Metroplan RAC 101: Part 1

Regional Advisory Committees
Thursday, July 11, 2019
Today’s Meeting Schedule

1. Welcome & Introductions
2. MPO Planning Requirements
3. Upcoming Schedule
4. Committee Survey
5. Committee Members Introductions
6. Questions
Today’s Objectives

1. Overview of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs)
2. Metroplan and its organizational structure
3. General planning requirements
4. Survey
5. Next steps
WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS
Metroplan Staff

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Planning Technician

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WHAT IS AN MPO? WHY DOES IT EXIST?
Post-WWII Eisenhower Initiative

Interstate system:

1. Proposed as improvement to national security
2. Allowed “happy motoring”
3. Provided jobs in construction, housing, manufacturing
4. Revitalized automobile industry
New Freeways were great, until they were cut through cities.
What did this mean in Little Rock?
Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1962

- Created *Metropolitan Planning Organizations*
- Gave a *veto* to metropolitan *regions*
- Required *urban transportation planning.*
- Mandated local jurisdictions work together
  - as *confederations* if not “*united regions*”
Metroplan was formed in 1955 to aid in the recruitment of the Little Rock Airbase.
Metroplan became the MPO for central Arkansas in 1972 by order of Governor Dale Bumpers (Federal Legislation creating MPOs passed in 1962?)

In 1992 the Metroplan first planned for a four county metropolitan region.
How did I get Invited?

• Applied as an Individual

• Member jurisdiction representative
  
  Selected by county caucuses and confirmed by Metroplan Board

• Applied as an organization

  Selected by executive committee and confirmed by Metroplan Board
Expectations

• Attendance (75% mandated)
• Bring your viewpoint to the discussion
• Respectful of other opinions
  – Agreement not expected
WHERE WE ARE TODAY
How Big Are We?

745,553
(Five-Year Increments)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Growth Rate</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1980-85</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1985-90</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
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<tr>
<td>1990-95</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
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<tr>
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<td>1.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2000-05</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
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<td>2005-10</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010-15</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
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</table>
Population Growth by County 1990-2018

**Population Gain**

- **Faulkner**: 64,405
- **Lonoke**: 33,465
- **Pulaski**: 49,071
- **Saline**: 56,579

**Rate of Gain**

- **Faulkner**: 107%
- **Lonoke**: 85%
- **Pulaski**: 14%
- **Saline**: 88%
Commuting

- Regional economy worth $38.9 billion.
- A metro area is a trading region
- Commuting is part of this trade
The region experiences significant cross-county commuting, particularly from other counties into Pulaski County, which contains three-fourths of the region's employment.
Top Nine Cities by Population 2018
Metroplan Requirements
(federal regulations paraphrased)

1. Coordinate transportation planning over the Central Arkansas for region mobility for:
   a) Surface Transportation Modes
   b) Transportation Agencies
   c) Economic Development
   d) Environmental Considerations
   e) Public Involvement
Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)
Long-range plan with a 20+ year horizon
Updated every 5 years

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
Short-range implementation plan of MTP projects
Updated at least every 4 years

These additional documents support the MTP and TIP and are also required:

- Public Participation Plan (3-P)
- Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)
- Annual List of Obligated Projects (ALOP)
- Title VI Program and LEP Plan
MPO OPERATIONS
Composed of:
- Mayors & County Judges
- Hot Springs Village
- Rock Region METRO
- ArDOT
- Clinton National Airport
- LR Port Authority

Responsibilities:
- Decision-making body
- Final authority

All member jurisdictions have a seat on the Metroplan Board of Directors.
Responsibilities:

• Provide direction to staff, Regional Advisory Committees, and any ad hoc or other advisory committees
  • Receive and consider reports and recommendations from staff and committees
  • Make recommendations to Board of Directors
Regional Advisory Committees (RAC)

25 members per committee, representing organizations, transportation professionals, and informed citizens
What is your responsibility?

Long-Range Metropolitan Transportation Plan

• Provide diverse expert opinion to the Metroplan Board.

• Provide for public input into the planning process.

