Abstract

The Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for Regional Transportation Planning is developed biennially and modified as needed by the Central Midlands Council of Governments (CMCOG) as the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Columbia Area Transportation Study (COATS). The UPWP serves as a guide for transportation and air quality planning activities to be conducted over the course of specified fiscal years. Included in the UPWP are detailed descriptions of the transportation and air quality planning tasks and a summary of the amount and source of State, Federal, and local funds to be used for planning activities.
DRAFT - Columbia Area Transportation Study 2018 - 2019 Unified Planning Work Program

2018 – 2019

UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM

FOR TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

IN THE

COLUMBIA METROPOLITAN PLANNING AREA

Approved by the Policy Committee of the Columbia Area Transportation Study

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2018 – 2019 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP) - PURPOSE

The Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) incorporates in one document all transportation planning and directly supporting comprehensive planning activities in the Columbia Metropolitan Area, which appears in Figure 1, during the fiscal year 2018 – 2019. It is intended to provide a mechanism for the coordination of planning efforts by local, State, and regional agencies through the Columbia Area Transportation Study (COATS).

The U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) and its modal administrations [i.e., the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA)] require this Unified Planning Work Program as a basis and condition for all funding assistance for transportation planning to State, local and regional agencies. The authority for this requirement is found in two separate Federal legislative acts establishing transportation planning programs:

1. Title 23, U.S. Code Section 134 (Federal Aid Highway Act of 1962, as amended)
2. Title 49, U.S. Code Section 1603 et. al.: (Urban Mass Transportation Act of 1964, as amended)

DEVELOPMENT OF THE UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM

As the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) designated by the Governor of the State of South Carolina, COATS has the responsibility to carry out the continuous, comprehensive and cooperative transportation planning process for the Columbia Metropolitan Area. The Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) identifies the transportation planning activities which are to be undertaken in the COATS study area in support of the goals, objectives and actions established in the 2040 Long-Range Transportation Plan, which was adopted in September 2015. COATS staff, working with the Planning Department of the South Carolina Department of Transportation, annually initiates the process of developing the UPWP and prepares a final draft for the MPO Policy Committee consideration. The intent in developing a comprehensive Work Program is to ensure that a coordinated transportation planning process occurs in the region, which will make positive contributions towards achievement of the established 2040 goals regarding mobility, facilities, safety, the environment, and land use.

The UPWP outlines a framework for the work program which the staff is expected to accomplish, and provides guidance with respect to a financial plan to support the Work Program. This 2018 – 2019 Work Program is intended to be consistent with the metropolitan planning requirements of
the Federal Legislation: Fixing America’s Surface Transportation (FAST) Act (Pub. L. No. 114-94), and its implementing regulations. Compliance with these regulations frames much of this program. Further, the Work Program strives to address South Carolina Department of Transportation planning emphasis areas which are intended to implement the State’s policies for urban area transportation planning. This is to ensure that projects conceived by COATS fulfill Federal and State policies and local issues progress in a timely manner.

The status of the current Work Program is reviewed annually by the COATS’s Policy Committee to ensure that it is being carried out in a manner consistent with the MPO’s goals. While it is the mission of the Staff and the Policy Committee to complete work efforts within a program year, task elements may be designed to span multiple fiscal years and therefore are carried into subsequent Work Programs to affect closure. Each year an estimate of transportation planning funds available for new programs is made. Policy direction and scope of the UPWP are developed with member government participation based on their needs, consistent with the Long-Range Transportation Plan.

The staff, working with member governments, establishes a list of candidate projects for inclusion in next year’s work program. Estimates of amounts and sources of funding to accomplish the planning program are developed. The Technical Committee then reviews the continuing program and the new projects. A draft UPWP is developed for the Transportation Subcommittee review and recommendation of acceptance to the Executive and Policy Committees. The Policy Committee has the final responsibility to approve the UPWP.

Funding for the UPWP is provided through federal, state, and local resources. The primary source is the consolidated FHWA/FTA planning grant that is provided through the South Carolina Department of Transportation. FHWA PL funds and FTA Section 5303 Mass Transit funds have been consolidated to streamline the administrative requirements and reinforce a multimodal planning process.

**COATS ORGANIZATION**

The Columbia Area Transportation Study (COATS) is organized to facilitate and encourage maximum interaction between local, State and Federal agencies involved in the transportation decision-making process. To accomplish this, a committee structure was adopted to include the following committees:

*Policy Committee*

The Policy Committee consists of the elected and appointed officials representing local and State governments and other organizations/agencies having an interest or responsibility in comprehensive transportation planning in the Columbia Metropolitan Area. The primary responsibility of the Policy Committee is to establish policies for the overall conduct of the COATS. Policy Committee meetings are conducted on a monthly basis.
Transportation Subcommittee

The Transportation Subcommittee is responsible for making recommendations to the full Policy Committee regarding project priorities to be funded by various Federal Aid Highway Programs and included in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Transportation Subcommittee meetings are scheduled on a monthly basis.

Technical Committee

The Technical Committee, which is established by the Policy Committee, is composed of the professional/technical representatives from the member governments and public agencies having direct or indirect responsibility for transportation planning and/or implementation. Their primary responsibility is to monitor all technical activities including the annual development of a draft UPWP and TIP for recommendation to the Policy Committee. They also review and consider for recommendation to the Policy Committee all major studies and planning activities. Technical Committee meetings are scheduled on a monthly basis.

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee is made up of Policy Committee members and provides oversight of transportation planning activities. Executive Committee meetings are conducted on a monthly basis.

Additional Committees

An important element in the operation of the Policy Committee is the effective utilization of both formal and ad-hoc advisory committees to review and evaluate detailed transportation issues and results of planning activities. The committee(s) function principally is to make recommendations to the Policy Committee on subjects directed to them by the Policy Committee which require extensive evaluation and which would be inefficient to resolve by the full committee. Additional advisory committee meetings are scheduled on an as needed basis.

The COATS has also established the following permanent committee(s):

Rail Transit Committee: This Committee consists of members of the Policy Committee and other interested citizens. The Rail Transit Committee is established to research issues related to rail development and its impact on the transportation infrastructure in the region. The Rail Transit Committee meetings are scheduled on a quarterly basis.

Bike and Pedestrian Committee: This Committee consists of members of the Transportation Subcommittee, State and local governments, and other interested citizens. The Bike and Pedestrian Committee is established to research issues related to bicycle and pedestrian development and its impact on the transportation infrastructure in the region. Bike and Pedestrian Committee meetings are scheduled on a semi-annually.
Regional Development Committee: This Committee consists of members of the Policy Committee, State and local governments, and other interested citizens. The Regional Development Committee is established to research issues related to land use development and its impact on the transportation infrastructure in the region. Regional Development Committee meetings are scheduled on a quarterly basis.

Organizational Objectives

In order to achieve the COATS program goals and the detailed technical activities inherent in them, the COATS organization has the following objectives:

1. Develop an administrative committee structure which will express and coordinate transportation planning and development values, policies, and goals as related to transportation requirements at all governmental levels;

2. Provide guidance to public and private decision-makers involved in immediate implementation and long-range activities;

3. Provide technical study programs and fulfill organizational responsibilities necessary to continue transportation plan development, study refinement, and research;

4. Provide for community review of the 2040 Long-Range Transportation Plan and its sub-elements, resolve conflicts with community values, and obtain participation in updating and reevaluating the plan;

5. Monitor and evaluate changes in the metropolitan structure and identify growth problems, and update the plan as necessary; and

6. Promote the coordination of planning activities to implement the “continuing, comprehensive planning” concept.
MPO PLANNING AREA EXPANSION DUE TO THE 2010 US CENSUS

On Tuesday, March 27, 2012, the US Census Bureau released their new 2010 Urbanized Areas. The release of these new urbanized areas denoted that per federal requirements, Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) such as the Columbia Area Transportation Study (COATS) will have to adjust their metropolitan planning area boundary to encompass the contiguous census designated urbanized area and the area projected to be urbanized over the next 20 years. Federal requirements also denoted that the COATS MPO may consider adjusting its Policy Committee composition to ensure that adequate representation for all necessary jurisdictions has been addressed.

The 2010 US Census produced a new census designated urbanized area that exceeded the existing COATS MPO Boundary in four (4) locations. The nearby municipalities in these expanded areas were the Town of Chapin in Newberry County, Town of Blythewood in Fairfield County, Town of Swansea in Lexington County, and the City of Camden in Kershaw County. Please be advised that the City of Camden was designated by the Census Bureau as an urban cluster and was not included as part of the census designated urbanized area for Columbia. The census designated urbanized area in Kershaw County stops at the Wateree River.

In review of the census definition for these expanded areas, each can be defined as a hop or a jump. The Census Bureau includes territory that is not contiguous with the urban core through "hops" and "jumps" to allow for the inclusion of densely settled areas proximate to the urban core. Hops must connect along a road segment less than 0.5 miles in length (excluding exempted territory). Jumps can connect along a road segment up to 2.5 miles in length (excluding exempted territory). The 2010 Census criteria does not allow hops after a jump.

Areas qualify for inclusion via a hop or a jump if the area's total population is greater than 1,000 persons or if the population density of the area and the hop/jump corridor is greater than 500 ppsm. These expanded areas meet one of these qualifications.

Agreeable expansions of the MPO planning areas occurred in Newberry, Fairfield, Kershaw, and Lexington Counties. These counties participated in the development of the new MPO planning areas and adopted the MPO resolution and new boundary. Census blocks were used to establish the areas that are expected to be urbanized in the next 20 years.

On March 28, 2013 the MPO Policy Committee approved the MPO Re-Designation Resolution and new MPO planning area. The COATS MPO also has a negotiated agreement with Kershaw County to provide MPO planning services. As well, the compositions of the MPO Policy Committee, Transportation Subcommittee, and Technical Committee have been adjusted in referenced to the new MPO planning area.
STAFFING

The work proposed under this Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) will be primarily accomplished by the COATS Staff, with the assistance and cooperative support of the participating CMCOG member governments as well as the use of private consultants, where appropriate.

