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(973) 639-8400 • fax (973) 639-1953 • www.njtpa.org

Susan M. Zellman, Chairman
Mary K. Murphy, Executive Director

March 19, 2008

Mr. Dennis Merida
Division Administrator
New Jersey Division
Federal Highway Administration
840 Bear Tavern Road - Suite 310
West Trenton, New Jersey 08628

Mr. Jeffrey W. Kolb
Division Administrator
New York State Division
Federal Highway Administration
Clinton Avenue and North Pearl Street
Albany, New York 12207

Mr. Bradley Keazer
Division Administrator
Connecticut Division
Federal Highway Administration
628-2 Hebron Avenue, Suite 303
Glastonbury, Connecticut 06033

Ms. Brigid Hynes-Cherin
Regional Administrator for Region II
Federal Transit Administration
One Bowling Green
Room 429
New York, New York 10004-1415

Mr. Richard H. Doyle
Regional Administrator for Region I
Federal Transit Administration
55 Broadway – Kendall Square
Cambridge, MA 02141

Re: Multi-MPO Memorandum of Understanding

Dear Messrs. Merida, Kolb, Keazer, Doyle and Ms. Hynes-Cherin:

The five Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) in the greater New York metropolitan region (NYMTC, NJTPA, SWRPA/SWRMPO, the Greater Bridgeport / Valley MPO and the Housatonic Valley Council of Elected Officials) have collaborated to develop and endorse a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The MOU describes how the MPOs will coordinate metropolitan transportation planning and key planning documents and activities, as well as the process for meeting requirements for attainment of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS).

On behalf of the parties to this agreement, we are pleased to transmit to you the signed resolutions of the five participating MPOs which adopted the attached MOU.

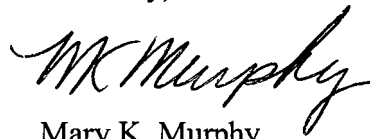
Although the MOU was developed in response to USDOT's certification review recommendations for NJTPA and NYMTC, the participating MPOs have a long history of cooperation and coordination in metropolitan transportation planning for the New York – New Jersey – Connecticut metropolitan area.

The MOU builds upon the "3C" planning process already in place. The participating NY-NJ-Connecticut MPOs have a multi-decade practice of inter-agency cooperation and coordination, which is now detailed and expanded upon in the MOU. Copies of the adopted MOU and authorizing resolutions are attached for your records.

Preparations are already underway for the first annual meeting. This inaugural meeting will be hosted by NYMTC in September of 2008.

Thank you for your continued interest and your support of this important regional endeavor. Please contact us if you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,



Mary K. Murphy
Executive Director, NJTPA

Attachments

Copy Distribution (with Attachments):

Mr. Joel Ettinger, Executive Director, NYMTC
Mr. Floyd Lapp, Executive Director, SWRPA
Mr. Mark Nielsen, Interim Executive Director, GBRPA
Mr. Rick Dunne, Executive Director, VCOG
Mr. Jonathan Chew, Executive Director, HVCEO
Mr. Lawrence Cullari, FHWA, NJ Division
Ms. Eloise Powell, FHWA, Connecticut Division
Ms. Nancy Danzig, FTA, Region II
Mr. Andrew Motter, FTA, Region I

**New York Metropolitan Transportation Council
North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority
South Western Region Metropolitan Planning Organization
Greater Bridgeport / Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization
Housatonic Valley Council of Elected Officials**

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) FOR COORDINATION OF
TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ACTIVITIES IN THE THREE STATE NEW
YORK-NEW JERSEY-CONNECTICUT METROPOLITAN REGION**

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is made and entered into by and among the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council (NYMTC), the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA), South Western Region Metropolitan Planning Organization (SWRMPO), the Greater Bridgeport / Valley MPO (GB/VMPO), and the Housatonic Valley Council of Elected Officials (HVCEO), collectively referred to hereinafter as “the PARTIES”.

WHEREAS, the PARTIES acknowledge that portions of the three state New York-New Jersey-Connecticut metropolitan region are characterized by socio-economic and environmental interdependence, as evidenced through shared ecosystems, interconnected transportation systems and inter-related patterns of employment and population; and,

WHEREAS, NYMTC and NJTPA are part of a federally-designated Transportation Management Area (TMA) that, when combined with SWRMPO, GB/VMPO, and HVCEO, constitute one of the nation’s largest commuter-sheds; and,

WHEREAS, 23 U.S.C. 134 and Section 8 of the Federal Transit Act require that Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) be designated for metropolitan regions and that they maintain a continuing, cooperative and comprehensive transportation planning process that results in plans and programs that consider all transportation modes and supports metropolitan community development and social goals; and,

WHEREAS, a key role for MPOs is to serve as forums for cooperative transportation planning and decision-making in metropolitan areas; and,

