

**CUMBERLAND URBANIZED AREA  
METROPOLITAN PLANNING  
ORGANIZATION**

**Unified Planning Work Program**

Fiscal Year 2010

July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009 – June 30<sup>th</sup> 2010

**RESOLUTION**

No. 09-15

Resolution endorsing the Draft Fiscal Year 2010 Unified Planning Work Program, approving its submission to both the Federal Transit Administration and the Federal Highway Administration.

WHEREAS, the Cumberland Area Metropolitan Planning Organization was established to manage and provide policy direction to the Unified Planning Program in accordance with Federal requirements, and the Allegany County Commissioners have been designated as the temporary Metropolitan Planning Organization for this area as approved by Maryland Governor Harry Hughes on May 17, 1982; and

WHEREAS, the staff of the Maryland Department of Transportation and the Allegany County Department of Community Services, have together prepared a draft work program and budget for Fiscal Year 2010 in compliance with applicable Federal programs and regulations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Allegany County Commissioners acting as the temporary Cumberland Area Metropolitan Planning Organization endorses the Draft Fiscal Year 2010 Unified Planning Work Program; approves its submission to the appropriate Federal agencies; and declares its intent to enter into contractual arrangements as necessary to carry out the work, with the understanding that if the work program and budget is revised through negotiations with Federal funding agencies it will be subject to approval by the Cumberland Area Metropolitan Planning Organization.

ADOPTED THIS 2<sup>nd</sup> day of July, 2009.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF  
ALLEGANY COUNTY, MARYLAND

Absent from meeting  
James J. Stakeem, President

Robert M. Hutcheson  
Robert M. Hutcheson, Commissioner

Dale R. Lewis  
Dale R. Lewis, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Carol A. Gaffney  
Carol A. Gaffney, Clerk to the  
Allegany County Commissioners

**CUMBERLAND URBANIZED AREA  
UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM FY 2010**

I. BACKGROUND AND INTRODUCTION

A. *Status of the Urbanized Area*

The Cumberland Urbanized Area as defined by the U.S. Census in 1980 and 1990 included portions of Allegany County Maryland and Mineral County West Virginia. The Maryland portion included Cumberland and Frostburg and the surrounding areas. The requirement for classification as an urbanized area is a population of at least 50,000. The population of the urbanized area in 1980 was approximately 59,000, and in 1990 it declined to approximately 55,000. In 2000 the population remained fairly constant and is now at about the same level as in 1990.

B. *FHWA/FTA Regulations for Urban Transportation Planning*

Since the 1960's, the federal government has established urban transportation planning requirements in all metropolitan areas, as a prerequisite to the approval of federal funding (23 CFR Part 450 and 49 CFR Part 613). The regulations require a continuing, comprehensive and cooperative (3-C) planning process in all urbanized areas of more than 50,000.

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) of the U.S. Department of Transportation issued amendments effective June 30, 1983 to their existing regulations governing urban transportation planning under FHWA and FTA grant programs. These amendments were partially intended to simplify administration of the planning process for urbanized areas under 200,000 population such as the Cumberland area.

In 1991 the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) was passed. This act revised some of the established regulations and procedures and placed a new emphasis on Metropolitan Planning Organizations. As part of this Act the MPO planning process has been more specifically defined and new planning requirements have been prescribed.

In 1998 the Transportation Equity Act for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (TEA-21) was passed continuing the initiatives of the 1991 Act, and adding several new provisions and programs.

In 2005 the Safe Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) was passed. This Act which provides for the Country's largest surface transportation investment ever retained most of the planning provisions of the previous legislation and added several new metropolitan transportation planning requirements.

C. *Steps Taken to Comply with FHWA/FTA Regulations*

The Allegany County Commissioners, acting in their role as the temporary Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), annually approve and amend as appropriate the Transportation Improvement Program as required by U.S. DOT, to be eligible to receive funding for the regions transportation projects.

**CUMBERLAND URBANIZED AREA  
UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM - FY 2010**

A. Core Planning \$1,250  
Ongoing

1. Transportation Improvement Program

Objectives: To develop the Cumberland Urbanized Area Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for FY 2010-FY 2013 as specified by the Federal urban transportation planning requirements.

Previous Work: FY 2008 Transportation Improvement Program.