• To recommend plan elements to the Metroplan Board.
10 Planning Factors
(federal regulations paraphrased)

1. Economic Vitality
2. Accessibility and Mobility - People and Freight
3. Travel and Tourism
4. Safety
5. Security
6. Efficiency
7. Preservation
8. Resilience and Reliability
9. Environment, Quality of Life, and Land Use Consistency
10. System Integration and Connectivity
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Central Arkansas 2050

• Current MTP
• December 2018
• Guides sustainable regional development
  – Transportation
  – Land development
  – Environment
  – Health
  – The Economy
MTP Requirements

- Strategies and Actions
- Financially constrained
  - Can we reasonably pay for it?
Key MTP Components

• Regional Trends
• Vision, Goals, Objectives (RAC)
• Project List
• Performance Measures
MTP Requirements

- Performance measures
  - Congestion
  - Infrastructure Condition
  - Safety
Plan Development

• Initial staff research
• RAC involvement
• Public outreach
• RAC help craft planning
• Board confirms our direction
Plan Drafting

• Staff drafts sections
• Sections presented to RAC
• RAC agrees upon details
• RAC recommendations
After Adoption

- RAC are the champions
- Communities must implement plans:
  - Comprehensive Plans
  - Master Street Plans
  - Subdivision Ordinances
  - Zoning & Land Development
  - Projects/Policy support plan
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METROPLAN
TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)

TIP
TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
2019–2022

CARTS
Central Arkansas
Regional Transportation Study

METROPLAN
SMART PLANNING MAKES SMART PLACES.
Financial Constraint
Metropolitan Transportation Plan and TIP

- Ensures practicality of plan by:
  - Limiting projects to projected revenue
  - Adjusted cost for construction year

§450.324  Development and content of the metropolitan transportation plan. (11)
Relationship of Plan to TIP

Financial Constraint

Vision Plan  Constrained Plan  TIP  Construction

ASPIRE  Man with cane  Money  Stack of money

Road with trees and cars
Central Arkansas
Federal Transportation Spending

- ArDOT, $93M, 83%
- Metroplan, $12M, 11%
- Rock Region METRO/Conway Transit, $7M, 6%

Source: Central Arkansas 2050 Fundmarks
Relationship of Plan to TIP

Financial Constraint

Vision Plan  Constrained Plan  TIP  Construction
Metroplan Sub-allocation
(Selected by the Metroplan Board of Directors)

Surface Transportation Program

Transportation Alternatives Program
Schedule

– August/September (Orientation 2)
– September – December
  • Horizon 2020 a historical review
– 2020 – Vision, Goals, and Measures for New Plan
– 2021-2022 New Draft Plan
Thank you for providing your input through the following questions. This survey is anonymous; please do not write your name on the page. Your responses are intended to help inform staff as we develop material for future RAC meetings.

Your Community

1. Would you describe your neighborhood as “walkable”?  ○ Yes  ○ Somewhat  ○ No  ○ Unsure

2. Would you describe your city as “walkable”?  ○ Yes  ○ Somewhat  ○ No  ○ Unsure

3. To get to your home, does a pedestrian have to take the same path as a car?  ○ Yes  ○ No  ○ Unsure

4. Does your city require sidewalks?  ○ Yes  ○ No  ○ Unsure

5. Does your city require bike lanes?  ○ Yes  ○ No  ○ Unsure

6. Does your city build new sidewalks with every new street construction project?  ○ Yes  ○ No  ○ Unsure

7. Are developments, residential and commercial, required to connect to adjacent development:
   A. For vehicles?  ○ Yes  ○ No  ○ Unsure
   B. For pedestrians?  ○ Yes  ○ No  ○ Unsure

8. Consider the commercial and office parking lots in your city. Who is better accommodated?
   ○ Cars  ○ People  ○ Both  ○ Neither- what a mess

9. Will your city’s regulations permit a development similar to Hendrix Village, Rockwater Harbour, or Seaside, Florida?
   ○ Yes  ○ No  ○ Unsure

10. Does your city/county accommodate bicyclists:
    A. Does your city/county have striped bike lanes?  ○ Yes  ○ No  ○ Unsure  ○ Some
    B. Does your city/county have shared use paths?  ○ Yes  ○ No  ○ Unsure  ○ Some
COMMITTEE MEMBER
INTRODUCTIONS