



**2023-2026
Transportation
Improvement
Program**

Franklin County Metropolitan Planning Organization

Overview of an MPO

The Franklin County Metropolitan Planning Organization (FCMPO and/or MPO) was established in 2013 as a transportation policy-making and decision-making entity. The MPO is composed of a Policy Board and a Technical Advisory Committee. FCMPO is responsible for comprehensive, cooperative, and continuous planning for highways, roads, bridges, and public transportation. The MPO coordinates with PennDOT and local municipalities in planning for the transportation needs of the County.

The MPO Policy Board is composed of 13 voting members, including the Franklin County Commissioners, local municipality representatives, and school districts representatives, and acts as the decision-making entity. The Technical Advisory Committee is composed of 11 voting members and offers technical insight, advice, and recommendations to the Policy Board on transportation plans and programs.

The MPO Policy Board and TAC meet on a quarterly basis in the Franklin County Administration Building located at 272 N 2nd Street, Chambersburg, PA 17201. For additional information such as the time and dates of FCMPO meetings, please contact the Franklin County Planning Department at 717-261-3855 or visit the Franklin County website.

MPOs are mandated to implement the metropolitan transportation planning process outlined in the federal transportation regulations (23 USC 134 and 49 USC 5303). Federal law and regulations establish five (5) core functions of an MPO that include the following objectives:

1. Establish and manage a fair and impartial setting for effective regional decision-making in the transportation planning area.
2. Identify and evaluate alternative transportation improvement options by using data and planning methods to generate and evaluate alternatives.
3. Prepare and maintain a Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). The MPO is responsible for developing and updating LRTPs for the planning area for a period of at least twenty (20) years that fosters mobility and access for people and goods; efficient system performance and preservation; and good quality of life.
4. Develop a Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The MPO is responsible for developing a short-range (four-year) program of transportation improvements based on the LRTP. The TIP should be designed to achieve the area's goals using spending, regulating, operating, management, and financial tools.
5. Involve the general public and all significantly affected sub-groups residing in Franklin County in the four (4) core functions listed above.

Purpose of TIP

The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is a short-range of priority projects and acts as an action plan for the upcoming 4 years. It is a prerequisite for federal funding assistance for implementing transportation projects within the metropolitan planning area. The MPO is responsible for developing the TIP in partnership with PennDOT and municipalities and updating it every two years. The TIP project list covers a four-year period and serves as the first four years of the Statewide Twelve Year Program (STIP).

The TIP is consistent with the Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), which includes projects addressing safety and congestion issues, highway/bridge maintenance projects, bicycle/pedestrian projects, and freight-related improvements. The LRTP is the primary source for identifying priority projects to be implemented in the TIP. As with all FCMPO planning practices, the LRTP is developed with comprehensive, cooperative, and continuous methods.

The TIP must be financially constrained each year. Funding sources and cost estimates for professional engineering, right-of-way acquisitions, and construction for programmed projects cannot exceed anticipated federal, state, and local resources. Additionally, all public and private revenues and/or resources that will finance the program are indicated on the TIP, including innovative fiscal techniques. If additional or alternative funding resources become available during a TIP cycle, FCMPO may adopt a revision to include other projects. If funding becomes available in the current fiscal year for a project listed in later years, that project can be advanced to the current fiscal year fund cycle without an amendment or revision if the MPO approves.

Additionally, federal law requires that all transportation projects which use federal aid under Title 23 U.S.C. and Title 49 U.S.C. Chapter 53 provisions must be listed in the TIP. The most recent transportation act, Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act) was signed into law on December 4, 2015, and authorizes the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) through the following statutes:

- 23 United States Code (U.S.C.) 134 (j) and (k)(3) and (4)
- 23 U.S.C. 204
- 49 U.S.C 5304
- 23 C.F.R. [Code of Federal Regulations] 450.320, 450.324, 326, 328, 330, and 332
- 23 C.F.R. 500.109, 500.110, and 500.11

Project Selection Process

The FCMPO staff coordinated closely with PennDOT District 8-0 and Central Office to ensure planning consistency on the TIP. PennDOT's Central Office and Engineering District 8-0 are involved in Franklin County's planning process and are frequently consulted to provide guidance and insight into best practices on the TIP. The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and Policy Board were provided copies of the Draft 2023-2026 in the November and February Policy Board Meetings, and the January TAC meeting. All meetings had a presentation and time allotted for questions. TAC and Policy Board voting members had no objections against the proposed project listing.