Methodology: Compile a comprehensive list of federally funded transportation improvements recommended for implementation during the 3-year program period. The document will represent the region's transportation priorities and include realistic financially constrained cost estimates.

End Product: FY 2010 – FY 2013 Cumberland Urbanized Area Transportation Improvement Program.

Staffing: Jointly by MDOT & MPO.

2. Coordination/Administration \$12,000  
Ongoing

Objectives: This is a continuing task and includes all necessary coordination and administration associated the performance of the urban transportation planning process through this Unified Planning Work Program. Included in this activity is the coordination between federal, state, county and municipal levels of government by the MPO. This task also includes the following sub-tasks:

- Participation in and attendance at meetings of the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations.
- Development of the FY 2011 Unified Planning Work Program.

Previous Work: This is an ongoing or continuing task.

Methodology: In addition to the sub-tasks mentioned above this task includes the day-to-day operation of the MPO including but not limited to compliance with requests for data and the preparation of presentations to the MPO policy body (The Allegany County Commissioners).

End Products:  
- FY 2011 Unified Planning Work Program

Staffing: Jointly by MDOT & MPO.

B. Special Studies

1. Transit System Evaluation \$15,000  
Ongoing

Objectives: To assemble data that meets the standards set by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for use in the National Transit Database on ridership, mileage and other characteristics of the Allegany County Transit System within the Cumberland Urbanized Area.

Previous Work: Previously limited statistical data was collected and tabulated. This task will formalize and refine the collection, tabulation, storage and analysis of the transit system statistical data.

Methodology:

- Evaluate the format for the collection and analysis of data that was used in FY 2009. Revise collection and analysis tools as appropriate.
- Various service indicators of performance will be considered and data will be collected including ridership by route and time of day, vehicle route miles traveled, total vehicle miles, hours of operation, cost per route mile, revenue by route and other data.

End Product: Statistical reports to support the National Transit Database Annual Report and to serve as a basis for service evaluation and route planning. This is an ongoing task.

Staffing: MPO

2. Transit System Safety Plan Evaluation \$5,000  
Ongoing

Objectives: A task in the FY 2007 Cumberland Urbanized Area Unified Planning Work Program provided for the development of a Transit System Safety Plan. The plan was completed and some of the recommendations and strategies have been implemented. The purpose of this task is to complete a preliminary evaluation and assessment of these actions.

Previous Work: The September 2006 Transit System Safety, Security and Emergency Preparedness Plan, and the annual updates.

Methodology: The consultant that developed the Transit System Safety Plan will assess and evaluate the effectiveness of the recommendations that have been implemented as a result of the plan. Findings will be documented and if necessary modifications to the actions and improvements will be proposed.

End Product: A report that evaluates the effectiveness of the Allegany County Transit System Safety Plan.

Staffing: MPO and Consultants.

3. Google Transit Link \$3,250  
March 31, 2010

Objective: To make scheduling trips easier for the public by linking the Allegany County Transit website with Google Transit.

Previous Work: Development of the Allegany County Transit website.

Methodology: Update the Allegany County Transit website so that it can be linked with the Google Maps interface. This update would include routes, schedules, stops, and fares.

End Product: A website that can be viewed on mobile devices and as a layer on Google Earth.

Staffing: MPO

4. Traffic Circulation Signage Plan \$55,000  
June 30, 2010

Objective: To develop recommendations to improve safety and traffic flow in the Cumberland Urbanized Area.

Previous Work: The City of Cumberland's Signage Plan.

Methodology: The consultants will assist the MPO in the development of signage plan.

End Product: A list of alternative solutions to address the area's signage issues.

Staffing: MPO and Consultants.

5. Cresaptown Area Transportation Plan \$9,396  
April 30, 2010

Objective: The Cresaptown Area was selected for study not only because of its proximity to LaVale, but also because it has a history of transportation problems that are being intensified by industrial and residential development just to the south of the urbanized area along the US 220 Corridor. As in LaVale, the Cresaptown Area has an aging population that will soon need more public transportation and it is also a vital link in the US 219/US 220-north south highway corridor. The MPO will not only be assessing the impact of development on transportation needs but also the impact of transportation on housing, economic development, community facilities, public safety and natural resources.

