

West Memphis MPO FY 2020

**West Memphis Metropolitan Planning Organization  
Annual Performance and Expenditures Report**

**Fiscal Year 2020**

**July 1, 2019—June 30, 2020**

**Submitted to the Arkansas Department of Transportation**

**June 30, 2020**

**THE CITY OF WEST MEMPHIS AS THE DESIGNATED  
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO) FOR THE WEST  
MEMPHIS-MARION AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY (WMATS)**

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Other agencies and jurisdictions involved in the development of this report include the Arkansas Department of Transportation, the Memphis Metropolitan Planning Organization, Crittenden County and the local incorporated jurisdictions of Marion, West Memphis and Sunset.

Additional agencies cooperating in the planning process of the West Memphis Metropolitan Planning Organization include the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality.

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## Partial list of ACRONYMS

**ADT:** Average Daily Traffic  
**ARDOT:** Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department  
**AQ:** Air-Quality  
**CAA:** Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990  
**CAC:** Citizen’s Advisory Committee  
**CPTHSTP:** Coordinated Public Transit Human Services Transportation Plan  
**CMAQ:** Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality  
**CMP:** Congestion Management Plan  
**EPA:** Environmental Protection Agency  
**FAST Act:** Fixing America’s Surface Transportation Act  
**FHWA:** Federal Highway Administration  
**FTA:** Federal Transit Administration  
**FY:** Fiscal Year  
**GIS:** Geographic Information Systems  
**ICC:** Interagency Consultation Committee (Air Quality)  
**ISTEA:** Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act OF 1991  
**ITS:** Intelligent Transportation System  
**LRTP:** Long Range Transportation Plan (Now MTP)  
**MAAG:** Memphis Area Association of Governments  
**MAP-21:** Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century  
**MATA:** Memphis Area Transit Authority  
**MPO:** Metropolitan Planning Organization  
**MTP:** Metropolitan Transportation Plan (Formerly LRTP)  
**MVEB:** Motor Vehicle Emission Budget  
**NAAQS:** National Ambient Air Quality Standards  
**NOx:** Generic term for various nitrogen oxides  
**PEA:** Planning Emphasis Area  
**PL:** Planning Funds  
**PPP:** Public Participation Plan  
**SATETEA-LU:** Safe Accountable Flexible Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users  
**SIP:** State Implementation Plan  
**SPR:** State Planning and Research Funds  
**STIP:** State Transportation Improvement Program  
**TAP:** Transportation Alternatives Program

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**TEA-21:** Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century

**TAZ:** Traffic Analysis Zone

**TCC:** Technical Coordinating Committee

**TIP:** Transportation Improvement Program

**TITLE VI:** Title VI of the U.S. Civil Rights of 1964, as amended

**UPWP:** Unified Planning Work Program

**VOC:** Volatile Organic Compounds

**WMATS:** West Memphis-Marion Area Transportation Study

## **A Brief History of the West Memphis Metropolitan Planning Organization...**

In March 1972, the West Memphis City Council adopted a transportation plan as a part of the update to *the West Memphis Comprehensive Plan*. On October 18, 1973, the revised Transportation Plan was adopted. *The Continuing Phase Plan* was approved in 1975 and revised and updated in April 1984 and again in 1986.

In 1983 the City of West Memphis was designated by Governor Clinton as the Metropolitan Planning Organization/MPO for the West Memphis-Marion Area, Arkansas portion of the Memphis Urbanized Area. As a result, on June 16, 1983 an agreement was signed between the City of West Memphis, acting as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), and the Arkansas Department of Transportation. This agreement provides Metropolitan Planning funds to the City of West Memphis for engaging in a comprehensive, continuing, and cooperative transportation planning process as required under *23 U.S.C. 134 and 49 U.S.C. 5303* (The *Unified Planning Work Program* document is prepared as required to authorize expenditure of those funds and is a companion to the ARDOT/SPR document). Subsequent agreements between the Arkansas Department of Transportation (ARDOT) and the West Memphis MPO developed the organizational structure and membership as it is today.

The West Memphis MPO serves as the forum for collective and cooperative decision making by the principally elected officials of the local governments. The MPO is composed of a qualified Study Director, a Technical Committee, a Policy Committee and a Citizens Advisory Committee. The Policy Committee is responsible for the policy direction of the West Memphis MPO. The primary daily administrative and transportation planning responsibilities for the MPO are conducted by the Study Director.

