Work Program Development & Content

Regional Transportation Planning Organizations (RTPOs) that are designated by States as permitted by 23 United States Code (USC) 135(m) must meet specific requirements. To coordinate transportation planning activities, a Work Program provides a framework for organizing the annual workload of staff and partner agencies and for documenting how available planning funds will be spent. Many existing regional planning organizations (RPOs) are supported by their State Department of Transportation (DOT) with FHWA State Planning & Research (SP&R) and FTA’s Section 5304 funds. In those instances, the projects will be included on the SP&R program. Provided below are examples where rural regional planning organizations demonstrate the work they are accomplishing.

Nevada County Transportation Commission

The Nevada County Transportation Commission (NCTC) was established as a result of the California Transportation Development Act of 1971. County transportation planning commissions and agencies are funded by the Local Transportation Fund and other sources. The State law requires that all designated agencies adopt an Overall Work Program (OWP) annually. This is an excellent example of both framework and content.

Key Work Tasks

Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan Update
Western Nevada County Transit Development Plan Update
Rural Counties Task Force Performance Measures Data
Transportation Improvement Program Development
Coordination of Regional Planning

Revenue Sources

State Transportation Improvement Program Planning Funds (Federal)
Federal Transit Administration (FTA) §5304 (Federal)
Local Transportation Fund from ¼ Cent Statewide Sales Tax (State)
Rural Planning Assistance Formula & Grants (State)

Nevada County Transportation Commission

Annual Planning Budget $1.1 Million

The Two Rivers-Ottauquechee Regional Council (TRORC) informs local governments of a set number of activities that can be accomplished within the budget. Requests are prioritized based on each project’s ability to mesh with existing programs and available funding. TRORC’s annual transportation planning program is developed with the help of Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTRANS) staff and submitted to VTRANS in a well-established process.

Key Work Tasks

Local government assistance including: traffic counts/ pedestrian counts, culvert inventories, public involvement facilitation for local/state projects, High Risk Rural Roads safety programs, road surface management evaluation studies, pavement evaluations, and road conditioning scoring.

Assistance to VTRANS including highway inventory for suitability of traffic and geometry for an on-road bicycle facilities planning.
Pennsylvania has a longstanding practice of coordinating transportation planning among the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT), the MPOs, and RPOs throughout the State. There is a Statewide UPWP Work Group that develops Planning Emphasis Areas. Each RPO identifies locally meaningful areas from the overall list. The North Central Pennsylvania Regional Planning and Development Commission (NCPRPDC) Executive Committee solicits ideas for assistance to local partners during UPWP development. They adopt a two-year work program that is matched to the two-year FHWA and FTA SP&R work program. After PennDOT and FHWA Division staff review the draft, the NCPRPDC Executive Committee approves the program.

**Key Work Tasks**

**Coordinated Public Transit-Human Service Transportation Plan**

**Regional Action Strategy: Linking Land Use, Transportation, and Economic Development**

Identification of the region’s core highway network, following PennDOT’s process, which is then used for:

- **Safety corridor analysis** of the core system, using State data for fatalities/serious injuries and public input to identify 25 projects.
- **Traffic congestion analysis** for DuBois and Sandy Township.
- **Freight analysis and needs assessment** as part of the PennDOT Regional Operations Plan.
- **Economic analysis** of the Route 219 corridor.
- **Inland intermodal port/terminal study** in relation to ARC Network Appalachia.
- **Greenway planning** as part of Community Development planning.

---

**Boonslick Regional Planning Commission**

Representing three counties northwest of St. Louis, Missouri, the Boonslick Regional Planning Council works to provide basic transportation planning services to its local governments. Economic plans are funded via Economic Development Administration (EDA) planning funds, and local planning funds. The Missouri Department of Transportation (MODOT) funds the safety studies using local dues.

**Key Work Tasks**

- **Economic Development-Related Freight Planning**
- **Mapping Assistance**
- **Traffic Studies & Counts At the Local Level**
- **Safety Plans**
- **Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services**

**Hazard Mitigation**

The Hazard Mitigation Plan is part of the regional comprehensive plan to identify infrastructure at risk.

**Economic Development Plans**

The RPC economic development plans include economic resiliency by assessing which corridors would be impacted and to what effect. The RPC reaches out to businesses to survey potential risks and impacts with regard to their businesses.