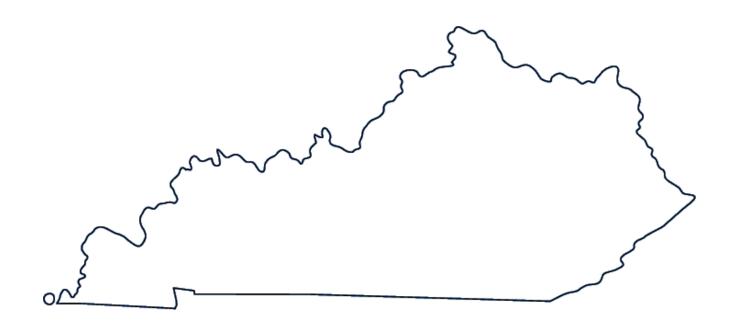
## **Kentucky Metropolitan Planning Organizations**

KY Budget Review Subcommittee on Transportation July 19, 2023





# **Today's Orientation**

- 1. Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO)
- 2. The 3C Transportation Planning Process
- 3. Federal and State Requirements for MPOs
- 4. MPO operations, funding, and more...

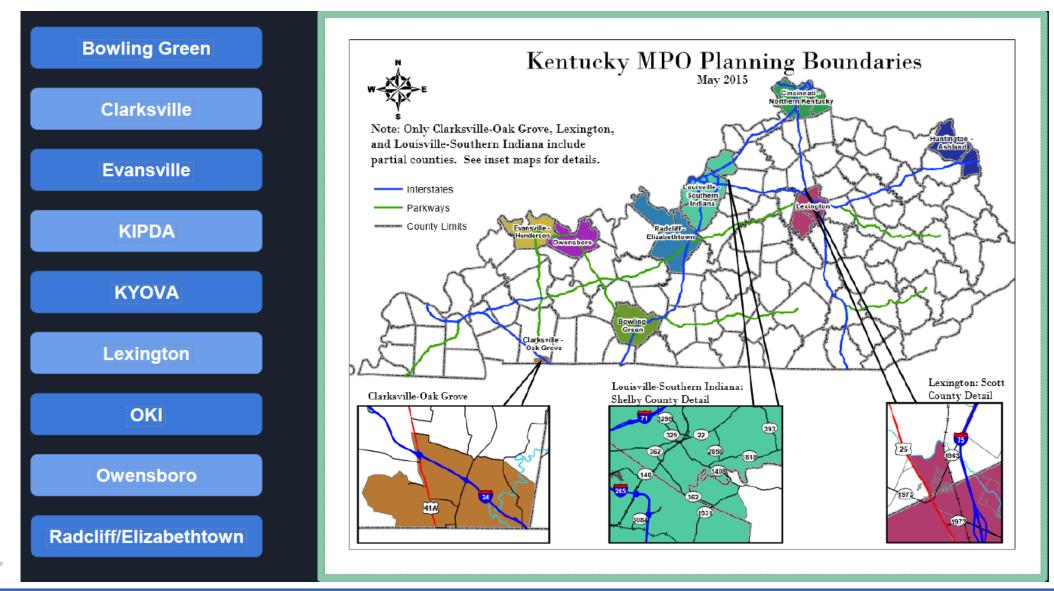
#### What is an MPO?

# MPOs are established under federal law to conduct the metropolitan planning process

- 50,000+ Census defined urbanized area population
- 2020: MPOs population 2,284,000 of the state's total population 4,506,000 (50.1 %)\*
- MPOs with a footprint in KY serve 4.77 million people (5 are multi-state)