## **The MPO Policy and Technical Committees**

### **2019-2020 POLICY COMMITTEE (12 MEMBERS)**

- Mayor, City of West Memphis—The Honorable Marco McClendon
- Mayor, City of Marion—The Honorable Frank Fogleman
- Mayor, Town of Sunset—The Honorable Lensey Hayes
- Crittenden County Judge—The Honorable Woody Wheelless
- Chairman, West Memphis Public Works Committee—Lorraine Robinson
- District 1 Engineer, ARDOT—Cannon Callicutt
- Division Engineer, ARDOT Transportation Planning and Policy Division—Steve Frisbee
- Planning Director, City of Marion—Ed Cain
- Director, Office of Economic Development, West Memphis—Phillip Sorrell
- Director, Office of Planning and Development, West Memphis—Paul Luker
- Director, Office of Public Works, City of West Memphis—Amanda Hicks
- Director, Office of Economic Development, Marion—Tracy Brick

### **2019-2020 TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE (13 MEMBERS)**

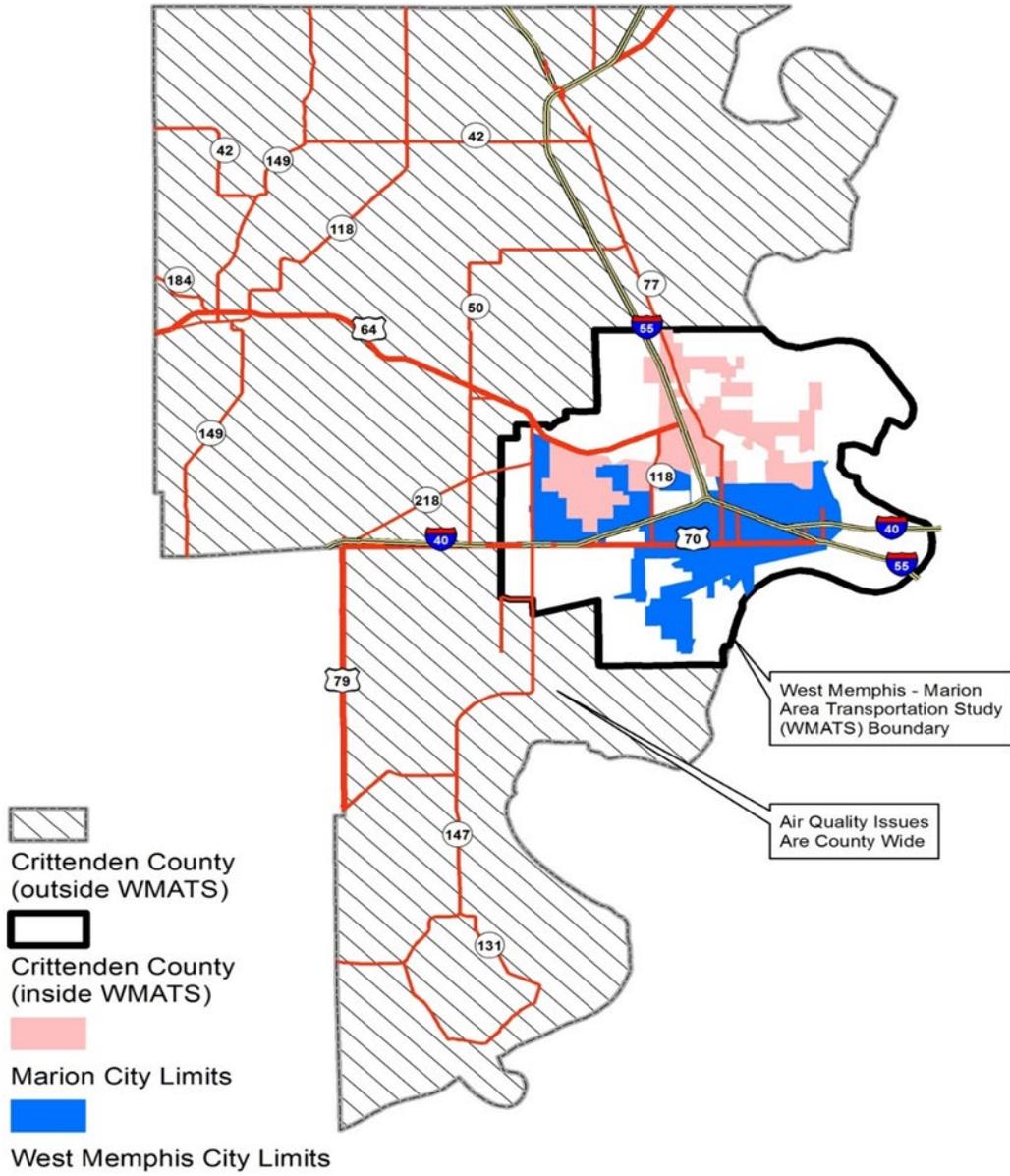
- WMATS Study Director—Eddie E. Brawley
- West Memphis Office of Planning and Development— Paul Luker
- Marion Economic Development—Tracy Brick
- West Memphis Economic Development—Phillip Sorrell
- ARDOT District or Resident Engineer—Cannon Callicutt
- Marion City Engineer—Gordon Floyd
- Sunset Planning Commission—The Honorable Lensey Hayes, Mayor of Sunset

