plan as numbers or percentages in charts, tables, or maps.

**Product(s)** – Fiscal Year 2022 UPWP, Updated 2021 UPWP amended as needed.

**Staffing** – Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments (MPO Staff)

**Schedule** – October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022

If applicable, estimated completion dates are listed under the Product(s) section.

Draft FY 2022 UPWP - May 2021

Final FY 2022 UPWP - September 2021

### **Financial Responsibilities**

<b>Funding Type</b>	<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Planning (PL)	PL-FHWA/FTA	\$3,000
Local Match	MPO	\$750
Total		\$3,750

The FHWA PL and FTA 5303 planning funds have been consolidated into the PL category

### 1.3 MPO Planning Staff Education and Training

**Purpose** – The purpose of this task is to develop and maintain the planning proficiency of the MPO staff.

**Previous Work** – In the past, MPO staff members have attended statewide, regional, and national transportation workshops, conferences, and training sessions. This training has included travel demand modeling classes, GIS classes, and conferences and workshops that relate to the transportation planning process. The MPO staff has also read and trained using publications and the internet to enhance the proficiency of the staff.

**Proposed Work** – The MPO staff will continue to attend workshops, conferences, and training sessions to improve and enhance the transportation planning process.

**Product(s)** – Attended workshops, conferences, and training sessions.

**Staffing** – Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments (MPO Staff)

**Schedule** – October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022

If applicable, estimated completion dates are listed under the Product(s) section.

#### **Financial Responsibilities**

<b>Funding Type</b>	<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Planning (PL)	PL-FHWA/FTA	\$14,400
Local	MPO	\$3,600
Total		\$18,000
The FHWA PL and FTA 5303 planning funds have been consolidated into the PL category		

## 1.4 Capital and Operating Purchases

**Purpose** – The purpose of this task is to purchase, repair, and upgrade equipment, supplies, computer hardware, software, and furnishings necessary to manage the transportation planning process. The goal is for the staff and committees to have everything needed to conduct the process in an efficient manner.

**Previous Work** – In the past, the MPO staff purchased supplies that could not be charged to the NACOLG indirect fund. These purchases were handled as needed. Staff purchased computers (October 2020 and March 2021) and maintained software licenses and renewed annual licenses including one ArcEditor seat, one ArcView seat (October 2020), and an Adobe license (March 2021). The staff also purchased a large format printer (May 2021).

**Proposed Work** – The MPO staff will purchase supplies that cannot be charged to the NACOLG indirect fund. These purchases will be handled as needed. The MPO staff will renew annual software licenses for one ArcGIS for Desktop Standard seat (October 2021), one ArcGIS for Desktop Basic seat (October 2021) and an Adobe license (March 2022). Other software will be bought or renewed on an as needed basis.

**Product(s)** – New, repaired, or replaced equipment and supplies as needed and software maintenance agreements as needed (October 2021 & March 2022).

**Staffing** – Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments (MPO Staff)

**Schedule** – October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022

If applicable, estimated completion dates are listed under the Product(s) section.

### **Financial Responsibilities**

<b>Funding Type</b>	<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Planning (PL)	PL-FHWA/FTA	\$12,500
Local Match	MPO	\$3,125
Total		\$15,625

The FHWA PL and FTA 5303 planning funds have been consolidated into the PL category  
All capital expenditures greater than \$5,000.00 require ALDOT and FHWA approval prior to expenditure.  
Any single invoice greater than \$1,500.00 require ALDOT approval prior to expenditure.

## 2.0 Data Collection and Analysis

### 2.1 Data Collection and Maintenance

**Purpose** – The purpose of this task is to collect, update, maintain and analyze data that is used in the transportation planning process.

**Previous Work** – The MPO staff has collected, updated, and maintained census data, socioeconomic data including housing units, employment data, school enrollment, income data, and environmental data using Geographic Information Systems (GIS), database software and other software for use in the transportation planning process. This data has been used in the development of the Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), also the data has been supplied to MPO member governments, state and federal agencies, and to the general public when requested. The MPO staff has also tracked zoning, land use data, and building permit changes by Traffic Analysis Zones (TAZ) from information furnished by our building and planning departments.

**Proposed Work** – The MPO staff will collect, update, and maintain data, including socioeconomic, environmental, census data, zoning, land use, building permit data, and any other data that can be used to enhance the transportation planning process. The MPO staff will prepare and present the Livability Indicator data located on page 3 & 4 as required.

**Product(s)** – Census data, ACS Census data, land use data, environmental data, building permits, zoning data, socioeconomic data, and livability principles and indicators.

**Staffing** – Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments (MPO Staff)

**Schedule** – October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022

If applicable, estimated completion dates are listed under the Product(s) section.

#### **Financial Responsibilities**

<b>Funding Type</b>	<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Planning (PL)	PL-FHWA/FTA	\$36,843
Local Match	MPO	\$9,210.75
Total		\$46,053.75
The FHWA PL and FTA 5303 planning funds have been consolidated into the PL category		

## 3.0 Public Involvement

### 3.1 Public Involvement and Outreach

**Purpose** – The purpose of this task is to be consistent with the intent of the FAST Act legislation rules to provide for an open process, with free exchange of information and opportunity for public input at all stages of the transportation planning process. This input opportunity is also available at scheduled meetings of all committees and boards of the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO).

**Previous Work** – In the past, the MPO staff has developed a Public Participation Plan (PPP) that guides the public involvement process. This plan was updated in April 2020. The MPO staff has also conducted public presentations, workshops, and meetings concerning the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), and the Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). The MPO staff has developed meeting notices, updated the agency website, and completed mailing notifications concerning all meetings of the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO).