WHEREAS, 23 CFR 450.314(d) states that, where more than one MPO has authority within a metropolitan planning area or a nonattainment or maintenance area, there shall be an agreement between the state department(s) of transportation and the MPOs describing how their planning processes will be coordinated to assure the development of an overall transportation plan for the metropolitan planning area, and that in nonattainment or maintenance areas, the agreement shall include State and local air quality agencies; and,

WHEREAS, the FHWA/FTA Transportation Planning Certification Review for NYMTC (January 2007) and NJTPA (January 2006) had required that an agreement be fashioned which identifies how the above referenced five MPOs located in the New York, New Jersey and Connecticut commuter-shed would coordinate the development of transportation planning documents and would coordinate to meet the attainment of National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS); and,

WHEREAS, it was subsequently determined that, because of census boundary changes, participation in this agreement by the non-TMA MPOs (SWRMPO, GB/VMPO, and HVCEO) was not mandatory, but would be advisable as consistent with good planning principles; and,

WHEREAS, SWRMPO, GB/VMPO, and HVCEO are voluntary participants in this MOU; and,

WHEREAS, this MOU constitutes the aforementioned agreement in order to address the requirements of 23 CFR 450.314(d) for the PARTIES and the recommendations of the federal certification reviews of NYMTC and NJTPA; and,

WHEREAS, the PARTIES agree to follow this MOU in order to ensure coordination in the development of the mandated products of the metropolitan transportation planning process including the process for meeting attainment of NAAQS ; and,

WHEREAS, this MOU is intended to ensure that the products of each respective MPO transportation planning process takes into account the impacts of the plans and programs developed by the other MPOs; helps avoid duplication of effort; reflects consistency of approaches where possible; and ensures the consideration of the interests of all five MPOs;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the PARTIES hereto agree to perform in good faith the activities of voluntary coordination, cooperation and consultation amongst themselves, as follows:

General

1. Hold an annual meeting of the Executive Directors and appropriate key managers of the five MPOs which are PARTIES to this agreement, as well as interested policy board member agency representatives, including but not limited to, the public transit operating agencies and the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, to discuss and review the areas of coordination, cooperation and consultation as outlined in this MOU. Representatives of the State Departments of Transportation and Environmental Protection/Conservation and other resource agencies in the three states will also be invited and encouraged to participate. The purpose of the annual meeting will be to engage in discussions of mutual interest with a focus on the development of the respective Unified Planning Work Programs (UPWPs) for the coming year. The annual meeting will also serve as a mechanism for assessing this MOU and for discussing further expectations and approaches, as appropriate.
2. Cooperate in efforts toward achieving, wherever possible, general consistency of plans through informal communication and document exchange.
3. Participate, to the extent practicable, in the transportation planning process of the other PARTIES through such activities, as are deemed appropriate, as technical committee memberships and/or meeting participation, including the use of the PARTIES' public participation processes and involvement in regional studies, as well as through informal and ongoing communications regarding same.

Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

1. As individual MPOs, make available UPWP products as appropriate to the other PARTIES.
2. Exchange information, including DRAFT copies of the UPWP, and maintain communication among the PARTIES regarding how best to achieve coordination and consistency among the Plans.
3. Discuss opportunities for collaborative activities that could be incorporated as tasks and/or products and thereby included in the Work Programs of the PARTIES, as appropriate, for the upcoming year.
4. Consider that the five MPOs will not necessarily be at the same stage of UPWP development at the same time, and that coordination will be tempered by the schedule of each MPO's planning process.

Modeling

1. Exchange modeling information at appropriate levels of geography, attempting where possible to relate the data to the MPOs' existing, respective Traffic Analysis Zone systems.
2. Share modeling as appropriate, including socio-economic, census, forecast and survey data and results; trip tables and travel demand model assumptions; and model validation data, state line traffic volumes and traffic volumes at the external boundaries of the other agencies' models.
3. Consult in the development of enhanced travel demand models.
4. Examine and utilize opportunities for joint development of TMA new modeling applications for the region as appropriate.

Transportation Plan

1. During the development of the Long-Range Transportation Plan, consult as appropriate all parties regarding key elements of the plan such as principles, scenarios, strategies, major project assumptions and key issues.
2. Exchange information, including DRAFT copies of the Long Range Plans and proposed amendments, and maintain communication among the PARTIES, including affording each other the opportunity to review and comment on projects proposed in the Long Range Plan, especially on projects that border, or have a significant impact upon, other PARTIES' MOU jurisdictions.

3. Consider that the five MPOs will not necessarily be at the same stage of plan development at the same time, and that coordination will be tempered by the schedule of each MPO's planning process.