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- Marion Planning Commission—Ed Cain
- West Memphis Planning Commission—The Honorable Marco McClendon, Mayor of West Memphis
- Crittenden County Planning Commission—The Honorable Woody Wheelless, Judge of Crittenden County
- Director, Office of Public Works, City of West Memphis—Amanda Hicks
- ARDOT Transportation Planning and Policy Division —Sunny Farmahan
- Memphis Metropolitan Planning Organization—Pragati Srivastava

The Study Director (to be determined) is charged with the daily administration and coordination of the MPO activities.

The office of the MPO Study Director is located at (to be determined).



## **MPO PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES**

Activities carried out by the MPO include but are not limited to the following: update and maintenance of the long-range Metropolitan Transportation Plan; street functional classification; travel time studies; street capacity and safety analyses; identification of existing land use and patterns of change; GIS implementation and maintenance; website design and maintenance; air quality conformity; record keeping; administration of FHWA Section 5303 funds, STBGP GT200K funds, CMAQ funds and matching local funds; attendance at workshops, seminars and meetings regarding the operation of the MPO; and development and maintenance of the area's short-range transportation improvement program. The MPO serves as the coordinating agency for ARDOT projects within the area.

A Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) detailing the MPO's work tasks and the short-range planning document the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is prepared by the MPO each year. A copy of each year's UPWP and TIP is available for review and copying in the Public Works Director/City Engineer's Office each work day, Monday - Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and on the MPO web site at <http://wmats.org>. The primary purpose of the UPWP is to identify in a single document all transportation related planning activities that will be undertaken in the fiscal year beginning on July 1 and ending on June 30. The purpose of the TIP is to coordinate area-wide transportation development activities and to provide for detailed local review and recommendations about improvement projects that should be programmed to best carry out the Transportation Plan.

The MPO continues to monitor local and regional air quality issues and is working in cooperation with the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ), ARDOT, FHWA, FTA, EPA and the Memphis MPO to address the EPA air quality regulations related to area wide transportation issues in the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). Specifically, during FY 2020 the MPO in cooperation with ARDOT actively monitored and coordinated transportation planning in the area pursuant to the ***WMATS 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and Conformity Determination*** along with the ***FY 2019-2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)*** all while updating the 2040 MTP to 2050.

Projects in the study area that are currently under construction or that are scheduled to begin soon include:

- Marion Overpass
- The Delta Regional River Park Trail

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- Hwy. 64
- Lehr Street Bridge
- Missouri Street/Service Road Interchange
- The Southloop

The MPO staff also monitors other traffic activities including traffic crashes. The result is a continuously updated traffic crash database linked to a location map through the ArcView GIS software program that allows the MPO to monitor various statistics including the highest crash locations of the area. The staff and other officials use this information to recommend and make traffic improvements. This method has historically resulted in improvements to the overall transportation system for the West Memphis-Marion Area Transportation Study (WMATS).

There is currently no local transit program in the MPO study area, however, the MPO works with MATA, the Memphis MPO and ARDOT on the *Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan (CHSTP)* as required by federal regulations.

The purpose of the CHSTP includes the following tasks...

- Inventory available transportation services;
- Assess transportation needs of transit-dependent populations including older adults, persons with disabilities, and low-income individuals;
- Identify gaps and duplications of services;
- Select projects for meeting unmet transportation needs; and
- Produce an action plan for project implementation.

The funds with which to undertake the various planning activities were provided to the MPO from the ARDOT through the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) under the provisions of Section 112 of the Federal-Aid Highway Act. Additional funding was also obtained through the allocation of STP Attributable funds, State CMAQ funds and the matching local funds. Since FY 92, the funding ratio has been 80% Federal and 20% Local under the various Federal Highway programs—currently Fixing America’s Surface Transportation Act or the FAST Act. The total Section 5305 PL, STBGP GT 200K, State CMAQ and matching local funds for FY 2020 approved in the UPWP budget, were \$511,700.00 (Section 5305 \$80,243.00; State CMAQ \$165,000.00; STBGP GT 200K \$164,117.00; Local \$102,340.00). All programmed STBGP and CMAQ funds were used. There was a programmed balance of \$2,980.51 PL funds as shown on the June

claim. The following pages summarize the work task accomplishments followed with a summary of the funding amounts including the actual monthly expenditures and balances.