**Proposed Work** – The MPO staff will update the Public Participation Plan (PPP) as needed. The Staff will conduct public meetings concerning the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), the Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), and other meetings concerning the transportation planning process. The MPO staff will also make public presentations as necessary, develop and distribute documentation, news releases, meeting notices, agendas, and update the agency website, when necessary. The MPO staff will describe Performance Measures, and the Livability Principles and Livability Indicators in the Public Participation Plan (PPP), and ensure that agencies and the public have full access to documents and data as requested. The most current available data (as shown) used in operational plans (Long-Range, TIP, Congestion Management,) will be provided in the Plan.

**Product(s)** – Review of the Public Participation Plan (PPP), Website Maintenance, UPWP Public Meetings, TIP Public Meetings, LRTP Public Meetings, MPO Policy and Committee Meetings, Public Presentations, Legal Notices, MPO Written Responses, and Mailings Lists and databases.

**Staffing** – Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments (MPO Staff)

**Schedule** – October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022

If applicable, estimated completion dates are listed under the Product(s) section.

#### **Financial Responsibilities**

<b>Funding Type</b>	<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Planning (PL)	PL-FHWA/FTA	\$2,500
Local Match	MPO	\$625
Total		\$3,125
The FHWA PL and FTA 5303 planning funds have been consolidated into the PL category		



### 3.2 Title VI Planning, Environmental Justice and Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Participation

**Purpose** – The purpose of this task is to ensure that no person or business shall, on the grounds of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, or socioeconomic status, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination involving the transportation planning process.

**Previous Work** – In the past, the MPO staff has developed a yearly Title VI report. The MPO staff has also identified areas within the planning area that included low-income population, minorities, disabled, and elderly populations in the MPO planning area. Public meetings were advertised in the local newspaper, on the MPO website, and through local news releases concerning meetings held by the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The MPO staff has used the Alabama Department of Transportation’s Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) list in the selection process for goods and services involving the transportation planning process.

**Proposed Work** – The MPO staff will develop a yearly Title VI report and update public meeting notices through the MPO website and social media. The MPO staff will continue to schedule public meetings and identify underserved populations as new data becomes available. The MPO staff will ensure that it complies with the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Executive Order 13166, and FTA Circular FTA C 4702.1B, October 2012, and that it fulfills the requirements under 4702.1B of the Limited English Proficiency (LEP) provisions. The MPO will maintain the Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Plan in accordance with Circular 4702.1B, on an as-needed basis. The MPO staff will involve Disadvantaged Business Enterprises in the transportation planning process. The MPO staff will also continue to monitor progress on ADA Transition Plans and Evaluations for entities located in the planning area.

**Product(s)** – Title VI yearly report, maps of underserved areas, Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Plan review (Summer 2022), Review and update the Disadvantage Business Enterprise list (Summer 2022). Attend public meetings as needed, and update and develop public meeting notices and news releases.

**Staffing** – Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments (MPO Staff)

**Schedule** – October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022  
If applicable, estimated completion dates are listed under the Product(s) section.

Title VI Yearly Report – September 2022

#### **Financial Responsibilities**

<b>Funding Type</b>	<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Planning (PL)	PL-FHWA/FTA	\$2,500
Local Match	MPO	\$625
Total		\$3,125
The FHWA PL and FTA 5303 planning funds have been consolidated into the PL category		

## 4.0 Transportation Systems

### 4.1 Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)

**Purpose** – The purpose of this task is to provide program management and coordination in the preparation and implementation of the Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP).

**Previous Work** – In the past, the MPO planning staff has developed and maintained the Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) for the Shoals Area Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA). These plans were updated every five years and included a twenty-five-year projection of future travel demand in the planning area. Included in these plans was the development and validation of a Travel Demand Model (TDM), socioeconomic data information, and future transportation project identification. In 2020, the MPO prepared the draft and final 2045 Long-Range Transportation Plan for agency and public distribution.

**Proposed Work** – The MPO staff will continue to update the 2045 Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), as needed, to conform to air quality standards and other major issues involving changes in the planning area. The MPO will work and coordinate with the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) on setting goals, objectives, performance measures, and targets required by the FAST Act, for inclusion into the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). The MPO staff will also prepare and present the Livability Indicator data, as required on pages 3 & 4. This data will be displayed in the Plan as numbers or percentages in charts, tables, or maps.

**Product(s)** – The preliminary stages of data collection will begin for the 2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan, 2020 will be the base year for this plan. Maintain and update the current 2045 Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), to include goals, objectives, performance measures, and targets, as well as other major issues involving the transportation planning process and, if needed, hold public involvement meetings.

**Staffing** – Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments (MPO Staff)

**Schedule** – October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022

If applicable, estimated completion dates are listed under the Product(s) section.

#### **Financial Responsibilities**

<b>Funding Type</b>	<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Planning (PL)	PL-FHWA/FTA	\$1,500
Local Match	MPO	\$375
Total		\$1,875

The FHWA PL and FTA 5303 planning funds have been consolidated into the PL category

## 4.2 Transportation Model Development and Maintenance

**Purpose** – The purpose of this task is to develop and maintain traffic models, and traffic count data, for use in the transportation planning process, using Cube Voyager travel demand modeling software, and MOVES2014a for air quality modeling, in the MPO Planning Area.

**Previous Work** – In the past, the MPO staff worked with J.R. Wilburn and Associates, Inc., to develop and analyze the travel demand model and collected and updated traffic count data for use in the development of the Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and for different land use developments throughout the MPO planning area. The MPO staff has also produced maps, databases, and reports showing traffic modeling results to elected officials, stakeholder groups, and the general public.

**Proposed Work** – The MPO staff will maintain and enhance the 2015 base year model and the 2045 future year model as needed. The MPO staff will continue to update the current traffic count data, provided to us by the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT). The staff will produce maps and reports from the 2045 Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), and model any new developments or existing congestion areas, as requested by member governments. Preliminary data collection will be performed for the 2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan.

**Product(s)** – 2020 base year model and 2050 future year model development. Update the current traffic count database (summer 2021). Produce maps and reports from the 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan, as needed, and develop traffic models if requested by member governments.