Financial Plan

The financial plan is derived from a comprehensive, cooperative, and continuous planning process for the Franklin County region. The TIP must be financially constrained each year. Funding sources and cost estimates for professional engineering, right-of-way acquisitions, and construction for programmed projects cannot exceed anticipated federal, state, and local resources. The financial considerations are conducted by PennDOT as part of the development of the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). The Franklin County MPO will continue

to pursue opportunities where additional funding may be available to enhance transportation for the County.

The federal and state-funded projects in the 2023-2026 Franklin County TIP can be implemented using current and proposed revenue sources. Funds are presented in Year of Expenditures (YOE) dollars and are adjusted for inflation from the present time to the year of construction for a more accurate cost estimate.

Title VI Assurances

The Franklin County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) assures that no person shall on the grounds of race, color, creed, national origin, sex, disability, age, income, or limited proficiency in English, as provided by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987 (Public Law 100.259), and the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) Title VI Plan, be excluded from participation in, be denied benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity. The FCMPO further assures every effort will be made to ensure non-discrimination in all of its programs and activities, whether those programs and activities are federally funded or not.

The Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987 broadened the scope of Title VI coverage by expanding the definition of the terms “programs and activities” to include all programs or activities of Federal Aid recipients, sub-recipients, and contractors/consultants, regardless of whether such programs and activities are themselves federally assisted (P.L. 100.259 [S.557] March 22, 1988). In the event the FCMPO as the recipient distributes federal aid funds to a sub-recipient, the FCMPO will include Title VI language in all written agreements and will monitor for compliance.

The Franklin County Planning Department is responsible for initiating and monitoring Title VI activities, preparing reports, and other responsibilities as required by 23 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 20 and 49 CFR 21.

Public Participation Process

The Public Participation Plan (PPP) includes policies and guidance for public outreach the MPO shall follow when developing, amending, or adopting various planning documents. The PPP works to ensure that all members of the public - including populations that have been underserved by the transportation system and/or have lacked access to the decision-making process - are given the opportunity to participate in the metropolitan transportation planning process that shapes Franklin County. The PPP guides the FCMPO’s efforts to offer early, continuous, and meaningful opportunities for the public to help identify social, economic, and environmental impacts of proposed transportation policies, projects, and initiatives. This document was created under the guidance of the FAST Act to encourage a decision-making process that allows the public the opportunity for engagement and is responsive to local needs. The public participation process for the Transportation Improvement Program will meet the Federal Transit Administration public participation requirements for the Franklin County MPO.

The FCMPO's Public Participation Process strives to achieve the following objectives:

1. Provide opportunities for public review and comment at key decision points, including a reasonable opportunity to comment on the proposed Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)/Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), with adequate public notice and access to underlying technical and policy information.
2. Provide timely information about transportation issues and decision-making processes to citizens, affected public agencies, and stakeholders including representatives of public transportation users and users of bicycle and pedestrian facilities, representatives of the disabled, private transportation providers, providers of freight transportation services, freight shippers, representatives of public transportation employees, and other interested parties; and
3. Provide participation opportunities to those traditionally underserved by existing transportation systems, such as low-income and minority populations.

The Draft FY 2023-2026 TIP was released for a 30-day public comment period from April 6, 2022, to May 6, 2022. An advertisement was placed in *The Mercersburg Journal* on April 6, 2022 for one day requesting public review and comment on the 2023-2026 TIP and information on the TIP Public Open House. The FCMPO held an Open House for the Draft FY 2023-2026 TIP on April 19, 2022, at 10 AM. EST. The meeting was offered both virtually and in person. The final adoption of the FY 2023-2026 TIP was acted on in the May 12, 2022, MPO meeting.

