

MPOAC: FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION POLICY POSITIONS | 2019 edits

The Florida Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council (MPOAC) represents the twenty-seven MPOs in the State of Florida. These policy positions are intended to serve as guidance to the United States Congress, ~~the Florida Legislature~~, the United States Department of Transportation, ~~the Florida Department of Transportation~~, and the MPOAC's partner organizations.

MPO ADMINISTRATION AND FUNDING

- The MPOAC supports distributing federal ~~planning (PL)~~ funds to states using the most recently available ~~annual~~ decennial census data.
- The MPOAC supports policies that streamline the federal-aid process by directly allocating and increasing Federal Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program funds to Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) in Transportation Management Areas (TMAs) for planning, programming and implementation purposes.
- The MPOAC supports policies ~~which recognize that federal metropolitan transportation planning funds are not to be regarded as state funds for purposes of expenditure. that prohibit states from impinging upon the autonomy of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) through state laws or rules that dictate MPO organizational structures, impede independent decision-making, dictate processes and bar the application of state rules to federal planning funds for purposes of expenditure. (run this past Paul).~~

ROLES, RESPONSIBILITIES AND PROGRAMS

- The MPOAC supports the continued development of a multi-modal National Freight Network funded, in part, by a dedicated stream of fees and taxes on freight shipments and freight vehicles.
- The MPOAC supports toll projects and public/private partnerships that are consistent with the federally established metropolitan transportation planning process.
- The MPOAC supports policies that reward states for attaining federally mandated performance measures and targets, and do not redistribute funding among the states based on poor performance.
- The MPOAC supports policies that direct revenues generated from new tolls instituted on federal-aid facilities toward transportation improvements within that metropolitan area.
- ~~The MPOAC supports maintaining the federal, state and MPO roles in transportation policy and funding, and allocating funding in an amount that supports these roles.~~

- The MPOAC supports allowing Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) to express metropolitan transportation plan (MTP) project costs in either current year dollars or year of expenditure dollars.
- ~~The MPOAC supports maintaining the 5 year update cycle for metropolitan transportation plans (MTPs).~~
- Align the Transportation Performance Management Reporting dates for DOTs and MPOs. (New)

TRANSPORTATION PROJECT FINANCE AND FUNDING

- The MPOAC supports indexing existing and all future federal transportation (such as.....)revenue streams to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) in order to keep pace with inflation.
- The MPOAC supports addressing future transportation funding needs through new and innovative mechanisms. (such as..... Also?)
- Look at AMPO Policy Position on this topic. Look for other organizations that support
Look at language for local programs.
- ~~The MPOAC supports the continuation of the federal Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) discretionary grant program.~~