**Staffing** – Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments (MPO Staff)

**Schedule** – October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022

If applicable, estimated completion dates are listed under the Product(s) section.

### **Financial Responsibilities**

<b>Funding Type</b>	<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Planning (PL)	PL-FHWA/FTA	\$1,500
Local Match	MPO	\$375
Total		\$1,875

The FHWA PL and FTA 5303 planning funds have been consolidated into the PL category

### 4.3 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

**Purpose** – The purpose of this task is to produce a four-year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) that is fiscally constrained and prioritized by fiscal year and funding sources.

**Previous Work** – In previous years, the MPO staff has developed, updated, and maintained the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The MPO staff has also held public meetings concerning the local TIP, as well as the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). An annual authorized project list has been produced and posted to the agency’s website. The MPO has updated and maintained projects in the MPO Portal, which is an internet-based software used by the MPO in the development of the TIP.

**Proposed Work** – The MPO staff, in conjunction with the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) and the MPO Policy Board and Committees will maintain and update the FY 2020 – 2023 TIP. The MPO Portal software will be used in the development, maintenance and updates to the current and future TIP. The MPO staff will include goals, objectives, performance measures and targets required by the FAST Act. The MPO staff will prepare and present Livability Indicator data as required on pages 3 and 4. This data will be displayed in the TIP as numbers or percentages in charts, tables, or maps.

**Product(s)** – Annual Authorized Project Listing, Amendments to the current TIP as needed, Inclusion of goals, objectives, performance measures, and targets into the TIP. Hold public meetings and make presentations relating to the TIP and STIP as needed.

**Staffing** – Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments (MPO staff)

**Schedule** – October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022  
If applicable, estimated completion dates are listed under the Product(s) section.

#### **Financial Responsibilities**

<b>Funding Type</b>	<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Planning (PL)	PL-FHWA/FTA	\$1,500
Local	MPO	\$375
Total		\$1,875
The FHWA PL and FTA 5303 planning funds have been consolidated into the PL category		

#### 4.4 Public Transit Planning

**Purpose** – To offer effective assistance in the preparation of plans, reports, and documents needed in the operation and management of the Public Transit System in the Metropolitan Planning Organization planning area.

**Previous Work** – In the past there has been joint participation in management reviews, planning strategies, and operational assessments between the planning staff of the MPO and local transit providers. The MPO staff assisted in the preparation of 5307 and 5311 grant applications. The MPO staff routinely checks current transit ridership records for the feasibility of fixed routes in the Shoals MPO area. The MPO staff in conjunction with the transit staff, along with local service providers, developed a Human Services Coordinated Transportation Plan (HSCTP) that included the MPO planning area, as well as the Rural Planning Organization planning area. The MPO assisted the NACOLG transit staff in developing and updating the Transit Asset Management Plan. The MPO worked with the NACOLG transit staff to set and track targets in the Transit Asset Management Plan

**Proposed Work** – The MPO staff will continue to work closely with local transit service providers on planning strategies that includes long range plans, short range plans, the Transit Asset Management Plan, and the Human Services Coordinated Transportation Plan. The MPO staff will work with the State DOT and MPOs to ensure transit issues are handled appropriately. The MPO will work and coordinate with the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) on setting goals, objectives, performance measures, and targets required by the FAST Act, for inclusion into the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP).

**Product(s)** – The product will be a task that allows the MPO staff and local transit service providers to work together on the development and implementation of the transit asset management plan, transit performance measures, planning strategies, and the Human Services Coordinated Transportation Plan.

**Staffing** – Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments (MPO staff)

**Schedule** – October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022

If applicable, estimated completion dates are listed under the Product(s) section.

#### **Financial Responsibilities**

<b>Funding Type</b>	<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Planning (PL)	PL-FHWA/FTA	\$2,000
Local	MPO	\$500
Total		\$2,500
The FHWA PL and FTA 5303 planning funds have been consolidated into the PL category		

## 4.5 Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning

**Purpose** – The purpose of this task is to monitor, enhance, and assist in the implementation of bicycle and pedestrian activities in the MPO planning area.

**Previous Work** – In the past, the MPO planning staff has developed and maintained a bicycle/pedestrian plan for the MPO planning area. The MPO staff has also assisted with the development of transportation enhancement grants for bicycle and pedestrian trails, for both recreation and as a viable form of transportation, in the MPO planning area. The MPO and a consultant created a Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan for the Shoals Area that addressed the regional needs that was endorsed August 23, 2011 and updated February 4, 2015. The revised plan was updated in 2017.

**Proposed Work** – The MPO staff will update and review the current sidewalk, bike path, and pedestrian facility database, for inclusion into the current Bicycle/Pedestrian plan as need. The MPO will also assist local governments in the application process for Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program funding for transportation alternatives (TA) that will enhance the movement of people, goods, and services in the MPO planning area. The MPO staff will prepare and present the Livability Indicator data, as required on pages 3 & 4 in this document.

**Product(s)** – Updated Bicycle/Pedestrian Plan as needed, Assistance to local governments in the preparation of Surface Transportation Block Grants (STGB) program grants for funding consideration under the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

**Staffing** – Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments (MPO staff)

**Schedule** – October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022

If applicable, estimated completion dates are listed under the Product(s) section.

### **Financial Responsibilities**

<b>Funding Type</b>	<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Planning (PL)	PL-FHWA/FTA	\$4,000
Local	MPO	\$1,000
Total		\$5,000
The FHWA PL and FTA 5303 planning funds have been consolidated into the PL category		

## 4.6 Freight Planning

**Purpose** – The purpose of this task is to identify modal and intermodal freight movements in the MPO planning area and make improvements to enhance these movements as necessary.

**Previous Work** – In the past, the MPO planning staff has hosted and participated in freight mobility workshops. The MPO staff has also analyzed congestion areas and recommended improvements to enhance the movement of goods and services throughout the MPO planning area and the North Alabama region.