**COATS Staff**

A permanent, intermodal professional staff has been assembled to carry out the major portion of COATS continuing transportation planning program. This staff, consisting of a Director, professional, technical and support personnel, will pursue specific COATS work program task elements under the direction of the MPO Policy Committee.

**South Carolina Department of Transportation Staff**

The South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) has an extensive professional staff of transportation planners, analysts and both professional and support personnel, in such associated specialties as transportation planning, research, data processing and environmental impact analysis. SCDOT provides assistance to COATS on various issues as requested.

**Lexington County Planning Agency Staff**

The Lexington County Planning Agency provides COATS with planning assistance and various GIS-related information.

**Richland County Planning Agency Staff**

The Richland County Planning Agency provides COATS with planning assistance and various GIS-related information.

**City of Columbia Planning Agency Staff**

The City of Columbia Planning Agency provides COATS with planning assistance and various GIS-related information.

**Kershaw County Planning Agency Staff**

The City of Columbia Planning Agency provides COATS with planning assistance and various GIS-related information.

**Central Midlands Regional Transit Authority Staff**

The Central Midlands Regional Transit Authority (CMRTA) provides COATS with both general and project specific data relating to transit. Such data includes ridership information, counts, scheduling, routing, etc.
OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES AND BYLAWS

COATS operates under an adopted set of bylaws. Administrative and operational procedures are included in the Central Midlands Council of Governments (CMCOG) Bylaws. Official records of COATS business are maintained in the CMCOG Office located at 236 Stoneridge Drive, Columbia, South Carolina 29210. All of COATS records are available for public inspection during normal business hours.

UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP) FRAMEWORK

The annual UPWP establishes the transportation planning activities and programs of the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to be carried out over the course of the work program year (July through June). Other than administration, the basis of the work program is focused in three broad areas:

I. Maintenance of a Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), which identifies projects and/or programs to receive various sources of Federal funds covering highway, transit, and intermodal facilities and programs.

II. Maintenance and implementation of the Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), which identifies priority transportation system deficiencies and feasible/appropriate methods for addressing those deficiencies in a fiscally constrained environment.

III. Four transportation goals were identified for the Columbia Metropolitan Area in the COATS 2040 Long-Range Transportation Plan adopted in September 2015 including: mobility, safety, environment, and facilities. Detailed objectives and action recommendations were also identified in regard to each of the goal areas.

IV. Recognition of requirements established by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) regarding the national transportation planning priorities included in the FAST Act and National Highway System legislation.
FAST ACT PLANNING FACTORS

The Metropolitan Planning program under SAFETEA-LU provided funding for the integration of transportation planning processes in the Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) into a unified metropolitan transportation planning process, culminating in the preparation of a multimodal transportation plan for the MPO. Title 23 of the United States Code, section 134(f) (revised in SAFETEA-LU section 6001(h)) describes Federal Planning Factors issued by Congress to emphasize planning factors from a national perspective. Under Map-21 and the FAST Act these planning factors remain unchanged. The planning factors (for both metro and statewide planning) are as follows:

1. Support the economic vitality of the metropolitan area, especially by enabling global competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency.
2. Increase the safety of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
3. Increase the security of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
4. Increase the accessibility and mobility of people and for freight.
5. 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.
6. Enhance the integration and connectivity of the transportation system, across and between modes, people and freight.
7. Promote efficient system management and operation.
8. Emphasize the preservation of the existing transportation system.
9. Improve the resilience and reliability of the transportation system and reduce or mitigate stormwater impacts of surface transportation; and
10. Enhance travel and tourism.
2015 – 2017 SUMMARY OF MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

General Administration

The accomplishments under this task were necessary to ensure that the MPO functioned adequately to manage the transportation planning process, ensuring that it is continuous, cooperative, and comprehensive in nature and that it is in compliance with applicable Federal, State, and local laws and requirements. To that end, the accomplishments under this task are varied and include, but are not limited to, the items summarized below:

- Held nineteen Policy Committee meetings, twelve Transportation Subcommittee, and ten Technical Committee meetings, over the course of the program year and provided administrative and technical support to these committees as needed.
- Disseminated mailings and other appropriate communications as warranted;
- Maintained all financial records of revenues and expenditures;
- Upgraded and maintained in-house computer and network resources;
- Completed all required communications and coordination with SCDOT, FHWA and FTA;
- Completed the required quarterly Planning Reports;
- Continued management of the selected consultants for COATS General Transportation Planning/Engineering Services;
- Continued training of various MPO staff as appropriate; and
- Continued participation, as appropriate, with the American Planning Association (APA), the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (AMPO) and other professional affiliations as needed.

Public Participation

Significant public participation/media relations efforts and activities were conducted over the past program year for numerous UPWP tasks including, but not limited to:

- Publicized via press releases, legal notices, flyers, and presentations, the commencement of planning activities and public comment periods relating to both the 2016-2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) process and the 2040 Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Elements as appropriate;
- Held public meetings in an effort to identify the issues for the transportation planning projects and studies
- Updated and expanded the website for the COATS MPO;
- Developed and distributed issues of the CMCOG newsletter
- Maintained and expanded the CMCOG web site;
- Held public meeting to receive comments on the Columbia Avenue Widening Project
- Held public meeting to receive comments on the Leesburg Road Widening Project
- Participated in public meetings for road improvement projects in Richland County that are funded by the Richland County Sales Tax
✓ Participated in public meeting for road and interstate improvement projects funded by SCDOT
✓ Worked with various municipalities and the media throughout 2015-2017 in an effort to promote the nature, role, and purpose of COATS; and
✓ Produced and distributed, as appropriate, a CMCOG Orientation Package, aimed at educating new committee members on the roles and responsibilities of the agency.

2018 – 2019 UPWP Development

This task involved the creation and dissemination of the 2018 - 2019 UPWP, which was developed via a cooperative process involving all member agencies as well as the CMCOG staff. A request for planning projects was provided to all municipalities in the COATS study area but resulted in strong response. As recommended in the latest SCDOT letter of February 2017, COATS is preparing an annual UPWP, covering the period of July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2019. The Final Draft 2018 - 2019 UPWP is scheduled to be presented to the Transportation Subcommittee and Policy Committee on June 8th and June 22, 2017, respectively, for final approvals and adoption.

Data Collection, Compilation, and/or Analysis

This task allows for staff to collect, analyze and utilize various forms of data that assist in the everyday operation of the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The four primary datasets utilized for this task are Populations Projections, Commercial Real Estate, Building Permits and Vehicle Data.

The following items have been completed:

✓ Traffic Count Data for each County (Lexington, Newberry, Richland, & Fairfield)
✓ 2015 & 2016 Commercial Real Estate Reports
✓ 2015 & 2016 Multi-Family Rental and Condominium Surveys
✓ 2015 & 2016 Building Permits Reports
✓ 30-Year Population Estimations for Richland and Lexington Counties
✓ Tracking Annual Employment Estimations for Richland, Lexington, Newberry, & Fairfield Counties

Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

COATS has made considerable progress on maintaining its central GIS database library for use on all planning activities. Updated GIS data include: Functional Classification of the Federal Aid eligible road network, updated annotation layer for road names and shields, the compiling of ownership/jurisdiction data for all road systems in the MPO area. Specific milestones worth noting for this project area include, but are not limited, to the following:

✓ Continued coordination with member agencies to ensure that the most recent data is being used;
Continued file maintenance of COATS GIS data layers;
Continued the linkage of TransCad modeling data with GIS to allow for easy access;
Created LMI and Transit Coordination Maps
Provided maps that support CMRTA activities
Continued updates of GIS data (i.e. population data, employment data, aerial photography, building permits), maintenance, and the necessary adjustments as required in support of various UPWP planning efforts that will utilize GIS data.
Continued cartography/graphic support for visualization, public involvement, and scenario planning
Continued to enhance employment GIS layers for various transportation projects.
Continued transportation modeling of different scenarios (i.e. changes in land use patterns.)
Updated and analyzed CMRTA Bus Routes for the Service and Fair Equity Project
Created Bike/Pedestrian Maps and Data
Analyzed New Census Data

Travel Demand Model

The Columbia Area Transportation Study (COATS) Travel Demand Model is a technical tool to assist in the development of the regional transportation plan and the policy decision making process. The travel demand model utilizes a traditional four-step trip-based model process consisting of trip generation, trip distribution, mode choice, and trip assignment to evaluate the current and future travel conditions for the MPO planning area. Major accomplishments under this effort are itemized below:

- Completed travel demand model scenarios:
  - 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan
  - Requests from consultants on regional projects

Air Quality and Conformity

This task allows for COATS to ensure that it meets all requirements of Federal and State agencies in terms of air quality and conformity. Specifically, it allows the COATS to continue to provide for air quality planning initiatives and activities in the MPO area that comply with the conformity requirements of the Clear Air Act Amendments of 1990. The Technical Committee, Transportation Subcommittee, and Bike and Pedestrian Committee have received reports on the region’s current air quality status. Major accomplishments under this effort are itemized below:

- Administered and conducted Clean Air Midlands meetings, our regional air quality coalition. This included coordinating presenters, creating the agenda, and communicating with group members.
- Attended Open Streets, a City of Columbia event that promoted alternative transportation options, and closed off multiple city blocks from automobile traffic. While in the event, provided support to the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) and promoted Clean Air Midlands.
Currently in communication with Keep Midlands Beautiful to provide logistic support for a tree planting grant expected to come out later in the year.

Began training process on the Midlands Rideshare page, and researched potential green business partners and companies that would be interested in utilizing the software. This included creating a green business stakeholder database and a work plan to promote usage of the software.