### Overview of Planning Factors and Work Tasks

The metropolitan transportation planning process shall be continuous, cooperative, and comprehensive, and provide for consideration and implementation of projects, strategies, and services that will address the following factors (per 23 CFR 450.306):

- A. Support the economic vitality of the United States, the States, nonmetropolitan areas, and metropolitan areas, especially by enabling global competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency;
- B. Increase the safety of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users;
- C. Increase the security of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users;
- D. Increase the accessibility and mobility of people and freight;
- E. Protect and enhance the environment, promote energy conservation, improve the quality of life, and promote consistency between transportation improvements and State and local planned growth and economic development patterns;
- F. Enhance the integration and connectivity of the transportation system, across and between modes throughout the State, for people and freight;
- G. Promote efficient system management and operation;
- H. Emphasize the preservation of the existing transportation system.
- I. Improve the resiliency and reliability of the transportation system and reduce or mitigate storm water impacts of surface transportation; and
- J. Enhance travel and tourism.

<b>Fast Act Planning Factors</b> —as per 23 CFR 450.306	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>I</b>	<b>J</b>
<b>44.21: Program Support and Administration</b>					<b>X</b>			<b>X</b>		
<b>Fast Act Planning Factors</b> —as per 23 CFR 450.306	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>I</b>	<b>J</b>

<b>44.22: General Development and Comprehensive Planning</b>	X			X	X	X	X	X		
<b>44.23: Long Range Transportation Planning</b>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>44.24: Short Range Transportation Planning</b>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>44.25: Transportation Improvement Program</b>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

The following is a brief summary of the Unified Planning Work Program’s (UPWP) task descriptions. Also included, although not comprehensive, are details of the MPOs work in relation to each task.

For a more detailed explanation of the work done on a monthly basis please refer to the monthly progress reports.

The UPWP describes work tasks as ongoing, as required, and monthly as well as specific annual tasks such as this report. All tasks were completed in a timely manner.

## **Project 44.21.00 PROGRAM SUPPORT AND ADMINISTRATION**

### **Work Task #44.21.01 Work Program Development and Administration**

- A. The MPO staff provided administrative, budgeting, bookkeeping, and clerical duties required to perform work tasks and comply with ARDOT, FHWA, and FTA requirements. Progress reports and related documentation were prepared in conjunction with PL activities, as well as the FY 2019 Unified Planning Program.

In July, the MPO staff completed the final billing for FY2019 and began work on the Annual Performance and Expense Report for FY2019. In August, the MPO staff completed the Annual Performance and Expense Report (APER) for FY2019. The MPO staff prepared for and held the quarterly Citizens Advisory Committee meeting on August 6<sup>th</sup> and the joint meeting of the Policy and Technical Coordinating committees on August 13<sup>th</sup>. In October, the MPO also hosted an Interagency Consultation Conference call on October 22<sup>nd</sup> establishing assumptions and parameters for air quality conformance for the 2050 MTP update. The cost for the call will be billed next month. In November, the MPO advertised and hosted the MPO Citizens Advisory Committee meeting on November 5<sup>th</sup> and the joint MPO Policy and Technical Committees meeting on November 12<sup>th</sup>. In February, the MPO staff prepared for and hosted the MPO Citizens Advisory Committee meeting on February 4<sup>th</sup> and the combined Technical Coordinating and Policy Committees meeting on February 11<sup>th</sup>. The MPO staff also attended the Memphis MPO ETC meeting on February 5<sup>th</sup> and the Memphis MPO Policy Board meeting on February 20<sup>th</sup>.

- B. The MPO provided staff to improve office equipment, computer systems, and software as needed to keep pace with state-of-the-art technology currently in use for improved communications, mapping, planning analysis and report production. Train staff on software packages.
- C. The MPO provided staff to attend planning, transportation, and transit meetings and attend training, workshops and conferences to maintain coordination with other agencies, staff proficiency and professional improvement. The MPO also provided staff to keep informed of ARDOT, FHWA, and FTA programs, as well as TDOT programs and local issues and trends to aid local governments and agencies. Information bulletins and correspondence will be reviewed. Necessary meetings and conferences were attended.

In September, the MPO staff attended the Arkansas Planning Conference in Little Rock on September 10<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup>. The staff also met with West Memphis city officials to discuss the transition of the MPO work for the next fiscal year per the Study Director's planned retirement.

- D. The MPO provided staff to continue to comply with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, and Title VI of the Civil Rights

Act.

- E. Staff worked with ARDOT and the Memphis MPO to provide coordinated transportation planning for the entire study area and establishing all needed agreements, maps, documents and procedures.
- F. In July the MPO staff attended the Memphis MPO Technical Committee meeting on July 25<sup>th</sup> as well as the Memphis MPO Policy Board meeting on July 25<sup>th</sup>. The MPO staff participated in a Transportation Planning During COVID-19 webinar on April 23, 2020.