**Proposed Work** – The MPO staff will provide the Policy and Technical Coordinating Committee opportunities to discuss freight planning and related issues at their regular meetings. The MPO staff will also monitor the transportation system in order to minimize potential problems that could have a negative impact on freight movements. The MPO staff will work and coordinate with the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) on setting goals objectives, performance measures, and targets required by the FAST Act concerning freight movements and operations in the planning area.

**Product(s)** – The product will include setting goals, objectives, performance measures, and targets that will be used to monitor the transportation system to enhance freight movements throughout the region. The product will also include an updated and enhanced freight database, and analysis of congested areas for the recommendation of improvements to enhance the movement of freight in the planning area.

**Staffing** – Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments (MPO Staff)

**Schedule** – October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022

If applicable, estimated completion dates are listed under the Product(s) section.

### **Financial Responsibilities**

<b>Funding Type</b>	<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Planning (PL)	PL-FHWA/FTA	\$1,500
Local	MPO	\$375
Total		\$1,875
The FHWA PL and FTA 5303 planning funds have been consolidated into the PL category		

## 4.7 Air Quality Planning

**Purpose** – The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) establishes tolerance limits on ground level and atmospheric pollutant concentrations, through enactment of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). Air Quality planning is required for planning areas in non-attainment status and those areas anticipating non-attainment. This task provides for those activities that support the overall planning effort that could eventually result in Air Quality Conformity Determination actions, and monitor Climate Change and Green House Gas Emissions in the MPO planning area.

**Previous Work** – MPO staff members have attended meetings and workshops concerning Air Quality issues. These meetings and workshops were conducted by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM). The MPO staff has also reviewed pollutant data released by the EPA and ADEM, and reported these results to all committees of the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO).

**Proposed Work** – The MPO staff will attend meetings and workshops concerning air quality. The MPO staff will also monitor the EPA and ADEM pollutant data, and present the results to all committees of the MPO. The MPO staff will develop information on Air Quality conformity/non-conformity, for use in meetings and presentations throughout the planning area.

**Product(s)** – None

**Staffing** – Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments (MPO staff)

**Schedule** – October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022

If applicable, estimated completion dates are listed under the Product(s) section.

### **Financial Responsibilities**

<b>Funding Type</b>	<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Planning (PL)	PL-FHWA/FTA	\$1,000
Local Match	MPO	\$250
Total		\$1,250

The FHWA PL and FTA 5303 planning funds have been consolidated into the PL category



## 4.8 Transportation Management and Operations Planning

**Purpose** – The purpose of this task is to assist local governments with transportation management and operations planning.

**Previous Work** – In the past, the MPO staff has worked with the MPO committees on the management and operation of the transportation system in the MPO planning area. Potential operational problems, such as traffic light timing and intersection functionality, were identified during this process and the corrective action was taken to enhance the movement of traffic throughout the MPO planning area. Studies and plans have been undertaken to identify issues and to offer solutions.

**Proposed Work** – The MPO staff will continue to assist local governments in the identification of problems concerning the management and operation of the transportation system in the MPO planning area. The MPO will work and coordinate with the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) on setting goals, objectives, performance measures, and targets required by the FAST Act concerning access management in the planning area. The MPO will also work with the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) with its Transportation System Management Operations (TSMO) program.

**Product(s)** – A process that allows all committees of the MPO to set goals, objectives, performance measures, and targets, and identify traffic problem areas related to the management and operation of the transportation system in the MPO planning area.

**Staffing** – Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments (MPO Staff)

**Schedule** – October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022

If applicable, estimated completion dates are listed under the Product(s) section.

### **Financial Responsibilities**

<b>Funding Type</b>	<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Planning (PL)	PL-FHWA/FTA	\$4,500
Local	MPO	\$1,125
Total		\$5,625

The FHWA PL and FTA 5303 planning funds have been consolidated into the PL category

## 4.9 Transportation Safety Planning

**Purpose** – The purpose of this task is to incorporate transportation safety into the transportation planning process.

**Previous Work** – In the past, the MPO staff has identified high accident locations in the MPO planning area. The MPO staff has also worked with consultants on the development of specific traffic safety studies that included recommendations on projects to help in the reduction of fatalities and crashes. The MPO staff has identified projects that included signal replacements, railroad crossing enhancements, street and intersection lighting projects, and striping projects to aid in the overall safety of the traveling public in the MPO planning area.

**Proposed Work** – The MPO staff will monitor and identify high accident locations. The MPO staff will develop maps and reports concerning safety issues. The MPO staff will work and coordinate with the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) on setting goals, objectives, performance measures, and targets required by the FAST Act, concerning safety in the metropolitan planning area. The MPO staff will also evaluate traffic movements, freight movements, and bicycle and pedestrian movements to enhance safety in the MPO planning area.

**Product(s)** – Setting Goals, objectives, performance measures and targets, identification of high accident locations, maps and reports concerning safety issues, evaluation of traffic movements, freight movements, and bicycle and pedestrian movements.

**Staffing** – Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governements (MPO Staff)

**Schedule** – October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022

If applicable, estimated completion dates are listed under the Product(s) section.

### **Financial Responsibilities**

<b>Funding Type</b>	<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Planning (PL)	PL-FHWA/FTA	\$4,000
Local	MPO	\$1,000
Total		\$5,000

The FHWA PL and FTA 5303 planning funds have been consolidated into the PL category

## 5.0 Future Planning Activities

### 5.1 Future Planning Activities

**Purpose** – The purpose of this task is to be a bookmark for future planning activities and uncommitted funds. The goal is to assist local governments with transportation management and operations planning. Funds will be used when work is identified by the MPO board.

**Previous Work** – None

**Proposed Work** – If work is identified, the MPO will amend the FY 2022 UPWP to identify the scope of work.

**Product(s)** – If work is identified, the MPO will amend the FY 2022 UPWP to identify the scope of work and products.

The MPO will do a call for planning studies at the beginning of the fiscal year, this will allow for buy in and interest from member governments.

