

Highlights of MPO Survey

Cooperative Forecasting Group, BRTB. December 13, 2016

MPOs in the survey, fall 2015:

Fully or mostly complete:

- Community Planning Association of SW Idaho
- Memphis MPO
- Durham-Chapel Hill MPO
- Boston Metropolitan Area Planning Council
- Maricopa Association of Governments
- Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission Valdosta
- Lowndes County (GA) Metropolitan Planning Organization

Incomplete:

- East-West Gateway Council of Governments - St. Louis
- West Virginia, Eastern Kentucky and Southern Ohio Association of Local Governments
- Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada
- Corpus Christi MPO
- San Angelo Metropolitan Planning Organization

Similarities among Surveyed MPOs:

- MPOs develop forecasts for member jurisdictions.
- Geography for forecasting: TAZ
- Planning horizon: 2040 for all but for Durham-Chapel Hill MPO (2045)
- Primary use of forecasts:
 - Regional travel demand model and long range plan
 - Study on housing, employment
 - Transit planning
 - Comprehensive planning
- Frequency of forecasts updates: 4 years for all except for Community Planning Association of SW Idaho (annual)
- Reason for forecast update: Long range transportation plan mandates and changes to land use policies.

- Regional control totals: all but Durham-Chapel Hill MPO, by using a top-down approach, discussion with partners from a variety of organizations, and applications of models.
- Forecasts include population, household, housing units, and jobs using census data, administrative records, survey results, private entity sources.
- Model-based forecasts (projections) by incorporating a series of assumptions (land use and/or demographic trends)
- Holding capacity analysis: existing land use, zoning, approved development.

Differences among Surveyed MPOs:

- MPO size: from 95,000 in San Angelo Metropolitan Planning Organization, Texas to 2.5 million in Maricopa Association of Governments.
- Primary Use of Forecasts:
 - School site location evaluations (Community Planning Association of SW Idaho) or school enrollment planning (Durham-Chapel Hill MPO)
 - Environmental justice/LEP (Durham-Chapel Hill MPO)
 - Water demand forecasting (Durham-Chapel Hill MPO and Boston Metropolitan Area Planning Council)
- Reason for forecast update: Arizona Executive Order (2011-04) requires the development of annual population estimates and projections every 3 to 4 years (Maricopa Association of Governments)