#### **Work Task #44.21.02 Public Information and Citizen Participation**

- A. In July, early public involvement for the 2050 MTP continued with the MPO staff holding a Citizens Advisory Committee meeting concerning the 2050 MTP on July 9<sup>th</sup> and continuing to collect and process the 2050 Transportation Survey and other pertinent data. MPO staff also began work on setting up an MPO Facebook page. In August, early public involvement for the 2050 MTP continues with the MPO staff addressing the West Memphis Rotary Club on August the 6<sup>th</sup> and a local church group on August the 28<sup>th</sup>. In each instance, the MTP was explained and hard copies of the Transportation Survey were handed out and collected. The MPO staff also completed the initial set up for the MPO Facebook page. In April, the initial public comment period for the FY 2021 Unified Planning Work Program concluded and the final comment period began. The final comment period for the FY 2012 UPWP concluded and the document was approved by the MPO Policy Committee.

### **Project #44.22.00 GENERAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING**

#### **Work Task #44.22.01 Technical Assistance to Local Governments**

- A. The MPO provided staff to review agreements and contracts pertinent to MPO activities.
- B. The MPO staff responded to requests for various study data.

#### **Work Task #44.22.02 Geographical Information System, Graphics and Mapping**

- A. The MPO staff maintained the functional classification maps and urban boundaries in accordance with the latest Census data.
- B. The MPO staff maintained and ensured corridor preservation through attending and monitoring area planning commission meetings and subdivision submissions
- C. The MPO staff refined and updated the Crittenden County street centerline file and is also using the G.I.S. programs to maintain transportation related maps.

- D. The MPO staff updated the MPO website as needed to provide public access to other MPO documents such as the UPWP, the current TIP and the Imagine 2040 MTP. The website also allows access to various maps, map books and other pertinent information. Additionally, links to the ARDOT Citizen's Opinion Survey on Highways in Arkansas and the Statewide Health and Human Services Transit Coordination Plan Ridership Survey are posted on the MPO website.

Throughout the year, the MPO staff continued to monitor the WMATS 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Citizens Opinion Survey on the MPO website as well as posting various updates and revisions to the website. In August, the MPO staff has added several new features to the interactive map on the MPO website. It is still a work in progress, but we've made some enhancements and added some layers of data.

#### **Work Task #44.22.03 Land Use/Socioeconomic Data Development and Maintenance**

- A. The MPO staff maintained and ensured consistency of transportation and land use planning through review and revision of the current land use and zoning maps for the WMATS.

In July, the MPO staff attended 2040 Grow West Memphis meetings on July 9<sup>th</sup> and July 31<sup>st</sup> including the West Memphis Planning Commission meeting in which the 2040 Grow West Memphis Plan was recommended for adoption to the City Council.

- B. The MPO staff continued to maintain files and that indicate demographic and infrastructure data within the WMATS area. Census data and other information is utilized and incorporated into reports, thematic maps, and TAX boundaries and in developing necessary demographic projections.
- C. The MPO staff carefully considered the effects of transportation projects to be undertaken within the study area by reviewing both publicly and privately funded transportation projects within the West Memphis-Marion Transportation Study Area in relation to local goals and objectives for a safe, efficient and environmentally acceptable transportation system. This included the review of subdivisions developed by private concerns to ensure their conformance with the overall transportation plan and needs.
- D. The MPO staff considered the overall social, economic, energy and environmental effects of transportation decisions through coordination and review of area transportation decisions to attempt to balance and to positively enhance their social, economic, energy, and environmental effects. This includes the production of reports in response to requests for study data related to long range planning.

- E. The MPO staff evaluated transit data within the planning area.

## **Project #44.23.00 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING**

### **Work Task #44.23.01 Metropolitan Transportation Plan**

- A. In cooperation with ARDOT and the Public Transportation Operator (the City of West Memphis) and the Interagency Consultation Committee the MPO staff monitored the *2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan*.

In July, the MPO staff also continued the groundwork for the 2050 MTP and finalized the AQ pre-consensus and analysis plan. In October, the MPO staff also attended the Memphis MPO's CMP workshop on October 8<sup>th</sup>. In February, the MPO staff also continued to work on the 2050 MTP and continued to document interaction with the Interagency Consultation Committee (ICC) concerning the preliminary MOVES analysis run by ADEQ. This month the MPO staff also attended a public hearing sponsored by ARDOT regarding future infrastructure funding programs. In March, the ICC approved the MOVES analysis run for use in the 2050 MTP update. In June a draft copy of the 250 MTP was completed and the final 30 public comment period began.