In communication with the City of Columbia Public Works Sustainability Facilitator, got a seat at the table in an upcoming Green Business breakfast. This will be used as an opportunity to promote Clean Air Midlands, and network with interested green business partners to pursue future projects.

Created a brochure for Clean Air Midlands.

Attended Soda City Farmer's Market on Earth Day, providing support to the DHEC Air Quality Bureau, promoting Clean Air Midlands, and advocating air quality protection.

**Kershaw County Sub-Area Plan (West Wateree Transportation Study)**

This project consist of a land use and transportation assessment in the COATS MPO portion of Kershaw County. The project assessed the relationship between land use and transportation under current conditions and how future growth and development would affect the system.

- This project is over 100% complete
- Presented the final project to the Kershaw County Council on May 23rd.
- Presented the project for approval to the MPO Policy Committee on April 27th.
- Presented the final project to the Transportation Subcommittee on April 13th.
- Prepared for and held the final public meeting to review recommendations on February 13, 2017 at Lugoff-Elgin High School. Over 30 people were in attendance, including members of Kershaw County Council. All comments were positive with support demonstrated for the draft recommendations presented.
- Refined bicycle and pedestrian map for inclusion in Technical Memorandum No. 3
- Delivered Technical Memorandum No. 3 draft recommendations
- Finalized and submitted draft study document for review and comment
- Completed cost estimates for recommendations
- Preparation for presentation thru the MPO Planning Process
- Closed the comment period for the interactive online mapping application WikiMap in August 2016. Access was available through Kershaw County, Town of Elgin, and CMCOG websites. **Over 120 users accessed the WikiMap, contributing **over 200 comments. A public comment form was also available for those who do not have internet access. Continued preparing summary of WikiMap comments.
- Existing and future motor vehicle transportation facilities analyses were completed in June 2016 and included in Technical Memorandum No.2. Technical Memorandum No.2 was submitted to the Steering Committee on August 9, 2016.
- Transit analysis was completed in June 2016 and included in Technical Memorandum No.2. Technical Memorandum No.2 was submitted to the Steering Committee on August 9, 2016.
Bicycle and pedestrian facilities analysis was completed in June 2016 and included in Technical Memorandum No.2. Technical Memorandum No.2 was submitted to the Steering Committee on August 9, 2016.

Detailed development trends analysis is not possible based on lack of geocoded building permit data. A higher level analysis was performed to inform traffic generation. Resources from this task are being utilized to cover scope additions in other tasks.

Completed evaluation of study area needs. The project team will present study area needs and initial Complete Streets scenarios to the Steering Committee in late October 2016.

**Regional Freight Mobility Study**

This study was to assess the current state of the region’s freight transportation and logistics systems, determine the needs of the systems’ principal users; develop a strategic vision to guide future policy development, and recommend priority improvements to the system. The major accomplishments include:

- This project is over 35% complete
- Established project files for data sharing and file management
- Established project team document templates.
- Conducted team coordination and CMCOG Status Calls
- Coordinated with SCDOT on public comment sharing
- Coordinated with CMCOG on public engagement
- Data collection on freight bottlenecks
- Inventoried freight assets
- Collected mapping data
- Conducted analysis of best practices in freight planning
- Received and Executed a contract with the CDM Smith
- Held a kick-off meeting on December 14th.
- Reviewed each task for the study
- Discussed in detail how the TransSearch data would be incorporated into the plan.
- Discussed in detail how the economic impact would be assessed and developed into the plan.
- Coordinated with CMCOG member governments
- Completed the protest period
- Engaged in discussion with about the scope of the project
- Completed scope and budget negotiations
- Submitted a contract to SCDOT for review
- Received approval from SCDOT on the contract
- Submitted the contract to CDM Smith for review and approval
Cayce, West Columbia, & Springdale (West Metro) Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan

The purpose of this plan is to perform a bike and pedestrian master plan for the communities of Cayce, West Columbia, and Springdale. The plan will assess bike and pedestrian amenities in each community and enhance the connectivity between them. The major accomplishments include:

- This project is over 30% complete
- Ongoing project management and coordination
- Refined Public Participation plan
- Developed outreach materials including display boards and postcards
- Finalized dates and venues for first round of public outreach. Targeting several public events for piggyback outreach
- Launched WikiMap for collecting public input for both bike/ped and bike share feasibility.
- Continued review of existing plans and policies that have relevance to bicycle and pedestrian transportation in the study area
- Completed assembly of GIS database. Developed a base map.
- Completed formulating strategy for Level of Stress analysis
- Completed best practice documentation
- Completed demand analysis
- Coordinated bike share needs with overall public outreach
- Initiated project setup
- Prepared for and participated in kickoff meeting with Steering Committee on November 8, 2016.
- Prepared and administered initial input techniques, including interactive survey and priority connections dot exercise during Steering Committee meeting on November 8, 2016.
- Completed review of existing plans and policies that have relevance to bicycle and pedestrian transportation in the study area.
- Completed assembling GIS database.
- Created basemap for kickoff meeting.
- Coordinated with CMCOG member governments
- Completed the protest period
- Engaged in discussion with about the scope of the project
- Completed scope and budget negotiations
- Submitted a contract to SCDOT for review
- Received approval from SCDOT on the contract
- Submitted the contract to the Toole Design Group for review and approval
- Received and Executed a contract with the Toole Design Group
- Began scheduling a kick-off meeting
MPO Certification Review

Every four years, the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) must certify that each metropolitan planning organization (MPO) serving a transportation management area (TMA) – a designation by DOT of an urbanized area with a population over 200,000 as defined by the Bureau of the Census or smaller urbanized areas on request by the Governor and MPO – is carrying out the metropolitan planning process in adherence with federal statutes and regulations. FTA and FHWA conduct a review of the metropolitan planning process within each TMA and jointly issue this certification on behalf of the DOT Secretary, in accordance with 49 U.S.C. 5303(k). The major accomplishments include:

- This project is over 100% complete
- MPO held its recertification review in January
- The review found no findings
- The review made several recommendations
- MPO staff has completed all recommendations
- MPO received the final certification report in September.

Public Participation Plan

The purpose of this project is to establish a process for communicating with and obtaining input from the public concerning agency programs, projects, and program funding. The strategies and tactics outlined in the plan guide the agency’s public outreach and involvement efforts for highway projects; construction; smart growth, environmental, and planning efforts; growth forecasts; the Regional Transportation Plan; Regional Transportation Improvement Program; LEP Consultation; and other initiatives. The major accomplishments include:

- This project is over 55% complete
- Continued discussions with stakeholders about the effectiveness of local outreach tools
- Continued development of new policies for consideration
- Continued review of using social media as a public participation tool
- Continued development of the first draft
- Identified social media activities that are currently being used as a plan amendment. Received approval from the MPO Policy Committee to include those activities in the current plan while the new plan is being developed.

Site Selection Study

The purpose of this project is to conduct a site selection analysis that will determine the preferred location for a Regional Transportation Intermodal Center. The project will be completed in partnership with the Comet Transit System. The major accomplishments include:

- This project is over 65% complete
✓ Completed an analysis and report on the public involvement questionnaires
✓ Advanced the environmental analysis for the top four preferred sites
✓ Continued outreached initiatives to real estate professionals
✓ Conceptual Design has been initiated
✓ Analysis of Development Potential for Site and Area is underway
✓ Economic Impact Analysis is underway
✓ Public Involvement is underway
✓ Analysis of Current Services, Operational Conditions and Needs is completed.
✓ Facility Needs Assessment Phase is completed
✓ Location and Site Evaluation Phase is completed
✓ Performed a site inspection of the eighteen sites that had been identified to date as potential locations for the intermodal transportation center. Also scouted other potential sites in the study area.
✓ Conducted passenger surveys at the Columbia Amtrak station and the Columbia Greyhound bus station. Discussions were held with the station managers at these two locations regarding the rail and intercity bus needs at an intermodal transportation center. The results of these surveys were tabulated and documented.
✓ Held a meeting of the Project Steering Committee on October 5, 2016. At this meeting the facility program for the intermodal transportation center was presented to the committee. This program was prepared based on the Steering Committee’s completion of the Facility Programming Questionnaire and input from discussions with Amtrak and Greyhound.
✓ An example conceptual site plan was presented to the committee for review and discussion. The conceptual site plan was based on the approved facility program.
✓ The boundaries for evaluating sites in the Columbia area which defined the Optimal Geographic Location of the facility for the purposes of our study were discussed and it was decided to eliminate boundary lines and to just show a rectangular map that encompasses the study area.
✓ Presentation materials were prepared for the public meeting. However due to the arrival of Hurricane Mathew on the Atlantic coast, it was decided to postpone the first public meeting that had been scheduled for October 5th. A revised date was selected as November 2, 2016. The site will remain at the Richlands County library.
✓ Analysis of Current Services, Operational Conditions and Needs is mostly complete.
✓ Facility Needs Assessment Phase is underway
✓ Location and Site Evaluation Phase is underway
✓ Public Involvement is underway
✓ Selected Wendel Architecture as the selected consultant
✓ Completed the protest period with no protests
✓ Competed develop of the contract scope of work
✓ Began contract negotiations
✓ Re-verified funding with FTA
2040 Long-Range Transportation Plan

COATS has continued the process of implementing the 2040 Long-Range Transportation Plan with substantial work being completed during the past program year. The major accomplishments include:

- Provided staff assistance to complete the Greenride Rideshare.
- Provided staff assistance to begin the LRTP Update
- Provided GIS support and mapping support for various projects.
- Staff updated website content to the COATS website.
- Proposed Amendment(s) to the 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan include(s):
  - Annual TAP projects approved by the MPO Policy Committee

Transportation Projects Implementation

This task addresses the implementation of transportation planning projects that the staff has either completed, annually implements, or will completed in this fiscal year. Staff continues to implementation these transportation planning projects to meet Federal and State guidelines and improve and enhance the regional transportation system.