**Staffing** – MPO Staff

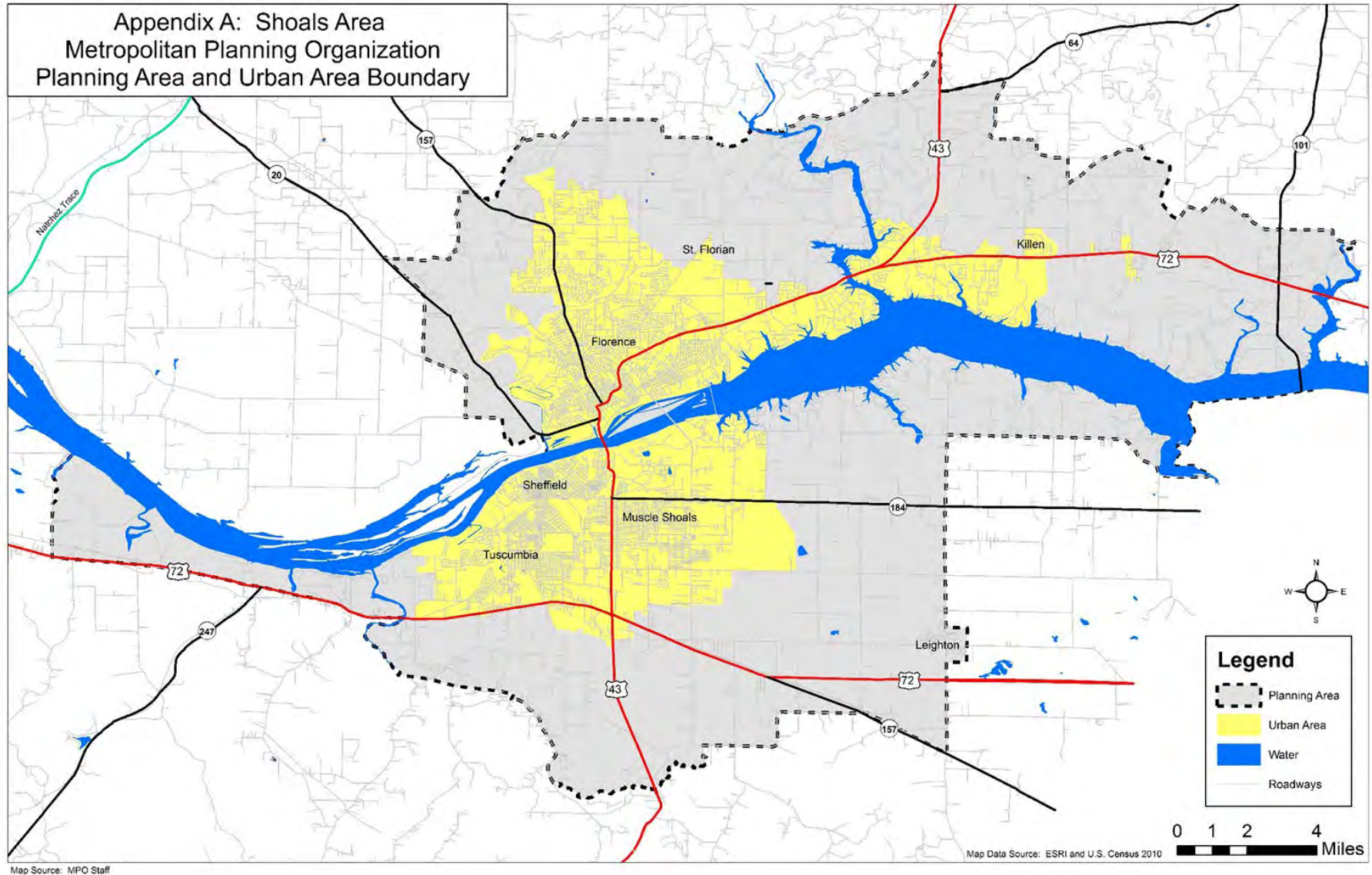
**Schedule** – October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022

#### **Financial Responsibilities**

<b>Funding Type</b>	<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Planning (PL)	PL-FHWA/FTA	\$0,000
Local	MPO	\$0,000
Total		\$0,000
The FHWA PL and FTA 5303 planning funds have been consolidated into the PL category		

# Appendices

# A. MPO Planning Area Map



## **B. MPO Organization**

### **MPO Policy Board**

The Shoals Area transportation planning process is conducted by the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The MPO is composed of two committees. The Policy Committee is the official decision making body of the process. The Policy Committee is served by one advisory committee: the Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC). The Policy Committee has the ultimate decision on transportation planning matters but the advisory committees' work and recommendations shape all of the outputs of the transportation planning process.

#### **Policy Committee**

The Policy Committee serves as the official decision making body for the Shoals Area transportation planning process. In this capacity, the Committee determines how federal transportation funds are spent in the study area. The Committee's responsibilities include providing overall guidance to the planning process, review and approval of all process plans and programs, as well as appointing TCC members. The Policy Committee is composed of fourteen members, nine voting and five non-voting.

#### **Policy Committee Voting Members**

- Joe Hackworth – Commissioner, Lauderdale County
- Kerry Underwood – Mayor, City of Tusculumbia
- Steve Stanley – Mayor, City of Sheffield
- Andy Betterton – Mayor, City of Florence
- Mike Lockhart – Mayor, City of Muscle Shoals
- Tim Tubbs – Mayor, Town of Killen
- Tommy Barnes – Commissioner, Colbert County
- Curtis W. Vincent, P.E. – North Region Engineer, Alabama Department of Transportation
- Keith Jones – Executive Director, Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments

#### **Policy Committee Non-Voting Members**

- Mr. Mark D. Bartlett – Division Administrator, Federal Highway Administration
- Mr. Bradley B. Lindsey, P.E. – State Local Transportation Engineer, Alabama Department of Transportation
- William Foster – Chairman, Technical Coordinating Committee
- Matthew Connolly – Mayor, Town of St. Florian
- Derek Silcox – Mayor, Town of Leighton

### **Technical Coordinating Committee**

The Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) provides technical support to the MPO Policy Committee. The TCC reviews MPO documents, studies, reports, plans, and programs and provides the MPO with recommendations concerning these items. The TCC members review the planning process products from a technical perspective making certain that all appropriate concerns are addressed, including local planning issues, engineering details, environmental questions, and future growth, among many others. The TCC also can make alternative recommendations for any of the products.

