LINCOLN MPO METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Lincoln Metropolitan Planning Organization

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JOINT NDOR-MPO CERTIFICATION STATEMENT ON THE METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING PROCESS

In accordance with 23 U.S.C. Sec. 134 - Metropolitan transportation planning, 23 CFR Part 450.334(a), the Nebraska Department of Roads and Lincoln Metropolitan Planning Organization certify that the transportation planning process is addressing the major issues in the Metropolitan Planning Area and is being conducted in accordance with all applicable requirements of:

(1) **23 U.S.C. 134, 49 U.S.C. 5303, and this subpart;**
The Lincoln MPO collaborates with local, state and public transportation agencies to carry out a continuous, cooperative, and comprehensive(3C) metropolitan planning process for the Lincoln Metropolitan Planning Area through its Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), and other transportation planing activities.

(2) **Sections 174 and 176c) and (d) of the Clean Air Act, as amended (42 USC 7504, 7506 (c) and (d)) and 40 CFR part 93, which requires the joint preparation of an implementation for non-attainment areas;**
Since February of 1989, Lincoln has been designated by U.S. EPA as being in attainment for all the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). An on-going ambient air quality monitoring program monitors for Carbon Monoxide (CO), particulate matter (PM2.5), and ozone is in place to monitor transportation related air emissions.

(3) **Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended (42 U.S.C. 2000d-1) and 49 CFR part 21; and**

(4) **49 U.S.C. 5332, prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, sex, or age in employment or business opportunity;**
The Lincoln MPO's Public Participation Plan together with the MPO Management Plan, Unified Planning Work Program, Environmental Justice Action Strategy, Title VI Policy, and LEP Program/Plan ensures that no person will be excluded from participation in the planning process and in the development of plans and programs.

(5) **Section 1101(b) of the MAP-21 (Pub. L. 112-141) and 49 CFR part 26 regarding the involvement of disadvantaged business enterprises in USDOT funded projects;**
The City of Lincoln-StarTran maintains the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program that was submitted to FTA in 2013 that includes the Small Business Utilization elements and continues to meet the requirements of the Federal Transit Administration.

(6) **23 CFR part 230, regarding the implementation of an equal employment opportunity program on Federal and Federal-aid highway construction contracts;**
Selection of private consultants for transportation planning related contractual projects utilizing FHWA and State PL funds is coordinated by and adheres to NDOR and City of Lincoln Purchasing guidelines; reviews of all proposals are conducted by the City EEO Officer to assure compliance with applicable Title VI regulations. Per Federal guidelines under Title VI, a plan has been developed to provide meaningful access to Limited English Proficient individuals.

(7) **The provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.) and 49 CFR parts 27, 37, and 38;**
(8) **The Older Americans Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 6101), prohibiting discrimination on the basis of age in programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance;**
(9) **Section 324 of title 23 U.S.C. regarding the prohibition of discrimination based on gender;**
and
(10) **Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794) and 49 CFR part 27 regarding discrimination against individuals with disabilities.**
The City of Lincoln has an Equal Employment Policy (Lincoln City Municipal Code: Chapter 11.08) that prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, creed, or national origin, and prohibits discrimination of age, non-job related physical or mental disability and gender. This policy along with the MPO Public Participation Pan and Environmental Justice Action Strategy ensures that "particular attention will be given to impacts upon specific identifiable minority groups in relationship to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act 1964, and Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, and ensures that no person will be excluded from participation in the planning process and the development of plans and programs.