Previous Work: Allegany County Comprehensive Plan, Transportation Plan for Allegany County, and the Cumberland Area Transportation Plan.

Methodology: A team of consultants with expertise in the development of small area plans has been retained to complete this task.

End Product: A list of alternative solutions to address the area's transportation issues.

Staffing: MPO and Consultants.

6. Intersection Study \$6,000  
June 30, 2010

Objective: To develop recommendations to prevent future problems at key intersections off MD 36 in the LaVale planning area.

Previous Work: LaVale Area Plan.

Methodology: The consultant will assist the MPO in the development of plans to protect or improve key intersections off MD 36 in the LaVale planning area.

End Product: A set of recommendations to protect key intersections off MD 36 in the LaVale planning area.

Staffing: MPO and Consultants.

7. Willowbrook Road Study \$1,000  
June 30, 2010

Objective: The Willowbrook Road area was selected for study not only because it has a history of transportation problems because of the community facilities that have been built in the area over the years, but also because of the commercial development being planned in the area including a new hospital. Willowbrook Road could become part of a link between MD Route 51 and I-68. If this possible link is not planned for it could have a significant negative impact on the traffic in the area. Because of the number of services that will be available in the area, the County will need more public transportation services. The study will not only assess the impact of development on transportation needs but also the impact of transportation on housing, economic development, community facilities, public safety and natural resources.

Previous Work: Allegany County Comprehensive Plan, Transportation Development Plan for Allegany County and the

Cumberland Area Long Range Transportation Plan.

End Product: A list of alternative solutions to address the area's transportation issues.

Staffing: MPO and Consultants.

8. Long Range Transportation Plan

Objective: The MPO adopted its Long Range Transportation Plan in September 2005, and is required by federal regulations to update the Plan on a five-year cycle. To meet this schedule, the Plan will need to be reviewed revised and adopted in FY 2011, but most of the work will be completed during FY 2010.

Previous Work: The Cumberland Long Range Transportation Plan was adopted in September 2005 and an addendum to address SAFETEA-LU compliance was adopted in July 2007.

Methodology: A consultant will be retained to lead the effort to update the Plan and to ensure that the Plan complies with federal regulations. The MPO staff will also be heavily involved with the Plan's update, and the MPO's adopted Public Participation Plan, which was adopted in June 2008, will be followed to ensure that the public is included as well.

Staffing: Jointly by MPO and MDOT, and consultants

Funding: Funding for the Plan update will be provided by the Maryland Department of Transportation Office of Planning and Capital Programming. A cost estimate for this task is pending and will be developed after the scope of services is defined.

**CUMBERLAND URBANIZED AREA  
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
FY 2010  
UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM**

	FHWA	FTA	MDOT	COUNTY	TOTAL
<b>A. CORE PLANNING</b>					
1 TIP	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 125.00	\$ 125.00	\$ 1,250.00
2 Coordnation/Administration	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 3,600.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 12,000.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 6,500.00</b>	<b>\$ 4,100.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,325.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,325.00</b>	<b>\$ 13,250.00</b>
<b>B. SPECIAL STUDIES</b>					
1 Transit System Evaluation	\$ -	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 15,000.00
2 Transit System Safety Plan Evaluation	\$ -	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 5,000.00
3 Google Transit		\$ 2,600.00	\$ 325.00	\$ 325.00	\$ 3,250.00
4 Traffic Circulation & Signage Plan	\$ 44,000.00	\$ -	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 55,000.00
5 Cresaptown Area Plan	\$ 4,982.00	\$ 2,535.00	\$ 939.50	\$ 939.50	\$ 9,396.00
6 Intersection Study	\$ 4,800.00		\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 6,000.00
7 Willowbrook Road Study	\$ 600.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 1,000.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 54,382.00</b>	<b>\$ 21,335.00</b>	<b>\$ 9,464.50</b>	<b>\$ 9,464.50</b>	<b>\$ 94,646.00</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 60,882.00</b>	<b>\$ 25,435.00</b>	<b>\$ 10,789.50</b>	<b>\$ 10,789.50</b>	<b>\$ 107,896.00</b>

Task 8: Long Range Transportation Plan will be entirely funded by the Maryland Department of Transportation, Office of Planning and Capital Programming. The cost estimate for this effort is pending.