Rail/Truck and Transit Planning

The purpose of this project was to include multi-modal transportation planning in the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) process in order to effectively address rail, truck and transit transportation issues, for moving both people and freight, as appropriate. Major accomplishments completed under this item include:

- Continued implementation of the Commuter Rail Plan
- Continued to monitor high speed rail activities in the upstate
- Continued research on a possible rail demonstration route
- Continued assessing land use along proposed rail routes
- Continued researching vehicle types that can provide rail and road services
- Continued implementation of the rail strategy

The objective of this project is to assess multi-modal options and develop alternatives for people to access the current transportation system safely, efficiently, and use it effectively.

Transportation Improvement Program

This project’s purpose was to maintain and update the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for 2013-2019. Activities for this project will also ensure that the TIP has complied with the requirements of the Clean Air Act, and is in conformity with the Early Action Compact. Over the past year, the following TIP Amendments have occurred:
Continued implementation of the 2016-2022 Transportation Improvement Program

SUBMITTED the following actions to the included in the STIP:

- Approximately $153 million in Guideshare funds is expected to be obligated through FY 2022.
  - Addition of $10 million in guideshare funds for the construction of Hardscrabble Road in each of the following years FY 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019 ($40 million total)
  - Addition of $2.4 million in guideshare funds for the construction of Assembly Street Phase II in FY 2017.
  - Addition of $9 million in guideshare funds for the construction of Leesburg Road in each of the following years: FY 2019, 2020, 2021 ($27 million total)
  - Addition of $1 million in guideshare funds for PE for the Columbia Avenue Widening in FY 2016
  - Addition of $2.5 million in guideshare funds for PE for the Columbia Avenue Widening in FY 2017
  - Addition of $4 million in guideshare funds for R/W for the Columbia Avenue Widening in FY 2018
  - Addition of $5.5 million in guideshare funds for R/W for the Columbia Avenue Widening in FY 2019
  - Addition of $5,000 in guideshare funds for PE for the Old Orangeburg Road @ Bill Williamson Court Intersection in FY 2016
  - Addition of $700,000 in guideshare funds for R/W for the Leesburg Rd @ Patricia Dr. intersection in FY 2016
  - Addition of $700,000 in guideshare funds for the construction of the Leesburg Rd @ Patricia Dr. intersection in each of the following years: FY 2019, 2020, 2021 ($2.1 million total)
  - Addition of $1 million in guideshare funds for the construction of the Bluff Road Sidewalk in FY 2017.
  - Addition of $750,000 in guideshare funds for the construction of Columbia Communications Upgrade-Signal System Improvements
  - Addition of $215,000 in guideshare funds for PE for the Adaptive Signal Phase II Project in FY 2016
  - Addition of $447,000 in guideshare funds for R/W for the Adaptive Signal Phase II Project in FY 2016
  - Addition of $1,932,000 in guideshare funds for the construction of the Adaptive Signal Phase II Project in FY 2017
  - Addition of $5.7 million in guideshare funds for R/W for the Exit 119 Interchange Improvement in FY 2021
  - Addition of $50,000 in TAP funds for the construction of the Lights on Blossom Street Bridge Project in FY 2016.
Section 5307 (Previous Obligations)

- Addition of $4,330,000 for CMRTA for preventive maintenance
- Addition of $859,000 for CMRTA for operating paratransit
- Addition of $3,790,000 for CMRTA for vehicle replacement - capital
- Addition of $1,154,000 for CMRTA for ADA paratransit preventive maintenance
- Addition of $1,572,195 for CMRTA for ADA paratransit vehicle replacement
- Addition of $900,000 for CMCOG for Assembly Street Phase I (SC-90-X257)
- Addition of $1,536,625 for CMCOG for Assembly Street Phase II (SC-90-X274)

Section 5307 FY 2016

- Addition of $3,628,881 for CMRTA for planned future obligations (These are FFY 2012 SAFETEA-LU Funds)
- Addition of $3,761,714 for CMRTA for planned future obligations (These are FFY 2013 MAP-21 Funds)
- Addition of $500,000 for CMCOG for planning activities (SC-90-X292)

Section 5307 FY 2017

- Addition of $3,992,562 for CMRTA for planned future obligations (These are FFY 2014 MAP-21 Funds)

Section 5310 FY 2016

- Addition of $37,428 for program administration
- Addition of $53,125 for Senior Resources for the purchase of a vehicle (14 Passenger)
- Addition of $34,000 for Senior Resources for the purchase of a vehicle (Minibus)
- Addition of $17,752 for Senior Resources for operating
- Addition of $55,250 for Irmo Chapin Recreation for the purchase of a vehicle (14 Passenger)
- Addition of $34,000 for Irmo Chapin Recreation for the purchase of a vehicle (Minibus)
- Addition of $44,800 for Mental Illness Recovery Center for the purchase of a vehicle (14 Passenger - First)
- Addition of $44,800 for Mental Illness Recovery Center for the purchase of a vehicle (14 Passenger - Second)
- Addition of $53,125 for Babcock Center for the purchase of a vehicle
Section 5310 FY 2017

- Addition of $8,082 for program administration
- Addition of $36,000 for Irmo Chapin Recreation for the purchase of a vehicle (14 Passenger)
- Addition of $44,800 for Mental Illness Recovery Center for the purchase of a vehicle (14 Passenger)
- Addition of $26,400 for Mental Illness Recovery Center for the purchase of a vehicle (Minivan)
- Addition of $50,000 for Babcock Center for the purchase of a vehicle (First Vehicle)
- Addition of $50,000 for Babcock Center for the purchase of a vehicle (Second Vehicle)

Section 5316 Previous Obligations

- Addition of $84,000 for CMRTA to develop How-To-Videos (SC-37-X027) - Capital
- Addition of $10,000 for CMCOG/CMRTA for the administration for the How-To-Videos
- Addition of $15,897 for Midlands Housing Alliance for their Transitions Program (SC-37-X021)
- Addition of $24,526 for CMCOG/COATS for the administration for the Transitions Program Grant
- Addition of $121,800 for CMCOG/CMRTA for the Mobility Manager (SC-37-X018)

Section 5317 Previous Obligations

- Addition of $33,786 for CMCOG/COATS for a Mobility Manager (SC-57-X018)
- Addition of $51,787 for CMCOG/COATS for New Freedom Administration
- Addition of $141,662 for CMCOG/CMRTA for a Travel Trainer (SC-57-X015)
- Addition of $242,607 for CMCOG/CMRTA for Medical Escorts Services (SC-57-X008)

Section 5339 FY 2017

- Addition of $438,767 for CMRTA for the purchase of two (2) vehicles
✓ Section 5339 Previous Obligations

- Addition of $266,000 for future obligations – capital
✓ Advertised the 2016 - 2022 Transportation Improvement Program for a 30-day public comment period
✓ Completed SCDOT STIP Corrections and Amendments

**Web-Based Online Commuter Matching and TDM Project**

This project will consist of developing a web based, commuter matching and Transportation Demand Management service. The web-based carpool, vanpool and bicycle commuter matching service shall offer users the ability to find other people who have a similar transportation need along a similar route. The purpose of this project is to facilitate extensive ridesharing to reduce traffic congestion, increase transportation system efficiency, improve air quality, and reduce commuting costs. Over this past year, the following activities have been accomplished:

✓ Continued maintenance on the program
✓ Uploaded a list of regional employers into the program
✓ Discussed air quality benefits with SCDHEC
✓ Updated the promotional flyer
✓ Updated outreach activities
✓ Continued preparation for media blitz to release the program
✓ Presented the program to individual member governments

**Miscellaneous Activities & Special Technical Assistance**

This task covers miscellaneous projects that are assigned from time to time, both short-term and infrequent long-term projects that do not warrant individual UPWP Tasks. Over the past year, staff participated in numerous minor efforts under this task to further the needs of both COATS and its member agencies. Over the past year the following has occurred:

✓ Staff edited TIP for COATS and RTIP for CMCOG
✓ Staff monitored Ozone levels for region and review new proposed regulations
✓ Staff provided technical assistance to the member governments
✓ Staff monitored Ozone levels for region and review new proposed regulations (Season started March 31, 2016- SCDHEC monitoring notices begin April 1, 2016)
✓ Staff provided technical assistance to the member governments
✓ Staff tracked SC Legislative bills and funding for COG and local governments
✓ Staff updated STIP 2017-2022 with Revisions 1
✓ Staff mapped traffic count increases by TAZ
✓ Staff studied rural traffic counts 2009-2015
✓ Staff updated intersection lists
✓ Staff composed TIP & RTIP projects books
✓ Staff sent updated project files on COATS & CMCOG Long Range Plans to SCDOT
✓ Staff attended public hearing on Carolina Crossroads [I-20, I-26, I-126] (10-4-2016)
✓ Staff attended Regional Transportation Center Study Steering Committee (10-5-2016 & 11-2,3-2016)
✓ Staff attended Regional Transportation Center Open House (11-2-2016)
✓ Staff attending public hearing on widening I-26 [exit 85 to 101] (10-11-2016)
✓ Staff attended Freight Planning Collaboration webinar (10-19-2016)
✓ Staff attending public hearing on widening Blythewood Road S-59 [for RC 1 cent sales tax] (10-20-2016)
✓ Staff attending public hearing on widening Bluff Road SC 48 Phase II [for RC 1 cent sales tax] (11-3-2016)
✓ Staff participated in West Metro Bike/Pedestrian and Bike Share kick off meeting (11-8-2016)
✓ Staff attended Asset Management webinar (11-8-2016)
✓ Staff attended SC MPO/COG quarterly webinar (11-10-2016)
✓ Staff mapped and added traffic counts for external stations for COATS model
✓ Staff researched Northern Arterial/Dutch Fork Connector
✓ Staff attended TPM Guidebook and TPM CMM Launch webinar (12-5-2016)
✓ Staff attended Regional Freight Mobility Plan Kick-Off Meeting (12-14-2016)
✓ Staff attended public hearing Broad River Road Widening [for RC 1 cent sales tax] (12-15-2016)
SUMMARY OF MAJOR PROGRAMMED ACTIVITIES

The 2018 - 2019 COATS Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) is based on the COATS’s 2040 Long-Range Transportation Plan, which was updated and approved by the Policy Committee on September 24, 2015. Emphasis has been placed on developing a program which can be reasonably accomplished with available staff and consultant resources and which is in keeping with the priorities of the COATS area. This 2018 - 2019 UPWP emphasizes activities that promote the implementation of the existing plan and establish a foundation for the 2017 plan update.

The Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (P.L. 112-141) and other Federal legislation (1990 Clean Air Act Amendments and Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990) significantly impact the manner in which the cooperative, continuous and comprehensive transportation planning process is administered. Among the opportunities are funding flexibility, intermodal planning, protection of the environment and the maintenance and preservation of existing transportation infrastructure. Tasks within this work program are organized into several major categories to facilitate review and management as follows:

1 — Program Administration and Support
This category includes general administration, UPWP maintenance and development, and public participation.

2 — Short-Range Transportation Planning
This category includes projects which could be implemented in a shorter time frame and includes activities related to the vehicle data collection, a review of the functional classification system and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) activities.

3 — Long-Range Transportation Planning
The majority of UPWP projects fall under this category are either annual activities or projects that tend to take longer to complete.

4 — Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
This category includes various tasks associated with the administration and maintenance of the TIP, which identifies projects and programs to receive various sources of federal funds covering highway, transit, and intermodal facilities and programs.

5 — Other Activities
This category includes miscellaneous activities and special technical assistance not otherwise covered.

6 — Budget Tables
Please note that the FY 2017 budget and work product delivery is illustrative until approved by SCDOT.
2018 – 2019 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The 2018 – 2019 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) is based on COATS’s 2040 Long-Range Transportation Plan, updated and approved by COATS Policy Committee on September 24, 2015. The goals for this program year are threefold:

Goal #1: To complete outstanding 2015 – 2017 UPWP tasks
Goal #2: To commence and complete new 2018 – 2019 UPWP tasks
Goal #3: To proceed with existing and proposed recurring activities

Goal #1
In order to attain Goal #1, the following specific projects carried over from the 2015 - 2017 UPWP will be continued:

- Regional Freight Mobility Plan
- Cayce, West Columbia, & Springdale Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan
- Public Participation Plan
- Web Based Online Commuter Matching and TDM Service

Goal #2
Goal #2 will be achieved by completing the following new 2018 – 2019 tasks:

- Blythewood Traffic Assessment and Safety Improvement Study
- Chapin, Batesburg-Leesville, Swansea Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan
- Human Services Coordination Plan Update

Goal #3

The tasks below make up the remainder of the program and are either required necessary or annual activities.

- General Administration
- Professional Services
- Public Participation
- UPWP Maintenance and Development
- Data Collection, Compilation and/or Analysis
- Transportation Project Implementation
- Geographic Information Systems
- Air Quality Conformity
- Long-Range Transportation Plan
- Rail, Truck and Transit Planning
- TIP Development and Maintenance
- Miscellaneous Activities & Special Technical Assistance
- Environmental Mitigation, Agency Consultation, and Safety & Security

Some of these tasks result in an annual report that is reviewed and approved by the appropriate COATS Committee(s), while others are simply a required or necessary aspect of the MPO planning process.
UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM

FY 2018 – 2019

1 — PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION and SUPPORT

1A — General Administration

1B — Professional Services

1C — Public Participation

1D — UPWP Maintenance and Development
PROJECT NO: 1A

PROJECT TITLE: General Administration

OBJECTIVE:
To initiate and properly manage the transportation planning process, ensuring that it is continuous, cooperative, and comprehensive, and in compliance with applicable State and Federal laws and regulations.

METHODOLOGY:

COATS provides staff support to the Policy, Executive, and Transportation Subcommittee, in addition to other permanent and ad-hoc committees. The staff will implement the work task as contained in this UPWP. Other administrative activities included, but are not limited to the following:

- Acts as local liaison to FHWA, FTA, SCDOT, and other transportation related agencies to ensure coordination
- Provide administrative support and technical assistance to the Policy and Executive Committee, Transportation Subcommittee, as well as other permanent and ad-hoc committees, as needed;
- Maintain financial records of all revenues and expenditures
- Prepare and distribute meeting notices and agenda packages for all COATS committees
- Prepare certification documentation, agreements, resolutions, memoranda of understanding (MOU’s), etc.;
- Attend SCDOT, FHWA, FTA, and MPO training sessions and other necessary workshops and meetings;
- Maintain agreements between local governmental agencies and the MPO
- Interact/participate in AMPO, APA, and other professional affiliations, to allow for appropriate resources, travel and training as necessary;
- Provide funds for the purchase and maintenance of computer hardware and software to support the MPO planning program and related activities, including network maintenance;
- Continue COATS commitment to comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964
- Continue COATS commitment to ensure that all of their programs and activities sufficiently address Environmental Justice principles and procedures, as appropriate; and
- Continue to comply with the SCDOT and FTA DBE Programs

END PRODUCT:

The MPO staff will provide the supportive functions in the development of MPO documents and reports as well as staff all MPO meeting for the Policy Committee which meets monthly; the Transportation Subcommittee which is scheduled to monthly; and the Technical Committee which is scheduled to meet monthly. The MPO staff will provide all administrative functions to operate and support MPO activities.

Project Sponsor/Participating Agencies: Sponsor: COATS

Participating Agencies: COATS, Other agencies as appropriate

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**PROJECT NO:** 1B

**PROJECT TITLE:** Professional Services

**OBJECTIVE:**
To allow staff to utilize a procured consultant for specific engineering, planning, or other necessary services as needed in support of the various annual planning activities at COATS.

**METHODOLOGY:**
This task provides access to expert professional services when required by staff in support of the various annual planning activities. Specifically, it allows COATS to retain the services of procured consultants to assist with specific technical activities associated with a given project where current staff expertise may not be sufficient.

Examples include, but are not limited to:

- Developing the Regional Freight Mobility Plan (currently being conducted CDM Smith);
- Developing the Cayce, W. Columbia, Springdale Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan (currently being conducted by Toole Design Group);
- Developing the Kershaw County Sub-Area plan (recently completed by Toole Design Group);
- Continue implementation of the existing MPO Rideshare Program;
- Coordinate with CMRTA to conduct Site Selection Project;
- Implement Transportation Planning Activities as prescribed by law; and
- Other skills that may be necessary to support the UPWP but may be currently absent at the staff level.

The South Carolina Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration will have the opportunity to comment on all proposals and contracts before soliciting and/or executing for consulting services.

**END PRODUCT:**
The MPO staff will hire a consultant to assist the MPO staff in the development of planning reports and activities. A consultant may be hired to perform on-call technical support.

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**PROJECT NO:** 1C

**PROJECT TITLE:** Public Participation

**OBJECTIVE:**
To enhance COATS transportation planning process with greater opportunities for public participation, input involvement, and exposure.

**METHODOLOGY:**

This task generally provides for the dissemination of information to the public about the transportation planning program. It also covers receiving public comment and input on transportation planning activities through public information meetings both hosted and attended by COATS.

Specifically, this task includes the development of strategies for improving the public’s access to the MPO Planning process, including all stages of the development of MPO Planning documents and studies.

As part of the task, COATS will continue to ensure that the principles of Environmental Justice, including minority and low income communities; and non-English speaking populations are included and represented in all public outreach efforts.

Techniques for the dissemination of information include, but are not limited to the following:

- Newsletters;
- Brochures, flyers, and maps;
- Study reports and technical memoranda;
- Public information meetings/workshops and conferences;
- Media releases, press articles, and paid advertisement/features;
- Direct contact with public/citizens mailing lists;
- COATS website (www.centralmidlands.org).

Public participation opportunities (public input) include:

- Public meetings/workshops;
- Task Forces, focus groups;
- Surveys, questionnaires, comment cards, etc.

COATS will document the attendance and public comments received to evaluated the effectiveness of the current public involvement practices at all COATS functions.

**END PRODUCT:**
Public participation opportunities/activities, including CMCOG newsletters, reports, press releases, maps, and slide presentations, web site maintenance, meetings, workshops, etc.

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**Funding Sources:**

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PROJECT NO: 1D

PROJECT TITLE: UPWP Maintenance and Development

OBJECTIVE:
Maintain the current 2018 – 2019 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), and develop a subsequent work program.

METHODOLOGY:
This task includes all necessary work required to process amendments to the 2018 – 2019 UPWP.

In addition, this task will allow for the development of the 2020 - 2021 UPWP during the 2018 - 2019 program years.

The UPWP indicates local, state, and federal FHWA/FTA Consolidated funding of the UPWP tasks and identifies the participating agencies for completing the work. The UPWP will be developed according to measures deemed necessary to ensure a “3C" planning process; this is one that is continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive. Copies of the UPWP will be published after approval by the Policy Committee (CMCOG Board of Directors).

END PRODUCT:
Maintenance and amendments to the 2018 - 2019 UPWP as necessary and appropriate and the development of the 2020 - 2021 UPWP.

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UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM

FY 2018 - 2019

2 — SHORT-RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

2A — Data Collection, Compilation, and/or Analysis

2B — Transportation Projects Implementation

2C — Geographic Information System (GIS)
PROJECT NO: 2A

PROJECT TITLE: Data Collection, Compilation, and/or Analysis

OBJECTIVE:
To collect, analyze and utilize various forms of data that assist in the everyday planning operation of the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO).

