

Cumberland Urbanized Area
Metropolitan Planning Organization

Unified Planning
Work Program

Fiscal Year 2012
July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012

**CUMBERLAND URBANIZED AREA
UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM
FY 2012**

Federal Project Number: MD-81-0007

Cumberland Area Metropolitan Planning Organization
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I.

RESOLUTION

No. 11-21

Resolution endorsing the Draft Fiscal Year 2012 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 2012 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 2012 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 23rd day of June, 2011.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
ALLEGANY COUNTY, MARYLAND

Michael W. McKay
Michael W. McKay, President

Creade V. Brodie, Jr.
Creade V. Brodie, Jr., Commissioner

William R. Valentine
William R. Valentine, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Cathy E. Blank
Cathy E. Blank, Clerk to the
Allegany County Commissioners

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 21st 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.

II. Work Program by Task

A. Core Planning

1. MPO Administration

Ongoing \$15,000.00

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 2013 Unified Planning Work Program.

Previous Work: This is an ongoing or continuing task.

2. Transportation Improvement Plan

Ongoing \$1,500.00

Objectives: To develop the Cumberland Urbanized Area Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for FY 2012-FY 2015 as specified by the Federal urban transportation planning requirements.

Previous Work: FY 2011 – FY 2014 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 2012 – FY 2015 Cumberland Urbanized Area Transportation Improvement Program.

Staffing: Jointly by MDOT & MPO.

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 2013 Unified Planning Work Program

Staffing: Jointly by MDOT & MPO.

B. Special Studies

1. Transit System Evaluation

Ongoing \$15,427.50

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 2011. 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

Ongoing

\$5,000.00

- Objectives: A task in the FY 2012 Cumberland Urbanized Area Unified Planning Work Program provided for the updating of the Transit System Safety Plan to address the additions that were made to the system using ARRA funding. The plan update will be completed by the end of FY 2012. The purpose of this task is to complete a preliminary evaluation and assessment of the actions taken based on the recommendations from the FY 2012 update.
- 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 Updated Safety Plan.
- Staffing: MPO and Consultants.

3. Allegany County Transit Website Update

January 30, 2012

\$5,000

- Objective: Redesign Allegany County Transit's website to be more users-friendly. Increase the compatibility with mobile devices and web 2.0 applications. Also improve schedules, especially accessibility to large print schedules.
- Previous Work: Google Transit Project
- Methodology: MPO staff will develop the website with the assistance of Allegany County Transit and Allegany County's Information Technology Department.
- End Product: An Allegany County Transit website that is mobile friendly and enhances usefulness.
- Staffing: MPO

4. Cumberland Area MPO Bike and Pedestrian Plan

June 30, 2012

\$60,000

Objective: Compile a Master Comprehensive Bike and Pedestrian Plan for Cumberland Area MPO, including Allegany County and Mineral County. The main purpose of the study is to facilitate connectivity of trail and bikeways throughout the area. The conclusions of the study will include a prioritized task list aimed at improving connectivity and non-motorized transportation in the area. This task list will be used when funds are available for such projects. Public input will be required to complete the plan.

Previous Work: Long Range Plan, Transportation Improvement Plan, Allegany County Comprehensive Plan, Allegany County Bike and Pedestrian Needs Assessment (2011), City of Cumberland Trails and Bikeways Master Plan, and Maryland DOT Bicycle and Pedestrian Access Master Plan,

Methodology: -Examine at how residents and visitors could walk or ride a bicycle to area destinations as well as the recreational opportunity for bicyclists and pedestrians.

-Involve the community's and representatives for the bicycling and pedestrian community for input during development meetings to bring up current concerns and future developments.

-Develop Master Plan, with tasks and subtasks, which should include priorities of land acquisition, construction projects, sources of available funding, signage, bike and pedestrian facility plans.

End Product: The Master Plan examines how current and proposed trails can be made continuous, despite the jurisdictional boundaries in the Cumberland Area Metropolitan Planning Region. The plan shall include actions and projects that may include street and safety improvements, land acquisition, s, signage, and bicycle and pedestrian facility designs. The goal of this plan is to obtain a comprehensive trail network through the MPO Area.

Staffing: MPO and consultant

5. State Highway Administration Road Maintenance Agreements with Local Governments

June 30, 2012

\$5,977.50

- Objective: Compile a document containing and inventory and records of road maintenance agreements between the local governments of Allegany County, Cumberland, Maryland, and Frostburg Maryland.
- Previous Work: Long Range Plan, Transportation Improvement Plan, Allegany County Comprehensive Plan, City of Cumberland Comprehensive Plan.
- Methodology:
- Inventory roads either shared or transferred between Maryland State Highway and local governments.
 - Compile a document containing agreements between local governments and state highway regarding transferred roads.
- End Product: A document containing list of transferred roads and road maintenance agreements between Cumberland Area MPO Jurisdictions and Maryland State Highway. The document's appendix may include copies of legal agreements.
- Staffing: MPO

III. Budget

**Cumberland Urbanized Area
Metropolitan Planning Organization
FY 2012
Unified Planning Work Program**

	FHWA	FTA	MDOT	COUNTY	TOTAL	
A. CORE PLANNING						
1	Coordination/Administration	\$7,500.00	\$4,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$15,000.00
2	TIP	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$1,500.00
	Subtotal	\$8,100.00	\$5,100.00	\$1,650.00	\$1,650.00	\$16,500.00
B. SPECIAL STUDIES						
1	Transit System Evaluation		\$12,342.00	\$1,542.75	\$1,542.75	\$15,427.50
2	Transit System Safety Plan Evaluation		\$4,000.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$5,000.00
3	Transit Website Update		\$4,000.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$5,000.00
4	CAMPO Area Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan	\$48,000.00		6000	\$6,000.00	\$60,000.00
5	SHA Road Maintenance Agreements with Local Gov't	\$4,782.00		\$597.75	\$597.75	\$5,977.50
	Subtotal	\$52,782.00	\$20,342.00	\$9,140.50	\$9,140.50	\$91,405.00
	TOTAL	\$60,882.00	\$25,442.00	\$10,790.50	\$10,790.50	\$107,905.00