The TCC coordinates the work of the various departments and agencies involved in the transportation planning process. All the local governments, the State DOT, and selected other transportation interests

are represented on the TCC. The TCC members share information and data that builds and improves the planning processes and products. The TCC ensures that all the transportation projects are coordinated.

#### TCC Voting Members

- Tony Burns, City of Muscle Shoals
- Eric Hill, Lauderdale County
- Allen Teague, North Region, Alabama Department of Transportation
- Jeremy Robison, Colbert County
- David Abernathy, Lauderdale County
- John A. McGee, Town of Killen
- Charles Glover, Town of Killen
- Melissa Bailey, City of Florence
- Bill Batson, City of Florence
- Brad Williams, City of Muscle Shoals
- Fred Mason, City of Sheffield
- Mike Davis, City of Sheffield
- William Foster, City of Tuscumbia
- Jeff McDonald, City of Tuscumbia
- Hal Greer, Director, Florence / Lauderdale County Port Authority

#### TCC Non-Voting Members

- Mark Chamblee, Town of Leighton
- James Kasmeier, Town of St. Florian
- Tom Thornton, Town of St. Florian
- Barry Griffith, Director, Northwest Alabama Regional Airport
- Caitlin Holland, Shoals Area Chamber of Commerce
- Susan Gregory, Norfolk Southern
- Eddie Russell, Director, North Alabama Highway Safety Office
- Jesse E. Turner, Director of Transportation and Planning, Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments
- Joseph E. Holt, Transportation Planning Director, Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments
- Robert B. Dees, P.E. Assistant State Local Transportation Design Engineer, Alabama Department of Transportation
- Aaron Dawson, Federal Highway Administration
- Rhonda King, Federal Transit Administration

## C. Livability Principles and Indicators

### 1) Provide more transportation choices

Develop safe, reliable, and economical transportation choices to decrease household transportation costs, reduce our nation's dependence on foreign oil, improve air quality, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and promote public health.

#### Indicators

- Percentage of workforce using transit service: 1%
- Transit trips per capita: 1.40
- Percentage of jobs and housing located within a ½ mile of transit: 100% (demand responsive transit service is available within the entire urban area)
- Vehicle miles traveled per household: 22,404

### 2) Promote equitable, affordable housing

Expand location- and energy-efficient housing choices for people of all ages, incomes, races, and ethnicities to increase mobility and lower the combined cost of housing and transportation.

#### Indicator

- Percentage of household income spent on housing and transportation: 56%
- Transportation costs per household: \$12,280

### 3) Enhance economic competitiveness

Improve economic competitiveness through reliable and timely access to employment centers, educational opportunities, services, and other basic needs by workers as well as expanded business access to markets.

#### Indicator

- Percent of housing units located within 0.5 miles of primary employment centers: 52%

### 4) Support existing communities

Target federal funding toward existing communities – through such strategies as transit-oriented, mixed-use development and land recycling – to increase community revitalization, improve the efficiency of public works investments, and safeguard rural landscapes.

#### Indicators

- Percentage of LRTP funding that will be used to improve existing facilities: 70%
- Percentage of TIP funding that will be used to improve existing facilities: 87%

### 5) Coordinate policies and leverage investment

Align federal policies and funding to remove barriers to collaboration, leverage funding, and increase the accountability and effectiveness of all levels of government to plan for future growth, including making smart energy choices such as locally generated renewable energy.

#### Indicator

- Percent of transportation projects where more than one federal funding source is utilized: 0%



## **6) Value communities and neighborhoods**

Enhance the unique characteristics of all communities by investing in healthy, safe, and walkable neighborhoods – rural, urban, or suburban.

### Indicator

- Percentage of housing units within a 0.25 mile of retail services, and parks: 77%
- Automobile greenhouse gas emissions per household: 9.20 tonnes/years

\*Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, NACOLG Transit Department, Center for Neighborhood Technology (CNT)

## **D. Abbreviations, Acronyms, and Terms**

AAA - Area Agency on Aging

ADA - Americans with Disabilities Act

ADAP - Alabama Disabilities Advocacy Program

ALDOT - Alabama Department of Transportation

ARC - Appalachian Regional Commission

Bicycle / Pedestrian Scale Development - Development that consists of a mix of land uses (residential, commercial, public) in close proximity, where one could comfortably walk or ride a bicycle from their origin (e.g., residence, place of employment) to their destination (e.g., place of employment, store, government facility, park)

BR - Bridge funding program; also BRON

CA - Capital funds (transit)

CN - Construction - the final phase of transportation project, the actual building of the project

COOP - Continuity of Operations Plan

Cube Voyager - transportation computer modeling program used by the Alabama MPOs

DBE - Disadvantaged Business Enterprise

DPI or DPIP - Innovative/Special funding program, applies to projects specifically named in federal legislation

EPA - Environmental Protection Agency

FAST Act - Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (P.L. 114-94, December 4, 2015) replaced MAP-21

FHWA - Federal Highway Administration

FTA - Federal Transit Administration

Functional Classification System - a system to distinguish roads according to the type of service they are intended to provide

GIS - Geographic Information System - a computer system that ties together cartographic images with databases, it allows the user to create new maps and databases through various means including overlay and query operations

ISTEA - Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991; replaced first by TEA-21 then SAFETEA-LU