Administration

The TIP document is maintained and administered by the staff of the Franklin County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). During the life of the TIP, situations may arise which require changes to be made to the current TIP document. Amendments of the approved TIP that occur in off-cycle that are deemed by the FCMPO as "Administrative Changes" or "Adjustments" are not subject to formal public notification. Public involvement and comments will be accepted but not solicited. An amendment to the TIP may be considered an "Administrative Change" based on any of the following criteria:

- To correct a non-substantive clerical error;
- Changes in funding levels that are less than two (2) million dollars or are part of a STIP grouped project category;
- The affected project/s are not regionally significant and exempt from transportation conformity requirements;
- Changes in the funding type, but overall funding levels remain constant or do not exceed the requirement prior;
- Any other changes approved by the ISC that meet the criteria of an "administrative change".

FY 2023-2026 TIP Development Schedule

- 6/10/2021 - TIP Development Bridge & Pavement Candidate Discussion with PennDOT District 8-0
- 9/7/2021 – 2019 HS-Based Network Safety Screenings Discussion with PennDOT District 8-0
- 9/9/2021 – TIP Outreach Email sent to municipalities gauging interest in meeting to discuss their top safety concerns and other transportation improvement priorities.
- 10/7/2021 – TIP outreach meetings with Greencastle and Chambersburg Boroughs to discuss their top safety concerns and improvement areas.
- 10/7/2021 – Email sent to PennDOT District 8-0 of municipal concerns list on safety and improvement areas
- 10/21/2021 - 2023 Draft TIP meeting with PennDOT C.O. and District 8-0
- 1/05/2022 - Received Draft TIP from District 8-0
- 1/13/2022 – Program Review with PennDOT Central Office, District 8-0, Kristin M., and Brian Hare
- 1/28/2022 - MPO Workshop on TIP development process and I-81 Improvement Strategy
- 2/17/2022 – TIP update to MPO Policy Board
- 3/14/2022 - Transportation Conformity Determination Report Draft submitted for ICG review
- 4/6/2022 – TIP Public Comment period and Open House advertised
- 4/6/2022 – TIP open for Public Comment
- 4/19/2022 – Public meeting/open house for TIP. Virtual and in-person offered.
- 5/6/2022 – Public Comment period ends
- 5/9 to 5/11/2022 – Finalize Draft TIP including comments
- 5/12/2022 – TIP adoption by Franklin County MPO
- May 2022 – Submit final TIP packet to PennDOT

2021-2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Implemented Projects

County	Project	Manager	Route	Section	Title	Contract Code	Proj. Class	Construction Estimate	Let Estimate	Let Actual
Franklin	107672	Ahmed Lasloudji			Lighthouse Road Crossing		RAILG	\$7,500	4/26/22	
Franklin	87680	Mark A Malhenzie	11	094	Falling Spring Branch Bridge-A	ECMS Cntr	BRPL	\$1,914,194	2/11/21	2/11/21
Franklin	111394	Leona J Barr	16	TAP	Waynesboro Ped Safety Project	ECMS Loc C	ENHNC	\$240,056	2/17/22	2/17/22
Franklin	100237	Heidi A Mertz	30	118	US30 over Conococheague Br PM	ECMS Cntr	BPRSF	\$151,558	2/11/21	2/11/21
Franklin	99971	Gladis E Silverio	997	035	Black Gap Rd bridge PM	ECMS Cntr	BPRSF	\$212,800	6/9/22	
Franklin	90856	Mark A Malhenzie	997	034	W Branch of Antietam Ck-A	ECMS Cntr	BRPL	\$632,589	8/26/21	8/26/21
Franklin	109332	Christopher M McKee	2026	DFP	Loop Road	Dept Force	BRPL	\$200,329	2/3/22	2/3/22
Franklin	93208	Mark A Malhenzie	2031	013	Mont Alto Road Bridge-A	ECMS Cntr	BRPL	\$375,783	8/26/21	8/26/21
Franklin	100163	Christopher M McKee	3011	008	Mountain Rd ovr Buck Run	ECMS Cntr	BRPL	\$977,773	2/3/22	2/3/22
Franklin	19188	Derek R Mitch	4018	007	Maclays Mill Road Bridge	ECMS Cntr	BRPL	\$667,172	5/6/21	5/6/21
Franklin	63175	Derek R Mitch	4018	009	Paxton Run Rd Bridge	ECMS Cntr	BPRSF	\$1,026,873	5/6/21	5/6/21