### **Work Task #44.23.02 Population and Traffic Projections and Emissions Analysis**

- A. The MPO staff monitored population and traffic growth and their effect on the area's air quality.

### **Work Task #44.23.03 Strategic Regional Network**

- A. The MPO staff maintained and ensured connectivity of roads inside and outside of the study area.
- B. The MPO staff maintained the functional classification maps and urban boundaries in accordance with the latest Census data.
- C. The MPO staff reviewed the regional and local bicycle and pedestrian plans.

### **Work Task #44.23.04 Sustainable Transportation Strategies**

- A. The MPO staff continued the process of establishing goals, objectives and strategies for sustainability and livability in the MPO's area transportation planning in accordance with the U.S. DOT's Livability Initiative. This initiative will enhance the economic and social well-being of all Americans by creating and maintaining a safe, reliable, integrated and accessible transportation network that enhances choices for transportation users,

provides easy access to employment opportunities and other destinations, and promotes positive effects on the surrounding community. This will enhance the area's efforts to:

- a. Better integrate transportation and land use planning.
- b. Foster multimodal transportation systems and effective multimodal connections.
- c. Provide more transportation options to improve access to housing, jobs, businesses, services and social activities.
- d. Increase public participation and enhance coordination of transportation and housing and healthy communities.
- e. Reduce emissions including greenhouse gases.
- f. Plan for unique needs such as climate change.

**Work Task #44.23.05 Major Investment Planning (Corridor Studies)**

- A. The MPO staff maintained and ensured corridor preservation through attending and monitoring area planning commission meetings and subdivision submissions.
- B. The MPO staff monitored the approved Long-Range Bikeway and Pedestrian Plan.

**Project #44.24.00 SHORT RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING**

**Work Task #44.24.01 Traffic Monitoring and Analysis of Existing Conditions**

- A. Staff collected traffic counts at several strategic locations in the study area.

This year traffic counts were taken at the following locations

- a. Site 132—Wheeler Road
- b. Site 133—Mound City Road
- c. Site 128—LH Polk Drive
- d. Site 148—Carter Drive
- e. Site 146—LH Polk Drive
- f. Site 147—I55 Service Road
- g. Site 129—Carter Drive
- h. Site 141—Lena Drive
- i. Site 125—Afco Road
- j. Site 210—North 8th Street
- k. Site 216—South 8th Street
- l. Site 211—North 9th Street
- m. Site 217—South 9th Street
- n. Site 212—North 10th Street
- o. Site 218—South 10th Street

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- p. Site 213—North 11th Street
- q. Site 219—South 11th Street
- r. Site 214—North 12th Street
- s. Site 215—North 13th Street
- t. Site 221—South 13th Street
- u. Site 220—South 12th Street
- v. Site 32—North Avalon Street
- w. Site 37—North Avalon Street
- x. Site 105—Auburn Avenue
- y. Site 103—Birdie Lane
- z. Site 102—Country Club Road
- aa. Site 23—West Center Drive
- bb. Site 41—Ross Street
- cc. Site 40—Park Drive
- dd. Site 157—Park Drive
- ee. Site 39—Park Drive
- ff. Site 38—North Center Drive
- gg. Site 138—North Center Drive
- hh. Site 139—North Redding Street
- ii. Site 71—Lehr Street
- jj. Site 70—North Roselawn Drive
- kk. Site 18—Cherry Lane
- ll. Site 64—Pryor Drive
- mm. Site 20—Arlington Drive
- nn. Site 106—Vanderbilt Ave.
- oo. Site 107—S. Avalon Ave.
- pp. Site 143—Skyline Road EB
- qq. Site 142—Evening Wind EB
- rr. Site 142—Evening Wind WB
- ss.

- B. Staff input and evaluated crash data within the study area and coordinated with ARDOT on the use of the crash data to meet FAST Act performance measures and ARDOT performance targets for the region to reduce traffic fatalities and serious injuries on public roads.
- C. In cooperation with ARDOT, the City of West Memphis and the City of Marion, the MPO staff maintained and monitored a traffic crash map and the computerized collision diagrams of selected high crash locations by continuing data input of local crash data as supplied by the police departments of West Memphis and Marion through a computer data base program.

The MPO staff located all crashes in the GIS system in West Memphis from August 2018 through December 2018.