METHODOLOGY:
This UPWP task involves the following subcategories:

- Vehicle Data Collection: The collection of traffic count data and a travel time survey required in support of COATS planning activities. This will be done in accordance with the traffic count information provided by SCDOT. Additionally, this subcategory will include the ongoing effort of maintaining a central database of vehicle traffic counts for the MPO area.

- Building Permits: This study tracks construction activity through building permits issued by local governments for residential and commercial structures. This information is used in population projections studies and growth analysis for the central midlands region. In 2016, 10,475 unique building permits valued at $1,936,960,094 were analyzed: 3,236 single family units; 1,101 multi-family units; 861 non-residential permits; 2,171 additions and 3,746 repairs permits.

- Population Projections: This study uses population projections developed by the US Census Bureau at the State level and County level projections developed by the Office of Research & Statistics. The Central Midlands staff analyzes population growth trends and further disseminates the data into Census Tracts.

- 2010 Census & Annual American Community Survey (ACS): a) Participate as a Regional Census data affiliate agency. b) Obtain and review data from Census Bureau to support transportation planning. c) Review and update Traffic Analysis Zone (TAZ) boundaries. d) Prepare analyses of data released by Census Bureau (publish on website, maps and agency documents)

END PRODUCT:
The end products are Vehicle, Population, Building Permits and Census reports. This data is used in the various multi-modal studies and activities undertaken by COATS.

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PROJECT NO: 2A - CONTINUED

PROJECT TITLE: Data Collection, Compilation, and/or Analysis

OBJECTIVE:
To collect, analyze and utilize various forms of data that assist in the everyday planning operation of the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO).

PURPOSE:
The Central Midlands Council of Governments and the COATS MPO analyzes population, building permits, and employment data sets in order to monitor the growth and development of residential and commercial trends and activities that assist the COG and MPO in planning for current and future transportation needs. These data sets are in concert with the following FAST Act planning factors:

- Protect and enhance the environment, promote energy conservation, improve the quality of life, and promote consistency between transportation improvement and State and local planned growth and economic development patterns.
- Enhance the integration of connectivity of the transportation system, across and between modes, people, and freight.
- Promote efficient system management and operation

Neither CMCOG nor COATS MPO dictate land use decisions within the Central Midlands and COATS planning areas. These decisions often have a major impact on traffic flows and congestion issues within our transportation network. In order to plan, review, and potentially mitigate this transportation issues, these surveys/reports are used to:

- Identify where current residential and commercial growth is occurring
- Identify potential corridors that may be impacted by continuing growth and development
- Identify the density and types of development that may be conducive to other modes of transportation other than single occupancy vehicles
- Assists in improving the coordination between land use and transportation
- Supports our CMP by allowing us to consider other types of transportation improvements before consideration is given to capacity expansion
- Identify potential census tracts where high traffic generators are located
- Identify employment sectors
- Provides current and forecasted demographics variables and input for long and short range transportation modeling purposes

Project Sponsor/Participating Agencies:

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PROJECT NO: 2B

PROJECT TITLE: Transportation Projects Implementation

OBJECTIVE:
To implement past and present transportation planning projects that will address the planning factors of the FAST Act.

METHODOLOGY:
This task will address the implementation of transportation planning projects that the staff has either completed, annually implements, or will be completed in this fiscal year. Projects that will be implemented included:

- Regional Freight Mobility Plan
- Regional Congestion Management Plan
- Human Services Transportation Coordination Plan
- Regional Transit ITS Architecture
- Regional Site Selection Study
- FTA Sections 5316 & 5317 Program Management Plan
- 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan
- Regional Land Use Study
- COATS TransCad Travel Demand Model
- Walk/Bike Columbia Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan & Bike Share Plan
- Transportation Alternatives Program
- 5310 Program Management Plan
- Midlands Rideshare Program
- Title VI Plan
- Language Assistance Plan
- DBE Plan

END PRODUCT:
Implementation of transportation planning projects.

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PROJECT NO: 2C

PROJECT TITLE: Geographic Information System (GIS)

OBJECTIVE:
To manage the data and software requirements necessary for maintaining and using COATS GIS to support the MPO planning activities (transportation, GIS layers, modeling, mapping, etc.).

METHODOLOGY:
The COATS GIS department routinely utilizes GIS technology for transportation planning and analysis. These efforts include but are not limited to: GIS coordination with member governments; spatial database inventorying, management and administration; vehicle traffic count analysis; environmental screening; demographics and research; Environmental Justice/Title VI compliance; and travel demand modeling.

Anticipated activities include:
- Continued coordination with member agencies to ensure that the most recent data is being used;
- Ongoing GIS database management and QA/QC of all data layers;
- Continued updates and QA/QC of data layers generated in house (e.g., population and employment forecasts, traffic counts, project lists, etc.);
- Continued GIS support for various UPWP planning efforts;
- Cartography/Graphic support for visualization, public involvement, and scenario planning;
- Continued update and refinement of regional travel demand model and all associated input and output data sources;
- Travel Demand modeling as needed for various UPWP planning efforts;
- GIS data and Travel Demand Modeling coordination with consultants as required for various UPWP planning efforts;
- Update and maintenance of GIS hardware and software components and associated Information Technology infrastructure and support as needed.
- Update and maintain TAZ boundaries and census data.

END PRODUCT:
Enhanced coordination between COATS and various federal, state, and local agencies to allow for up-to-date GIS data and files. Additionally, enhanced data sets and mapping that support the monitoring the surveillance of land use, population, employment, school enrollment, and highways.

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UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM

FY 2018 - 2019

3 — LONG-RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

3A — Air Quality and Conformity

3B — Human Service Coordination-Closing the Gaps Phase II

3C — Long-Range Transportation Plan

3D — Rail, Truck and Transit Planning

3E — Travel Demand Modeling

3F — Sustainable Communities & Scenario Planning

3G — Bike, Pedestrian, and Greenway Planning

3H — Environmental Mitigation, Agency Consultation, and Safety & Security

3I — Regional Transit ITS Architecture

3J — MPO Regional Planning Initiatives

3K — Blythewood Traffic Assessment and Safety Improvement Study

3L — Public Participation Plan

3M — Section 5307 Planning Projects

3N — Kershaw County Transit Feasibility Study

3O — Calhoun County Sub-Area Plan

3P — Regional Growth and Development Planning
PROJECT NO: 3A

PROJECT TITLE: Air Quality and Conformity

OBJECTIVE:
To continue to provide for air quality planning initiatives that complies with conformity requirements of the Clean Air Act.

METHODOLOGY:
Activities continue to increase due to changes in the regulations governing air quality and transportation planning. Air quality activities are related to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Long-Range Plan (LRTP) conformity determination, Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) project-specific analysis as well as other projects and programs at the federal, state, and local levels. COATS will continue to expand its cooperative relationship with all of the appropriate agencies to address the necessary requirements. These efforts are designed to enhance local ambient air quality as part of the overall strategy to meet Federal and State clean air regulations, promote public health, and assist local development. Coordination and communication with the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) and SCDOT.

Activities will include:

- **Web-based Rideshare Program** – Continued implementation of the web-based rideshare program that will lessen vehicle-miles traveled and improve air quality.
- **Air Quality Coalition**
- **Development of an Air Quality Improvement Strategy**
- **Participation in the SC Energy Office Alternative Fuels Program**
- **Air Quality Assessments on the TIP and the LRTP**
- **Transportation Conformity Awareness** - (to provide basic information about conformity requirements and the relationship of the transportation and air quality planning processes in order to prepare staff (and related agency personnel) on interagency collaboration and working effectively in resolving conformity issues).
- **Development of a Transportation Demand Management website** - (a comprehensive look at links and information for reducing highway/roadway demand for commuters across the region. Website will feature links to bicycling, walking, transit, air quality, and ridesharing/carpooling programs)

END PRODUCT:

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PROJECT NO: 3B

PROJECT TITLE: Human Service Coordination-Update

OBJECTIVE:
To develop an implementation plan that will enhance coordination in order to address the existing gaps in services that are currently been provided by the human service agencies.

METHODOLOGY:
The Central Midlands Council of Governments seeks the opportunity to develop a comprehensive transit development plan based upon its Human Services Transportation Coordination Plan that was completed in September 2007. The transit development plan will identify the transportation needs of individual with disabilities, the elderly, and individuals with low income for each county in the Central Midlands region. The plan will identify new strategies and strengthen the current infrastructure for meeting those local and regional needs in an economically feasible approach for funding and service implementation.
The strategy for this planning proposal is operationally defined as:

- Assessing and documenting transportation needs of the Central Midlands region for individuals with disabilities, older adults, and persons with limited incomes;
- Inventory available services and identify areas of redundancy and gaps in service;
- Identify and document restrictions on eligibility for funding;
- Identify and document short- and long-range strategies to address the identified gaps in service, including mobility management strategies;
- Identify and document technological resources currently available and appropriate for coordination of transportation services;
- Identify and document coordination actions to eliminate or reduce duplication in services and strategies for more efficient utilization of resources; and
- Document and prioritize implementation strategies to increase coordination of transportation services.

As part of the quarterly reporting to FTA, CMCOG will track the progress of this project. Quarterly reports will be submitted in July, October, January, and April. The final report to close out the FTA grant will be provided in September.

END PRODUCT:
An updated Human Services Coordination Plan

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PROJECT NO: 3C

PROJECT TITLE: Long Range Transportation Plan

OBJECTIVE:
To continue implementation of the 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)

METHODOLOGY:
The Long Range Transportation Plan is a long-range (20+year) strategy and capital improvement program
developed to guide the effective investment of public funds in multi-modal transportation facilities. The
plan is updated every 5 years, and may be amended as a result of changes in projected Federal, State and
local funding, major improvement studies, Congestion Management Process plans, interchange justification
studies, and environmental impact studies. The Plan provides the context from which the region's
Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), a short-range capital improvement program for implementing
highway, transit, and bikeway projects.