ITS - Intelligent Transportation System

JARC - Job Access and Reverse Commute - Federal Transit Administration Section 5317 funding program

LAP - Language Assistance Plan

LEP - Limited English Proficiency

Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) - a transportation plan that outlines the projects that will be required to meet the needs of an area over an extended period of time usually 20 years, updated every 4 to 5 years

MAP-21 - Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (P.L. 112-151, July 6, 2012)

MPO - Metropolitan Planning Organization, Shoals Area MPO

NACOLG - Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments

New Freedom - Federal Transit Administration Section 5317 funding program

NHS - National Highway System, a transportation funding category, only projects on designated NHS routes can use these funds; also NHSP

OP - Operating funds (transit)

PE - Preliminary Engineering - the first phase of most transportation projects, the study and design of the project

PEA - Planning Emphasis Areas

Public Participation Plan/Public Involvement Plan (PPP/PIP) - federally required plan that details public involvement procedures and principles of the MPO

ROW - Right of Way - a phase of transportation projects, the purchase of right of way

RPO - Rural Planning Organization, Northwest Alabama RPO

RW - Right of Way - a phase of transportation projects, the purchase of right of way

SAFETEA-LU - Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users - (Pub. L. 109–59, August 10, 2005)

Section 5303 - Federal Transit Administration funding program for technical studies

Section 5307 - Federal Transit Administration funding program for urban area transit capital and operating expenses

Section 5309 - Federal Transit Administration funding program for capital transit improvements

Section 5310 - Federal Transit Administration funding program for elderly and disabled transit capital assistance

Section 5311 - Federal Transit Administration funding program for rural area transit capital and operating expenses

Section 5316 - Federal Transit Administration funding program for job access and reverse commute transit, aka JARC

Section 5317 - Federal Transit Administration funding program for new Americans with Disabilities Act transit assistance, aka New Freedoms

Section 5339 - Federal Transit Administration funding program for replacement, rehabilitation and purchase buses, vans, and related equipment, and to construct bus-related facilities

ST - State funding

STAA - Surface Transportation Any Area funding category, represents funds that may be used anywhere in the state, ALDOT has the authority to allocate these funds

STBG – Surface Transportation Block Grant program

STIP - State Transportation Improvement Program

STOA - Surface Transportation Other Area funding category, represents funds that are used in Urban Areas with Populations less than 200,000

STP - Surface Transportation Program, a transportation funding category, Urban Areas are allocated an amount of funds annually based on a certain dollar amount per capita

TAP - Transportation Alternatives Program

TAZ - Transportation Analysis Zone - districts used for computer traffic modeling

TCC - Technical Coordinating Committee

TEA-21 - Transportation Equity Act of the 21st Century

TELUS - Transportation, Economic, and Land Use System (TELUS) - web-based software used to manage and integrate the TIP and STIP processes and databases; replaced by MPO Portal

TIP - Transportation Improvement Program - a list of projects slated to begin over a 4-year period, revised/rebalanced every year and updated every four years

TR - Transit project

UMTA - Urban Mass Transit Administration; now FTA

UPWP - Unified Planning Work Program - a set of tasks that the WARC staff is committed to perform over a fiscal year, updated annually

Urban Area Boundary - boundary surrounding a Census Bureau defined urbanized area, established by the MPO with ALDOT and FHWA approval

UT - Utility Construction - a phase of transportation projects, the relocation of utilities

## E. Budget Summary Tables

### Unified Planning Work Program FY 2022 Funding Sources

<u>Task</u>	<u>Planning (PL) - FHWA/FTA</u>	<u>Local Match</u>	<u>Total (Planning PL - FHWA/FTA)</u>
1.1 MPO Administration	\$ 85,500.00	\$ 21,375.00	\$ 106,875.00
1.2 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Development	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 2,250.00	\$ 11,250.00
1.3 MPO Planning Staff Education and Training	\$ 14,120.00	\$ 3,530.00	\$ 17,650.00
1.4 Capital and Operating Purchases	\$ 12,500.00	\$ 3,125.00	\$ 15,625.00
2.1 Data Collection and Maintenance	\$ 38,223.00	\$ 9,555.75	\$ 47,778.75
3.1 Public Involvement and Outreach	\$ 8,200.00	\$ 2,050.00	\$ 10,250.00
3.2 Title VI Planning, Environmental Justice, and Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Participation	\$ 8,200.00	\$ 2,050.00	\$ 10,250.00
4.1 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 875.00	\$ 4,375.00
4.2 Transportation Model Development and Maintenance	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 875.00	\$ 4,375.00
4.3 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)	\$ 5,200.00	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 6,500.00
4.4 Public Transit Planning	\$ 6,700.00	\$ 1,675.00	\$ 8,375.00
4.5 Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning	\$ 5,800.00	\$ 1,450.00	\$ 7,250.00
4.6 Freight Planning	\$ 5,450.00	\$ 1,362.50	\$ 6,812.50
4.7 Air Quality Planning	\$ 5,450.00	\$ 1,362.50	\$ 6,812.50
4.8 Transportation Management and Operations Planning	\$ 5,700.00	\$ 1,425.00	\$ 7,125.00
4.9 Transportation Safety Planning	\$ 6,200.00	\$ 1,550.00	\$ 7,750.00
5.1 Future Planning Activities	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Sub-Totals</b>	<b>\$ 223,243.00</b>	<b>\$ 55,810.75</b>	<b>\$ 279,053.75</b>

#### Totals

*Note: SPR and SLS funds are not included on a per task basis for this worksheet.*

*The FHWA PL and FTA 5303 planning funds have been consolidated into the PL category.*

*MPOs may carry over funds for 3 years. The oldest unexpended funds will be returned to the funding pool for reallocation.*