- D. In cooperation with ARDOT, the City of West Memphis and the City of Marion, the MPO staff monitored traffic volumes and related crash rates on arterials to determine congestion correlation and remedies. Develop and implement strategies for improving safety at hazardous or potentially hazardous locations.
- E. The MPO staff used traffic crash information, volumes, travel times, and other related factors to establish means to identify and reduce congestion and improve safety by using proven traffic engineering techniques.
- F. The MPO staff monitored and published the ADT data on the MPO website as supplied by the ARDOT on major and minor arterials in the Study Area along with supplemental data obtained from selected field counts by the MPO.
- G. In cooperation with ARDOT, the MPO staff monitored and reviewed of performance measure rulemaking, collection of baseline data. Continue to work with ARDOT toward the development of performance targets as per Federal regulations and timelines as well as to participate in and attend necessary meetings, workshops and webinars.

#### **Work Task #44.24.02 Traffic Congestion and Safety Planning**

- A. The MPO staff conducted travel-time studies on major and minor arterials.

MPO staff continued time travel field in July. Runs were made on the following routes:

- a. Rich Road
- b. Clement Road
- c. Pearce Street/Lehr Street
- d. Avalon Street/Port Road
- e. West Barton Avenue
- f. Broadway Avenue
- g. L. H. Polk
- h. Mound City Road
- i. Barton—Dover
- j. N. 14<sup>th</sup>—Jefferson
- k. Jackson—Walker
- l. Ingram—Southland
- m. 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Streets
- n. Hwy 77, Missouri and Woods Streets

- B. In cooperation with ARDOT, the City of West Memphis, the City of Marion, and the Memphis MPO, the MPO staff studied and evaluated incident and crisis management on Interstates 40 and 55 in the Study Area with the goal of congestion reduction. In November, the MPO staff attended an FHWA systemic approach to safety workshop in Little Rock. The MPO staff participated in a strategic highway safety planning (SHSP) conference call on April 14, 2020.

#### **Work Task #44.24.03 Public Transportation, Goods Movement and Intermodal Planning**

- A. The MPO staff continues to monitor the agencies that are providing transportation services and who their clients are in the study area. Cooperate with the Public Transportation Section of ARDOT in identifying and documenting the type of services provided by these agencies. In March, the MPO staff participated in a congestion management seminar on March 17<sup>th</sup>.
- B. The MPO staff continues to work cooperatively with area agencies in developing car pool, vanpool, and related transportation demand services for this area. Activities will be centered on the development of the Shelby County based programs that use area business discounts, free taxi rides and periodic newsletters to attract commuters and educate the population on the benefits of car and van pooling.
- C. The MPO staff continues to maintain an inventory of major freight distribution routes, access to ports, airports, intermodal transportation facilities.
- D. As required, in cooperation with ARDOT, the City of West Memphis, and the Memphis MPO, the MPO continues to evaluate each mode and intermodal facility for physical condition, goods movement, equipment types, etc. This includes the development and evaluation of performance measures to identify deficiencies such as capacity constraints and excessive delays especially as relevant to the required CMAQ performance measures.
- E. The MPO staff continues to consult with the WMATS area Freight Committee on plans and projects for improving the local freight network. In August, the MPO staff met with the WMATS Freight Committee on August 8<sup>th</sup> in order to consult with them on the 2050 MTP update; specifically addressing related freight issues such as freight movement barriers or needs. The main concern voiced at the meeting was the bottleneck at east bound I-40 at the I-55 underpass.
- F. As intermodal needs arise and are identified, integrate recommended solutions into the M.T.P. and the T.I.P. as required.

- G. Coordinate and participate in intermodal freight planning as a member of the Memphis Regional Area Freight Advisory Council and the Memphis Region Intermodal Technology Work Group. No meetings were attended this month.

**Work Task #44.24.04 Facility Maintenance, Preservation, and Enhancement Planning**

- A. The MPO staff continued to preserve and maximize the use of existing transportation facilities through the coordination and review with local planning commissions, political jurisdictions, ARDOT, the Public Transportation Operator (the City of West Memphis) and related parties through planning and traffic engineering procedures. This includes responding to requests for study data related to short range planning. *The MPO staff continued discussions with West Memphis elected officials and ARDOT transit division representatives regarding a transit service for West Memphis and provided data for bus cost and financing possibilities. The MPO staff also attended a meeting with city officials regarding a transit service on July 1<sup>st</sup> as well as meetings with city officials and MATA on July 17<sup>th</sup>, July 31<sup>st</sup>, and August 9<sup>th</sup>.*
- B. Currently, a data base of computerized street pavement condition inventory and a prioritized list of streets based on a quantified pavement condition index (PCI) and life-cycle cost analysis for improvements has been established for West Memphis and Marion.
- C. Coordinate with ARDOT and local jurisdictions for the prioritized ranking of area bridges.
- D. The MPO staff continued to monitor applicable transportation enhancement activities.

