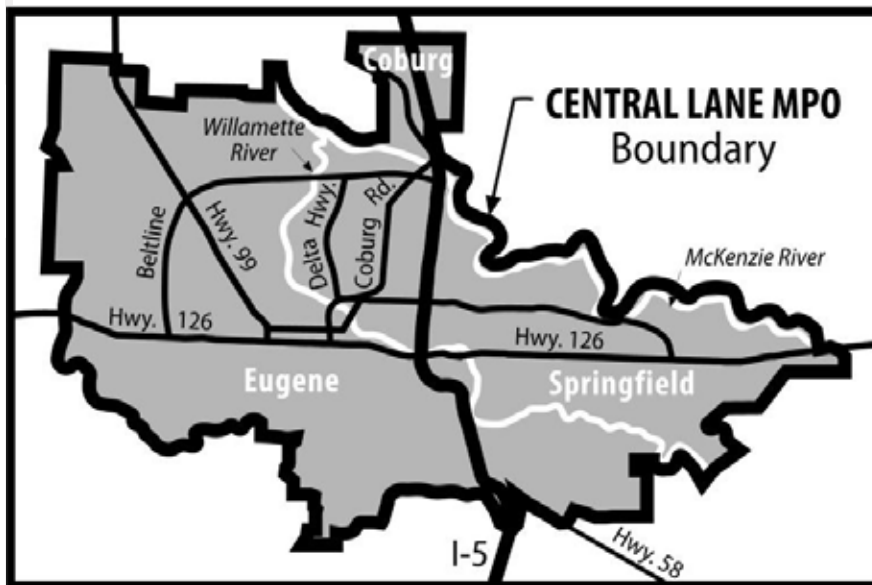


Fact Sheet • MPO BASICS

Why Should You Know About the MPO?

Your participation is important to ensure that your federal and state dollars for transportation are spent wisely to meet our region's most urgent needs. Become involved to make choices that reflect and support the way we want to live and travel throughout our community.

Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization



What is the

Central Lane MPO?

Lane Council of Governments (LCOG) is the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the central Lane County area that includes the Eugene-Springfield metropolitan area and Coburg. The MPO is the lead agency for regional transportation planning and distributing federal transportation dollars for the Central Lane County area. The MPO works cooperatively with local governments and transit providers to set priorities for transportation needs. This process enables our area to receive millions of dollars annually in federal transportation funding. The Governor designated LCOG as the MPO for this area in 1974. The Central Lane MPO is one of approximately 350 MPOs across the country and one of 6 MPOs in Oregon.

Who makes decisions for the Central Lane MPO?

The decision making body of the Central Lane MPO is the Metropolitan Policy Committee, which was created by Eugene, Springfield, and Lane County to cooperate on issues of regional importance. The Metropolitan Policy Committee is comprised of public officials from Springfield, Eugene, Lane County, Coburg, Lane Transit District, and the Oregon Department of Transportation.

What does the Central Lane MPO do?

The Central Lane MPO serves as the forum for cooperative transportation decision making for the Eugene-Springfield metropolitan area and Coburg. The MPO channels federal funding for transportation projects and programs through a sound planning process that is comprehensive, cooperative, and continuing. There are five core functions of an MPO:

1. Establish a fair and impartial setting for regional decision making.
2. Evaluate transportation alternatives.
3. Maintain a long-range transportation plan covering a 20 year planning horizon.
4. Develop a 3-5 year Transportation Improvement Program and Prioritize Projects.
5. Involve the public.

How is the MPO process funded?

The federal government is the primary funding source for transportation plans and projects in the Central Lane MPO. Other funding may come from a variety of sources including the state government, transit districts, and local government contributions.

Key MPO Products

Public Involvement Plan

- Describes public involvement opportunities and timing for key MPO products

Unified Planning Work Program

- Lists work tasks to be performed by the MPO and local agencies
- Identifies funding sources, timing, and the responsible agency
- Includes federally funded tasks as well as those with state and local funding
- Adopted annually

Regional Transportation Plan

- The broad transportation framework plan for the MPO
- Identifies projects needed to support the projected growth within 20 years
- Contains cost estimates and identifies funding sources
- Includes both long and short range policies, strategies, and actions
- Local transportation system plans must be consistent with this plan
- Provides a framework for future project selection

Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program

- Lists priorities from the regional plan that can realistically be funded within the next 3 to 5 years
- Allocates state and federal resources for both capital and operating needs
- Becomes part of the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program
- Updated every two years

Air Quality Conformity Determination

- A finding that local transportation projects do not exceed the region's limit for motor vehicle pollution set by state and federal standards
- Reviews projects in the Regional Transportation Plan and the Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program
- Updated when Regional Transportation Plan and the Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program are changed; not less frequently than every 3 years.

For more information:



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