The COATS MPO will continue its implementation of the 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan with was
approved on September 24, 2015.

END PRODUCT:
Implementation of the 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan.

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PROJECT NO: 3D

PROJECT TITLE: Rail, Truck and Transit Planning

OBJECTIVE:
To include multi-modal transportation planning in the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) process, in order effectively address rail, truck and transit transportation issues for moving people and freight, as appropriate.

METHODOLOGY:

Regional Freight Mobility Plan
In order to retain and attract “new economy” businesses to the Central Midlands Region, the region must improve its freight transportation and logistic services. The just-in-time production schedules used by many freight companies place a premium on rapid and reliable transport and logistics systems.

The Central Midlands Council of Governments Regional Freight Mobility Plan is intended to assess the current state of the region’s freight transportation and logistics systems, determine the needs of the systems’ principal users, develop a strategic vision to guide future policy development, and to recommend priority improvements to the system.

Commuter Rail Feasibility Assessment
CMCOG will assess the feasibility of establishing a commuter rail service through the following steps:
- Reviewing current and projected populations along the designated corridors
- Analyzing freight movement
- Investigating funding options and opportunities
- Investigating interest and support in establishing service

Charlotte-Columbia Alternative Analysis – CMCOG will engage to interest of Amtrak to establish a passenger rail connector between the City of Columbia and the City of Charlotte. This connector may require a feasibility study and an engineering study to determine the type of improvements that will be need to establish passenger rail service between Columbia and Charlotte.

END PRODUCT:

Project Sponsor/Participating Agencies: COATS, CMCOG Member Governments, Other agencies as appropriate

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- Consolidated: $0.00
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- LOCAL: $0.00

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PROJECT NO: 3E

PROJECT TITLE: Travel Demand Modeling

OBJECTIVE:
To continue the efforts of migrating to a new software platform for Travel Demand Modeling and to expand upon its development.

METHODOLOGY:

Travel Demand Modeling
Travel forecasting models are used to predict changes in travel patterns and the utilization of the transportation system in response to changes in regional development, demographics, and transportation supply. Modeling travel demand is a challenging task, but one that is required for rational planning and evaluation of transportation systems. The COATS MPO completed the development of its 2035 TransCad Travel Demand Model in FY 08 and will continue implementation of this transportation tool to evaluate and enhance the regional transportation system.

Activities shall include:
- External Station Survey
- Updated Population Data
- Interim Planning Years
- Developing Performance Measures
- Development of a TAZ Database
- Updated Employment Data
- 2050 Horizon Year

Hiring an on-call consultant. The COATS Travel Demand Model is expected to be completed in FY 2019.

END PRODUCT:
Development of a new travel demand model.

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PROJECT NO: 3F

PROJECT TITLE: Sustainable Communities & Scenario Planning

OBJECTIVE:
To create strong, sustainable communities by connecting housing to jobs, fostering local innovation, and helping to build a clean energy economy.

METHODOLOGY:
Sustainable communities are places that have a variety of housing and transportation choices, with destinations close to home. As a result, they tend to have lower transportation costs, reduce air pollution and stormwater runoff, decrease historic properties and sensitive lands, save people time in traffic, be more economically resilient and meet market demand for different types of housing at different prices points. Rural, suburban, and urban communities can all use sustainable community’s strategies and techniques to invest in healthy, safe and walkable neighborhoods, but these strategies will look different in each place depending on the community’s character, context, and needs.

Developing more sustainable communities is important to our regional goals of strengthening our economy, creating good jobs now while providing a foundation for lasting prosperity, using energy more efficiently to secure energy independence, and protecting our natural environment and human health. Three federal agencies came together to create the Partnership for Sustainable Communities to help places around the country develop in more environmentally and economically sustainable ways. This task will coordinate with the communities in our region to implement the six (6) principles of livability:

- Provide more transportation choices.
- Promote equitable, affordable housing.
- Enhance economic competitiveness.
- Support existing communities.
- Coordinate and leverage federal policies and investment.
- Value communities and neighborhoods.

END PRODUCT:
Foster and encourage local innovation, create an partnership across the Central Midlands region and provide resources and tools to help communities realize their own visions for building more livable, walkable, environmentally sustainable region.

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PROJECT NO: 3G

PROJECT TITLE: Bike, Pedestrian, and Greenway Planning

OBJECTIVE:
To include multi-modal transportation planning in the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) process, in order to effectively address pathways and greenways transportation issues. Activities under this task will also contribute to improved air quality in the MPO area.

METHODOLOGY:
Provide input and technical assistance from a multi-modal perspective to all COATS transportation projects in order that bicycle and pedestrian travel are given appropriate consideration in any given COATS project;

- Conduct data collection, identify and assess existing conditions, develop and evaluate alternatives and/or prepare recommendations as required;
- Identify issues of concern within the multi-modal arena for which a focused substantive transportation study may be appropriate;
- Provide staff support to multi-modal advisory committees and utilize, as appropriate, the committees as resources for providing input to specific multi-modal projects as well as multi-modal program development; and
- Work with communities to develop bike and pedestrian master plans.
  - Cayce, West Columbia, Springdale Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan (3G-1)
  - Chapin, Batesburg-Leesville, Swansea Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan (3G-2)

END PRODUCT:
Development of Bike and Pedestrian Plans for local governments. Development of Bike and Pedestrian Policies for comprehensive plans. Coordination of bike and pedestrian planning activities.

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PROJECT NO: 3H

PROJECT TITLE: Environmental Mitigation, Agency Consultation, and Safety & Security

OBJECTIVE:
Transportation Related Land Use and Environmental Planning

METHODOLOGY:
This project is based on the recognition that the way we develop our cities, towns and suburbs has a tremendous impact on the costs and efficiency of all modes of transportation. Unplanned sprawl can have a number of effects on transportation and environmental quality, including increasing the average vehicle miles traveled, undermining efforts to provide mass transit, overburdening of roads and intersections, diminished air quality and water quality, and loss of green space. The activities involved in this project will seek to help our local governments develop and implement land use policies that support regional transportation and environmental objectives.

Proposed activities include:
- Preparing transportation elements for member local comprehensive plans. This will be done in coordination with overall comprehensive plan updates as well as plan amendments needed to comply with the SC Priority Investment Act, which introduces new standards for transportation and capital improvements planning.
- Development of policies, proposals and programs to mitigate the environmental impacts of transportation facilities, including green infrastructure planning (linking together major, protected green spaces into a regional system); watershed based planning; low impact development strategies; development of wetlands and stream mitigation banking opportunities, and promotion of trip-reduction strategies.

END PRODUCT:
Development of transportation elements for local comprehensive plans. Development of environmental tools that monitor and evaluate the environmental impact to the transportation network.

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**PROJECT NO:** 3I  

**PROJECT TITLE:** Regional Transit ITS Architecture

**OBJECTIVE:**
To explore and define transportation technologies that are use to communicate and disseminate information throughout the region.

**METHODOLOGY:**
A regional ITS architecture shall be developed to guide the development of ITS projects and programs and be consistent with ITS strategies and projects contained in applicable transportation plans. The National ITS Architecture shall be used as a resource in the development of the regional ITS architecture. The regional ITS architecture shall be on a scale commensurate with the scope of ITS investment in the region. Provision should be made to include participation from the following agencies, as appropriate, in the development of the regional ITS architecture: highway agencies; public safety agencies (e.g., police, fire, emergency/medical); transit agencies; federal lands agencies; state motor carrier agencies; and other operating agencies necessary to fully address regional ITS integration.

a. Any region that is currently implementing ITS projects shall have a regional ITS architecture.

b. All other regions not currently implementing ITS projects shall have a regional ITS architecture within four years of the first ITS project for that region advancing to final design.

c. The regional ITS architecture shall include, at a minimum, the following:

1. A description of the region;
2. Identification of participating agencies and other stakeholders;
3. An operational concept that identifies the roles and responsibilities of participating agencies and stakeholders in the operation and implementation of the systems included in the regional ITS architecture;
4. Any agreements (existing or new) required for operations, including at a minimum those affecting integration of ITS projects; interoperability of different ITS technologies, utilization of ITS-related standards, and the operation of the projects identified in the regional ITS architecture;
5. Interface requirements and information exchanges with planned and existing systems and subsystems (for example, subsystems and architecture flows as defined in the National ITS Architecture);
6. Identification of ITS standards supporting regional and national interoperability;
7. The sequence of projects required for implementation of the regional ITS architecture.

**END PRODUCT:**
A published Regional Transit ITS Architecture that satisfies the needs of the member agencies, State and regional agencies, and the requirements of the MPO.

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PROJECT NO: 3J

PROJECT TITLE: MPO Regional Planning Initiatives

OBJECTIVE:
To allow the COATS MPO to be actively involved in the many important regional planning initiatives that either currently exist or may begin over the program year

METHODOLOGY:
Numerous significant planning initiatives either currently exist or may come to fruition over the coming program year. This project is to allow for the COATS MPO to participate in these initiatives. Additionally, member agencies may request from the MPO specific planning analysis or related activities in regards to these initiatives via this task. Examples of past work that fall under this category include:

- Corley Mill Road Intersection Improvement
- Town of Lexington Adaptive Signal System Improvement
- Bluff Road Sidewalk Project
- Regional Transit Assessment
- Transportation Alternatives Program

Current Initiatives:

- Administering the COATS Transportation Alternatives Program
- Implementing the new MPO study area by performing transportation planning assessments in Kershaw and Calhoun Counties
- Implementation of the CMCOG-COATS MPO Language Assistance Plan
- Regional Growth, Development, and Transportation Assessment
- Development of the Site Selection Study
- Updating the MPO Website

END PRODUCT:
Implementation of regional activities such as the TAP Program. Participation in planning activities that will enhance the transportation network.