**Work Task #44.24.05 Air Quality Planning and Public Awareness**

- A. The MPO staff continued to monitor and review air quality issues and determine if the long-range plan is conforming to all applicable requirements for the area's transportation conformity determination by attending meetings at local and state levels related to air quality issues, reviewing federal legislation and working in cooperation with the Interagency Consultation Committee. This includes EPA, FHWA, ARDOT, the Public Transportation Operator (the City of West Memphis), the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality as well as local and regional stakeholders in plan development to ensure conformity with the requirements of the new air quality standards including formulation and implementation of mitigation measures as necessary. *Staff continued air quality conformity coordination with*

Memphis MPO on their 2050 Regional Transportation Plan Update conformity. The MPO staff set up and participated in a called Interagency Consultation Committee meeting to discuss the pre-consensus analysis report, conformity and participant's timelines on July 9<sup>th</sup>. In February and March, the MPO staff participated in a Tri-State PM3 conference call. The MPO staff also participated in a AMPO CMAQ program webinar on April 8, 2020 and a CMAQ Tool-Kit webinar on April 29, 2020.

#### **Work Task #44.24.06 Intelligent Transportation Systems**

- A. The MPO staff continued to coordinate and assist ARDOT on major transportation studies including an update of the current West Memphis Regional ITS Plan. This will include working with TDOT and Memphis to satisfy the requirements of the Real-Time Information Rule.
- B. The MPO staff attended meetings related to short range planning issues and prepared and handled all correspondence related to this task.

### **PROJECT #44.25.00 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM**

#### **Work Task 44.25.01 TIP Development, Project Selection and Monitoring**

- A. The MPO staff monitored the *FY 2019-2022 TIP* and worked with the Air Quality Interagency Committee, ARDOT and the Public Transportation Operator (the City of West Memphis) to *demonstrate that* proposed projects are in conformance with the area's requirements for meeting the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS).

Some of the study area's construction projects monitored this year include...

The MPO staff received periodic updates on the following projects...

- a. Delta Regional River Park Trail
- b. Interstate Projects
- c. Marion Overpass—construction on this project has been moved to FY2021.
- d. Highway 191 Preservation— This project has been upgraded from an overlay project to also include a roundabout at the Southland Drive intersection. It has been moved to 2021 but is subject to the City of West Memphis agreeing to take over ownership of the roadway from Broadway to Highway 77.
- e. Highway 70 Preservation— This project has been completed.
- f. Highway 38 Preservation—This project has been completed.
- ~~g.~~ Highway 64 Widening in Marion—This project is now scheduled for 2020.
- ~~h.~~ Southloop Extension—This project is scheduled for .
- i. Missouri Street/Service Road Interchange—Construction for this project has been moved to 2021.
- j. Lehr Street Bridge—This project scheduled for .

k. I-55 Mississippi River Bridge closing update—The Crump Blvd. interchange project is on the current Memphis TIP.

- B. The MPO staff monitored the progress of the TIP and balance the fiscal viability of projects in relation to the fiscal constraints of available funds.
- C. The MPO staff continued to coordinate with ARDOT on the establishment of a “performance-based approach” to transportation planning and the establishment of MPO “performance measures and performance targets” that will be integrated into the 2040 WMATS Metropolitan Transportation Plan and the WMATS FY 2016 -2020 Transportation Improvement Program.
- D. The MPO staff continued to monitor applicable transportation enhancement activities including the Big River Walking Trail.
- E. The MPO staff continued to carefully consider the effects of transportation projects to be undertaken within the study area by reviewing both publicly and privately funded transportation projects within the West Memphis-Marion Transportation Study Area in relation to local goals and objectives for a safe, efficient and environmentally acceptable transportation system. This included the review of subdivisions developed by private concerns to ensure their conformance with the overall transportation plan and needs.
- F. In cooperation with ARDOT and the Public Transportation Operator (the City of West Memphis), the MPO staff continued to monitor, develop and publish on the MPO web site a list of projects obligated in the past federal fiscal year using federal funds. No work was done on this task this month.
- G. The MPO staff attended meetings related to short range planning issues and prepared and handled all correspondence related to this task. No meetings on this task were attended this month.

## Final Expenditures

<b>Work Tasks</b>	<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>Cumulative</b>	<b>% Used</b>
44.21.00	\$45,700.00	\$48,402.72	105.91%
44.22.00	\$60,000.00	\$61,780.37	102.97%
44.23.00	\$205,000.00	\$192,469.92	93.89%
44.24.00	\$146,000.00	\$153,506.66	105.00%
44.25.00	\$55,000.00	\$52,759.82	95.93%
Programmed	\$511,700.00	\$508,719.50	99.42%

The balance of \$2,980.50 includes the 20% local match. All programmed STBGP and CMAQ funds were used. There was a programmed balance of \$2,384.41 PL funds as shown on the June claim.