Based on a joint review and evaluation, the Nebraska Department of Roads and the Lincoln Metropolitan Planning Organization recommend that the Metropolitan Planning Process for the Lincoln Metropolitan Planning Organization be certified with conditions as identified in the *Action Plan for Addressing the Quadrennial Certification Review.*

Lincoln Metropolitan Planning Organization	Nebraska Department of Roads
_____	_____
Mayor Beutler, Executive Officer	*Michael Owen, Planning & Project Development Engineer, Nebraska Department of Roads*
_____	_____
Date	*Date*

U.S. Department
of Transportation

Federal Highway
Administration
Federal Transit
Administration

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE.
Washington, DC 20590

March 18, 2015

In Reply Refer To: HEPP-1/TPE-1

Attention: Executive Directors of Metropolitan Planning Organizations

In 2014, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) sent a letter to the Executive Directors of the Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO) and the heads of the State Departments of Transportation (State DOT) encouraging you to give priority to the following emphasis areas in your updated unified planning work programs (UPWP) and statewide planning and research programs: MAP-21 Implementation, Regional Models of Cooperation, and Ladders of Opportunity. These three priorities are included in Secretary Foxx's strategic objectives for the Surface Transportation Program. We are requesting State DOTs and MPOs reiterate and emphasize these planning emphasis areas in their respective planning work programs for Fiscal Year 2016. We are also directing our FHWA and FTA field offices to continue to work with you and your organizations to identify tasks that advance these U.S. Department of Transportation priorities.

MAP-21 Implementation

Transition to Performance-based Planning and Programming – We encourage State DOTs and MPOs to further develop their performance management approach to transportation planning and programming. Performance-based planning and programming includes using transportation performance measures, setting targets, reporting performance, and programming transportation investments directed toward the achievement of transportation system performance outcomes. Appropriate UPWP work tasks could include working with local planning partners to identify how to implement performance-based planning provisions such as collecting performance data, selecting and reporting performance targets for the metropolitan area, and reporting actual system performance related to those targets. The MPOs might also explore the option to use scenario planning to develop their metropolitan transportation plan. We encourage you to use the following resources to help develop your approach: *Performance Based Planning and Programming Guidebook*; *Model Long Range Transportation Plans Guidebook* and *Small Metropolitan Areas: Performance Based Planning*.

Regional Models of Cooperation

Ensure a Regional Approach to Transportation Planning by Promoting Cooperation and Coordination across Transit Agency, MPO and State Boundaries – To improve the effectiveness of transportation decisionmaking, we encourage State DOTs, MPOs, and providers of public transportation to think beyond traditional borders and adopt a coordinated approach to transportation planning. A coordinated approach supports common goals and capitalizes on opportunities related to project delivery, congestion management, safety, freight, livability, and

commerce across boundaries. Improved multi-jurisdictional coordination by State DOTs, MPOs, providers of public transportation, and rural planning organizations (RPO) can reduce project delivery times and enhance the efficient use of resources, particularly in urbanized areas that are served by multiple MPOs. The MPOs can revisit their metropolitan area planning agreements to ensure that there are effective processes for cross-jurisdictional communication among State DOTs, MPOs, and providers of public transportation to improve collaboration, policy implementation, technology use, and performance management. State DOTs and MPOs can explore the opportunity to partner with RPOs to conduct transportation planning in nonmetropolitan areas. We encourage you to visit FHWA's Regional Models of Cooperation and Every Day Counts Initiative Webpages for more information.

Ladders of Opportunity

Access to Essential Services – We encourage State DOTs, MPOs, and providers of public transportation, as part of the transportation planning process, to identify transportation connectivity gaps in accessing essential services. Essential services include employment, health care, schools/education, and recreation. Suggested UPWP work tasks include developing and implementing analytical methods to identify gaps in the connectivity of the transportation system and developing infrastructure and operational solutions that provide the public, especially the traditionally underserved populations, with adequate access to essential services. Other effective work tasks could include: evaluating the effectiveness of public participation plans for engaging transportation disadvantaged communities in the transportation decisionmaking process; updating the Section 5310 Coordinated Human Service Public Transportation Plans; assessing the safety and condition of pedestrian and bicycle facilities; and evaluating compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act, particularly around schools, concentrations of disadvantaged populations, social services, medical, and transit facilities.

Sincerely yours,

Gregory G. Nadeau
Deputy Administrator
Federal Highway Administration

Therese W. McMillan
Acting Administrator
Federal Transit Administration