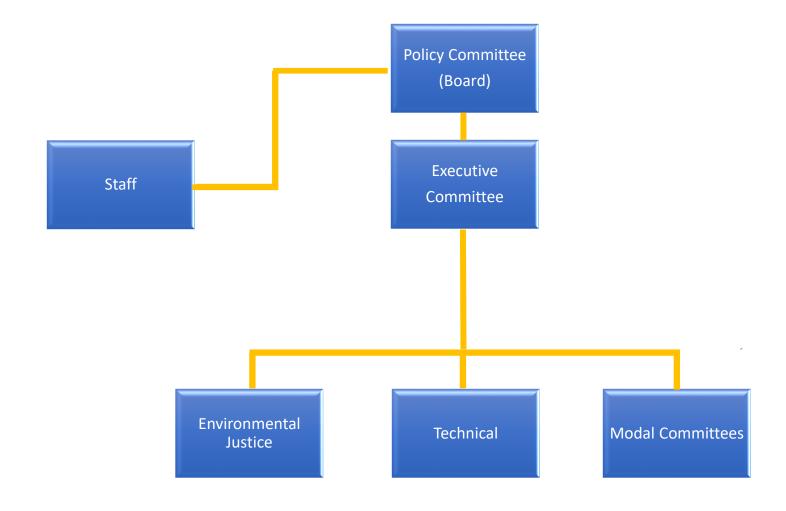


### Kentucky MPOs





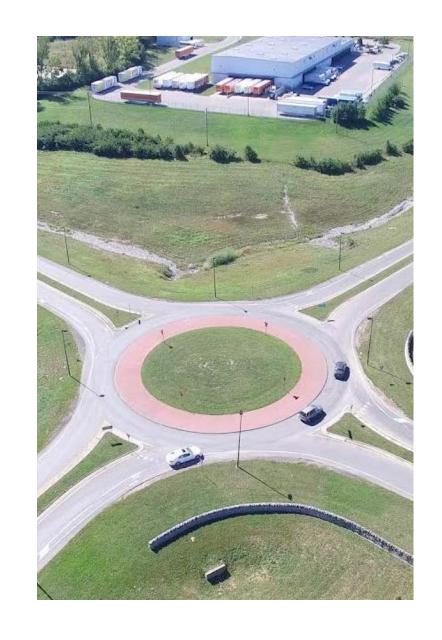
## General MPO Structure





#### **MPO** Roles

- Bring local input to decision-making on regionally-significant transportation projects
  - If a project uses federal highway or transit dollars, it must come through MPO process
- Facilitate coordination between regional transportation stakeholders
- Establish long-term transportation goals for the region





# The Policy Committee is the MPO Responsible for Decision-making

- Adopting regional transportation goals
- Adopting major guiding documents (i.e., Plan, TIP, UPWP)
- Approving ALL federal transportation funding
- Members of the Board include:
  - Local elected officials
  - KYTC
  - Transit Operators
  - Federal agencies (FHWA, FTA)
  - May also include at-large members or citizens



# Some MPOs are also TMAs Larger MPOs have more federal requirements

- Areas with 200,000+ urbanized population are designated
   Transportation Management Areas (TMA)
  - KIPDA, OKI, Lexington, KYOVA and Clarksville / Oak Grove
  - Additional federal requirements (e.g., congestion management process, ITS Architecture)
  - Formal federal certification review every 4 years
  - Allocated funding (e.g., STBG, TA, Carbon Reduction) for projects
    - Non-TMAs only receive Carbon Reduction



### Federal Requirements

- Develop and adopt a Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)
  - 20 year minimum horizon (2050)
  - Includes regionally significant projects
  - Multi-modal
  - Fiscally constrained
  - Considers public input
- Develop and maintain a Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
  - 4 Year program of projects that have federal \$ or are regionally significant
  - Ready for implementation
  - Formal commitment of funding









### Federal Requirements (continued)

- Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)
  - Identifies the funding and planning activities for the FY
- Participation Plan
  - Efforts MPO will undertake to solicit input into transportation decisions
- Title VI Plan
  - Outlines how the MPO provides equal access to the transportation planning process









#### 3C Transportation Planning Process

- The 3C planning process (continuing, comprehensive, and cooperative) dates back to the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1962.
- Identify multi-modal transportation needs
  - Cars, trucks, transit, bike, pedestrian
- Assess existing conditions (i.e., congestion, safety, access, mobility issues)
- Estimate future conditions using travel demand forecasting models and other available data
- Consult with planning partners and the public on solutions
- Evaluate the impact of plans on communities and environment



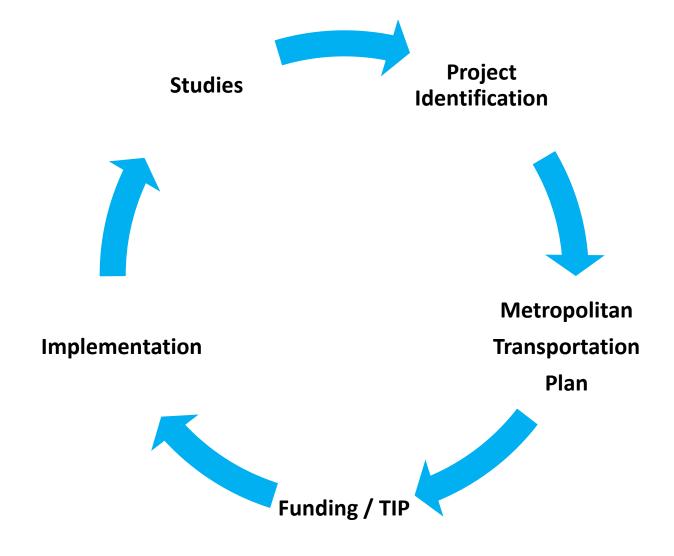
### 3C Transportation Planning Process

#### Other activities and sources of project recommendations:

- Comprehensive Plans, Small Area Plans, Corridor Plans
- Congestion Management Studies
- Feasibility Studies
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Plans
- Transit Analysis
- Partner Agencies & Local Officials
- KY SHIFT MPOs are active in this process



## 3C Transportation Planning Process





### Funding

- Planning Funds (PL) formula based
- Capital (STBG, TA, CRP, 5310) formula based
- Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) (FY2022 FY2026)
  - About 20% increase in capital formula
  - Several new discretionary (competitive) programs
    - EV charging, Safe Streets for All, PROTECT, Reconnecting Communities, etc., Carbon reduction
    - Significant focus on alt. fuel infrastructure, complete streets, safety for non-motorized travelers, environment, Justice 40
  - Continued most existing programs
- Most programs (including PL) require 20% non-federal match
- Local governments provide most local match to operate MPOs
  - KYTC provides 5% state match for FHWA portion



U.S. Department of Transportation



#### Other

- Some MPOs also serve as Regional Councils and/or co-locate with Area Development Districts
- Provide transportation technical service to local agencies
- Assist in the project development process for communities
- Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
- Traffic Forecasts using the regional travel demand model
- Census related product distribution and tabulations



# Thank you!