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PROJECT NO: 3K

PROJECT TITLE: Blythewood Traffic Assessment and Safety Improvement

OBJECTIVE:
Development of a traffic assessment and safety improvement study in the Town of Blythewood.

METHODOLOGY:
The Central Midlands Council of Governments in partnership with the Town of Blythewood will conduct a Traffic Feasibility Study to review the potential traffic impacts at the intersection Blythewood Road and US 21 due to potential growth and development this area. The analysis and assumptions included in this study will be based on the Blythewood Road Master Plan.

END PRODUCT:
A traffic assessment study that identifies the most feasible improvements to the Blythewood Road/US21 intersection.

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PROJECT NO: 3L

PROJECT TITLE: Public Participation Plan

OBJECTIVE:
Update of the COATS MPO Public Participation Plan

METHODOLOGY:
The purpose of the Public Participation Plan (PPP) is to outline methods for encouraging the involvement of citizens, affected organizations and other interested parties in the development of transportation plans and projects. Methods for encouraging involvement include providing access to plans, programs and their supporting materials, and opportunities to comment as the plan and program develops. The implementation of public participation activities is designed to meet the requirements under federal regulation. CMCOG and the COATS MPO is in the process of updating our Public Participation Plan.

END PRODUCT:
Published the PPP for the COATS MPO.

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PROJECT NO: 3M

PROJECT TITLE: Section 5307 Planning Projects

OBJECTIVE:
The develop programs, policies, and procedure that will enhance the use of federal funds to support the implementation of transit projects.

METHODOLOGY:

Transit Intervention Assessment

CMCOG is proposing the development of a study to identify and assess the feasibility of implementing various transit based intervention strategies in the food desert communities present in the MPO planning area. Research has shown a link between food insecurity and limited access to transportation. The primary outcome of this process will be a comprehensive needs analysis and strategic plan for implementing sustainable, transit-based interventions to improve food access in communities with limited personal vehicle ownership.

People Mover Practical Analysis

CMCOG is proposing to conduct a practical analysis on a people mover or automated people mover (APM) which is a type of grade-separated mass transit system. These mass transit systems typically serve areas such as airports, downtown districts or theme parks, but is sometimes applied to considerably more complex automated systems.

TIP Update

Every three years in coordination with SCDOT, the COATS MPO updates its Transportation Improvement Program. Based on the program years established by SCDOT, the COATS MPO will begin to update its projects and funding for a seven (7) year Transportation Improvement Program.

Grant Management and Procurement Procedures

The COATS MPO will review and update its grant management policies and procurement procedures in accordance with FTA Circular C 5010.1D for post-award grant administration and project management activities for all applicable Federal Transit Administration (FTA) grant programs.

Road Safety Audit - ADA Accessibility Assessment

A Road Safety Audit (RSA) is the formal safety performance examination of an existing or future road or intersection by an independent, multidisciplinary team. It qualitatively estimates and reports on potential road safety issues and identifies opportunities for improvements in safety for all road users. COATS MPO in coordination with CMRTA and SCDOT will perform road safety audits on key corridors and intersections to identify improvements that will enhance safe transit access and mobility. Projects identified through this process will be included in the 2040 LRTP.

END PRODUCT:

Completed studies and analysis for a people mover, Road Safety Audit, and Transit Intervention Assessment. Updates and amendments to the MPO TIP. And updated grant management procedures

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PROJECT NO: 3N

PROJECT TITLE: Kershaw County Transit Feasibility Study

OBJECTIVE:
Certification review of the COATS MPO.

METHODOLOGY:

In recognition of the limited amount of public transportation access in Kershaw County, the COATS MPO in collaboration with Kershaw County, SCDOT, and Santee-Wateree RTA and other local stakeholders, will lead the development of a public transit service feasibility study for the COATS MPO portion of Kershaw County.

The study will address a variety of tasks which may include but not limited to the following:

* Introduction and Needs Assessment
* Existing Transportation Providers and Potential Options
* Transit Service Plan

END PRODUCT:

A transit feasibility study for the COATS MPO portion of Kershaw County

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PROJECT NO: 30

PROJECT TITLE: Calhoun County Sub-Area Plan

OBJECTIVE:
To coordinate efforts between transportation and land use in order to identify and address transportation issues at the county, city, and district or planning sector levels.

METHODOLOGY:
CMCOG in partnership with Calhoun County will develop a sub-area plan that will emphasize and identify the key linkages between transportation facilities and existing and future land uses within the county. This plan will identify a range of multi-modal transportation alternatives for analysis and implementation. This will be a cooperative process, affording early and continued involvement of the public, to include affected public agencies, private transportation providers, and other stakeholders in the study area. The public participation and active involvement of transportation and land use stakeholders will be a critical component of this plan.

END PRODUCT:
Published Calhoun County Sub-Area Plan.

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**PROJECT NO:** 3P  
**PROJECT TITLE:** Regional Growth and Development Planning  
**OBJECTIVE:**  
Development of a regional growth and development plan through scenario planning

**METHODOLOGY:**  
Scenario planning is an analytical tool that can help transportation professionals prepare for what lies ahead. Scenario planning provides a framework for developing a shared vision for the future by analyzing various forces (e.g., health, transportation, economic, environmental, land use, etc.) that affect growth. Scenario planning, which can be done at the statewide level or for metropolitan regions, tests various future alternatives that meet state and community needs. A defining characteristic of successful public sector scenario planning is that it actively involves the public, the business community, and elected officials on a broad scale, educating them about growth trends and trade-offs, and incorporating their values and feedback into future plans.

Staff will develop a Regional Growth and Development Plan which would involve an evaluation of the relationship between land use, transportation, water and sewer infrastructure, economic development and environmental mitigation to better plan for regional growth and development throughout the regional transportation network. The study will include:

- Regional growth and development scenarios;
- Transportation, water, and sewer infrastructure needs;
- Economic development; and
- Environmental mitigation measures to include incorporation of low impact development/green infrastructure concepts

**END PRODUCT:**  
A Regional Growth and Development Plan.

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UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM

FY 2018 - 2019

4 — TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

4A — TIP Development and Maintenance
PROJECT NO: 4A

PROJECT TITLE: TIP Development and Maintenance

OBJECTIVE:
Maintain and update the Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP). Activities for this project will also ensure that the TIP is in compliance with all federal and state requirements.

METHODOLOGY:

The current TIP will be maintained, and updated as necessary, in cooperation with the SCDOT, units of local government, and the CMRTA.

In addition, COATS will be developing a new triennial TIP during the same timeframe as SCDOT. In addition to dealing with typical TIP update and development issues, this effort will also coincide with the STIP development, therefore, additional lead time will most likely be required to sort out schedules, responsibilities, and funding allocations. The TIP update will also be affected by the guidance presented in the Federal Highway Legislation.

COATS will coordinate with the SCDOT Planning Office and Program Development to produce the required Annual Listing of Projects that will be included in the TIP.

END PRODUCT:

The implementation of the TIP which will include TIP amendments, publishing, advertising, reviewing and deleting projects, and coordination with the STIP.

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UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM

FY 2018 - 2019

5 — OTHER ACTIVITIES

5A — Miscellaneous Activities and Special Technical Assistance
PROJECT NO: 5A  
PROJECT TITLE: Miscellaneous Activities and Special Technical Assistance  
OBJECTIVE: This task covers miscellaneous projects that are assigned from time to time, both short-term and infrequent long-term projects that do not warrant individual UPWP projects. Additionally, this task provides for special technical assistance to member governments, and other agencies and/or organizations as appropriate.

METHODOLOGY:  
From time to time, miscellaneous projects are assigned to staff. Many are one-time studies or reports, while other tasks are more long-term in nature, and are infrequent enough or so limited in scope of MPO participation, and therefore do not warrant a separate UPWP project.

Tasks may include such activities as participation in various SCDOT statewide initiatives, and reviewing proposed Federal regulations.

This task also allows COATS to provide technical assistance to member governments and other agencies/organizations which was not foreseen or known during the preparation of the annual UPWP.

As this is an annual program, the funding identified in the 2018 – 2019 UPWP is subject to change. Since there may be new required initiatives for the MPO to undertake, it is the intention of COATS to amend this document as needed and allocate funding to a specific project(s) as allowable.

Anticipated activities include:

- Monitoring of the Federal Highway Legislation Reauthorization
- Member Government Comprehensive Assessments
- Implementing FTA and FHWA regulations

END PRODUCT: Various activities, technical assistance, research, analysis, published documents, memoranda, brief reports, etc., as appropriate.

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UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM

FY 2018 - 2019

6 — BUDGET TABLES

2018 - 2019 Table 1 – Summary Budget

2018 - 2019 Table 2 – Summary Budget – Federal Programs

2018 - 2019 Table 3 – FAST Act Task Matrix
## 2018 - 2019 UPWP TABLE 1 - SUMMARY BUDGET

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### 2018 – 2019 UPWP Table 3 - FAST ACT Task Matrix

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<td>Miscellaneous Activities and Special Technical Assistance</td>
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* Tracking the UPWP tasks will be addressed in two ways. Several tasks will be completed through the solicitation of consultants. These consultants will rigidly the meeting of a schedule or benchmark through the delivery of technical memos. These technical memos will be part of the contracted agreement with the consultant and will be used to track the development of that specific task. The other way tasks will be tracked is through the planning funds quarterly reports. The MPO submits quarterly reports to SC DOT summarizing the progress of the various tasks that have been identified in the UPWP. These quarterly reports can be used by MPO and SC DOT in track the progress of each task and the overall performance of the UPWP.
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FY 2018 – 2019 UPWP

APPROVED UPWP AMENDMENTS

FOR TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

IN THE

COLUMBIA METROPOLITAN PLANNING AREA

Approved by the Policy Committee of the Columbia Area Transportation Study

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