**FY 2022 PROPOSED AGENCY PARTICIPATION**

<b>TASKS</b>		<b>NACOLG (MPO)</b>	<b>ALDOT</b>	<b>CONSULTANTS</b>	<b>TOTALS</b>
1.1	MPO Administration	\$ 106,875.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 106,875.00
1.2	Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Development	\$ 11,250.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 11,250.00
1.3	MPO Planning Staff Education and Training	\$ 17,650.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 17,650.00
1.4	Capital and Operating Purchases	\$ 15,625.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15,625.00
2.1	Data Collection and Maintenance	\$ 47,778.75	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 47,778.75
3.1	Public Involvement and Outreach	\$ 10,250.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,250.00
3.2	Title VI Planning, Environmental Justice, and Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Participation	\$ 10,250.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,250.00
4.1	Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)	\$ 4,375.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,375.00
4.2	Transportation Model Development and Maintenance	\$ 4,375.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,375.00
4.3	Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)	\$ 6,500.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,500.00
4.4	Public Transit Planning	\$ 8,375.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,375.00
4.5	Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning	\$ 7,250.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,250.00
4.6	Freight Planning	\$ 6,812.50	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,812.50
4.7	Air Quality Planning	\$ 6,812.50	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,812.50
4.8	Transportation Management and Operations Planning	\$ 7,125.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,125.00
4.9	Transportation Safety Planning	\$ 7,750.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,750.00
5.1	Future Planning Activities	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	ALDOT Technical Support	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	<b>TOTALS</b>	\$ 279,053.75	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 279,053.75

**F. Other Major Planning Activities in the Metropolitan Planning Area Fiscal Year 2022**

This list describes other major planning activities that will be ongoing during the current fiscal year.

Sponsor	Description	Website (If Available)
Alabama Department of Transportation	Future – Alabama Public Involvement Plan	ALDOT Website – <a href="https://www.dot.state.al.us/">https://www.dot.state.al.us/</a>
Alabama Department of Transportation	Future – Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan	ALDOT Website – <a href="https://www.dot.state.al.us/">https://www.dot.state.al.us/</a>
Alabama Department of Transportation	Future – Alabama Rail Plan – Update	ALDOT Website – <a href="https://www.dot.state.al.us/">https://www.dot.state.al.us/</a>
Alabama Department of Transportation	Future – Transportation Asset Management Plan (TAM)	ALDOT Website – <a href="https://www.dot.state.al.us/">https://www.dot.state.al.us/</a>
Alabama Department of Transportation	Statewide Airport System Plan	ALDOT Website – <a href="https://www.dot.state.al.us/">https://www.dot.state.al.us/</a>
Alabama Department of Transportation	Statewide Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan	ALDOT Website – <a href="https://www.dot.state.al.us/">https://www.dot.state.al.us/</a>
Alabama Department of Transportation	Statewide Freight Plan	ALDOT Website – <a href="https://www.dot.state.al.us/">https://www.dot.state.al.us/</a>
Alabama Department of Transportation	Statewide Highway Safety Plan	ALDOT Website – <a href="https://www.dot.state.al.us/">https://www.dot.state.al.us/</a>
Alabama Department of Transportation	Statewide Management Plan	ALDOT Website – <a href="https://www.dot.state.al.us/">https://www.dot.state.al.us/</a>
Alabama Department of Transportation	Alabama Rail Plan	ALDOT Website – <a href="https://www.dot.state.al.us/">https://www.dot.state.al.us/</a>
Alabama Department of Transportation	Statewide Transportation Plan	ALDOT Website – <a href="https://www.dot.state.al.us/">https://www.dot.state.al.us/</a>

Sponsor	Description	Website (If Available)
Shoals Area MPO	Transportation Improvement Program	NACOLG Website <a href="https://www.nacolg.org/images/pdf/FY-2020-2023--TIP--final.pdf">https://www.nacolg.org/images/pdf/FY-2020-2023--TIP--final.pdf</a>
Shoals Area MPO	Unified Planning Work Program	NACOLG Website <a href="https://www.nacolg.org/images/pdf/transportation_planning/Shoals-Area-MPO--FY-2021--UPWP.pdf">https://www.nacolg.org/images/pdf/transportation_planning/Shoals-Area-MPO--FY-2021--UPWP.pdf</a>
Shoals Area MPO	Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan	NACOLG Website <a href="https://www.nacolg.org/images/pdf/2017--shoals-area--mpo--bicycle-and-pedestrian-plan.pdf">https://www.nacolg.org/images/pdf/2017--shoals-area--mpo--bicycle-and-pedestrian-plan.pdf</a>
Shoals Area MPO	Inspiration Landing Development Access Study	NACOLG Website <a href="https://www.nacolg.org/images/pdf/Sheffield-Inspiration-Landing-Access-Study-Report_wAppendices.pdf">https://www.nacolg.org/images/pdf/Sheffield-Inspiration-Landing-Access-Study-Report_wAppendices.pdf</a>
Shoals Area MPO	Gresham and Middle Roads Corridor Study	NACOLG Website <a href="https://www.nacolg.org/images/pdf/Gresham-Road-Middle-Road-Planning-Study-REVISED-v3.1-REDUCED-SIZE.pdf">https://www.nacolg.org/images/pdf/Gresham-Road-Middle-Road-Planning-Study-REVISED-v3.1-REDUCED-SIZE.pdf</a>
Shoals Area MPO	North Pine Street Corridor Study	NACOLG Website <a href="https://www.nacolg.org/images/pdf/PineStreetTrafficStudy.pdf">https://www.nacolg.org/images/pdf/PineStreetTrafficStudy.pdf</a>
Shoals Area MPO	Shoals Area Railroad Overpass Feasibility Study	NACOLG Website <a href="https://www.nacolg.org/railstudy">https://www.nacolg.org/railstudy</a>
Shoals Area MPO	2045 Shoals Area Long-Range Transportation Plan	NACOLG Website <a href="https://www.nacolg.org/images/pdf/shoals-area-mpo-2045-long-range-transportation-plan.pdf">https://www.nacolg.org/images/pdf/shoals-area-mpo-2045-long-range-transportation-plan.pdf</a>