Transportation Improvement Program

1. Consult in the development of TIPs.
2. Exchange information, including DRAFT copies of the TIP and proposed amendments, and maintain communication among the PARTIES, including affording each other the opportunity to review and comment on draft projects proposed in the TIP, especially on projects that border, or have a significant impact upon, other PARTIES' MOU jurisdictions.
3. Consider that the five MPOs will not necessarily be at the same stage of TIP development at the same time, and that coordination will be tempered by the schedule of each MPO's planning process.

Air Quality State Implementation Plan Conformity

1. Exchange information on the design concept and the design scope of projects that should be included in the regional emissions analysis.
2. Consult on the assumptions used in the mobile emissions model in each state.
3. Exchange information, including DRAFT copies of the Conformity Analysis, and maintain communication among the PARTIES.
4. Consider that the five MPOs will not necessarily be at the same stage of Conformity determination at the same time, and that coordination will be tempered by the schedule of each MPO's planning process.

Adopted:

New York Metropolitan Transportation Council:

Adopted Resolution # 249, January 17, 2008

North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority

Adopted Resolution # A-504, January 14, 2008

South Western Region Metropolitan Planning Organization

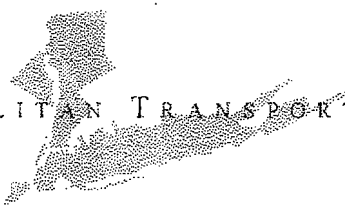
Adopted Resolution # 2008-003, January 28, 2008

Greater Bridgeport / Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization

Adopted Resolution # 2008-4, January 30, 2008

Housatonic Valley Council of Elected Officials

Adopted Resolution # Item 2E, January 18, 2008



NEW YORK METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL

Joel P. Ettinger
Executive Director

PROGRAM, FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE (PFAC)

RESOLUTION #249: MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN ADJOINING METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATIONS IN NEW YORK, NEW JERSEY AND CONNECTICUT

WHEREAS, the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council (NYMTC) is a regional council of governments which is the metropolitan planning organization for New York City, Long Island and the lower Hudson Valley; and

WHEREAS, in order to enhance the scope and quality of its regional transportation planning, NYMTC wishes to formalize its involvement with the other metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) in the New York-New Jersey-Connecticut region through a Memorandum of Understanding between participating MPOs; and

WHEREAS, the participants in this Memorandum of Understanding will include the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority, South Western Region Metropolitan Planning Organization, Greater Bridgeport /Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization, and Housatonic Valley Council of Elected Officials, and

WHEREAS, this Memorandum of Understanding will formalize mechanisms for coordinated planning which are now undertaken informally for metropolitan transportation planning.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Program, Finance and Administration Committee hereby adopts the attached Memorandum of Understanding between participating MPOs.


This resolution shall take effect on the seventeenth day of January, two thousand and eight.

ADOPTED: January 17, 2008

Motion made by: Niaomi Klein, representing the Mid-Hudson South Transportation Coordinating Committee

Seconded by: Robert Shinnick, representing the Nassau/Suffolk Transportation Coordinating Committee

"I hereby certify that the above is a true copy of Resolution #249, Memorandum of Understanding Between Adjoining Metropolitan Planning Organizations in New York, New Jersey and Connecticut, and was adopted unanimously by the Program, Finance, and Administration Committee members on the above mentioned date."



Robert Zerrillo, PFAC Chair

THE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

199 WATER STREET • NEW YORK • NEW YORK • 10038-3534 • 212.383.7200 • WWW.NYMTC.ORG

**RESOLUTION # A-504: APPROVAL OF A MULTI-PARTY PLANNING
COORDINATION MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
(MOU)**

WHEREAS, the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority, Inc. (NJTPA) has been designated by the Governor as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the northern New Jersey region; and

WHEREAS, a key role for MPOs is to serve as a forum for cooperative transportation planning and decision-making in metropolitan areas; and

WHEREAS, portions of the three state New York-New Jersey-Connecticut metropolitan region constitute one of the nation's largest commuter-sheds; and

WHEREAS, the FHWA/FTA Transportation Planning Certification Reports for the NJTPA (January 2006) and NYMTC (January 2007) required that an agreement be fashioned which identifies how the five MPOs located in the New York, New Jersey and Connecticut commuter-shed would coordinate on the development of transportation planning documents and in meeting the attainment of National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS); and

WHEREAS, the five MPOs include:

- **North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA)** – which covers the 13 counties of northern New Jersey;
- **New York Metropolitan Transportation Council (NYMTC)** – which covers New York City, Long Island (Nassau and Suffolk Counties), and the lower Hudson Valley (Putnam, Rockland and Westchester Counties);
- **Southwestern Region Metropolitan Planning Organization (SWRMPO)** - which covers the Fairfield County, Connecticut cities of Norwalk and Stamford and the towns of Darien, Greenwich, New Canaan, Weston, Westport and Wilton;
- **Housatonic Valley Council of Elected Officials (HVCEO)** – which covers ten municipalities in western Connecticut (Fairfield and Litchfield Counties), including Bethel, Bridgewater, Brookfield, Danbury, New Fairfield, New Milford, Newtown, Redding, Ridgefield and Sherman;
- **Greater Bridgeport / Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization (GB/VMPO)** – which covers the Fairfield County towns of Bridgeport, Easton, Fairfield, Monroe, Stratford and Trumbull; and

WHEREAS, the above referenced five MPOs have collaborated to prepare this draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the coordination of transportation planning activities in the three-state New York, New Jersey and Connecticut metropolitan region; and

WHEREAS, the attached MOU is intended to ensure that the products of each respective MPO transportation planning process takes into account the impacts of the plans and programs developed by the other MPOs; and

WHEREAS, any material additions, deletions or changes to the attached MOU as adopted by the NJTPA will require the action of the NJTPA Board of Trustees, as well as that of the other four MPOs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the NJTPA hereby approves the attached Multi-Party Planning Coordination MOU involving the NJTPA, NYMTC, SWRMPO, GB/VMPO, and HVCEO, whereby the parties agree to perform in good faith various activities of voluntary coordination, cooperation and consultation amongst themselves, with regard to the metropolitan transportation planning process.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution along with the attached documentation be forwarded to the New Jersey Department of Transportation; Federal Highway Administration ; Federal Transit Administration; NYMTC; SWRMPO; GB/VMPO; and HVCEO.

This Resolution shall take effect this 14th day of January, 2008

Certification

I hereby certify that the above is a true copy of a resolution adopted by the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority at its scheduled meeting held on January 14, 2008.



Cliff Sobel
Deputy Executive Director, NJTPA

SOUTH WESTERN REGION METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

DARIEN • GREENWICH • NEW CANAAN • NORWALK • STAMFORD • WESTON • WESTPORT • WILTON
888 WASHINGTON BOULEVARD • STAMFORD, CT 06901 • (203) 316-5190 • FAX (203) 316-4995

RESOLUTION #2008-003 Endorsement of Memorandum of Understanding for Metro-New York Transportation Planning and Coordination

WHEREAS: NYMTC, NJTPA, SWRMPO, GB/VMPO, and HVCEO are part of a federally-designated Transportation Management Area (TMA) that constitutes one of the nation's largest commuter-sheds; and,

WHEREAS: 23 U.S.C. 134 and Section 8 of the Federal Transit Act require that Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) be designated for metropolitan regions and that they maintain a continuing, cooperative and comprehensive transportation planning process that results in plans and programs that consider all transportation modes and supports metropolitan community development and social goals; and,

WHEREAS: A key role for MPOs is to serve as forums for cooperative transportation planning and decision-making in metropolitan areas; and,

WHEREAS: 23 CFR 450.310(g) states that, where more than one MPO has authority within a metropolitan planning area or a nonattainment or maintenance area, there shall be an agreement between the state department(s) of transportation and the MPOs describing how their planning processes will be coordinated to assure the development of an overall transportation plan for the metropolitan planning area, and that in nonattainment or maintenance areas, the agreement shall include State and local air quality agencies; and,

WHEREAS: The MPOs agree to follow this MOU in order to ensure coordination in the development of the mandated products of the metropolitan transportation planning process including the process for meeting attainment of NAAQS; and,

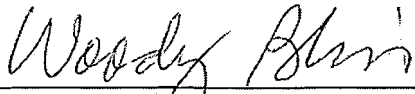
WHEREAS: The MPOs agree to perform in good faith the activities of voluntary coordination, cooperation and consultation as spelled out in the MOU.

Now therefore, be it resolved, that the South Western Metropolitan Planning Organization hereby:

Endorses the Memorandum of Understanding for Coordination of Transportation Planning Activities in the Three State New York-New Jersey-CT Metropolitan Region.

This resolution is effective January 28, 2008.

Date: January 28, 2008.

By: 

Woody Bliss,
Chairman

GREATER BRIDGEPORT AND VALLEY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Ansonia • Bridgeport • Derby • Easton • Fairfield • Monroe • Seymour • Shelton • Stratford • Trumbull

RESOLUTION 2008-4

AUTHORIZATION

**TO SIGN THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) FOR
CORRIDANATION OF TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ACTIVITIES IN THE
THREE STATE NEW YORK-NEW JERSEY-CONNECTICUT
METROPOLITAN REGION**

WHEREAS, the 23 CFR 450.314(d) states, that, where more than one MPO has authority within a metropolitan planning area or a non-attainment area, there shall be an agreement between the state departments of transportation and the metropolitan planning organizations describing how their planning processes will be coordinated; and

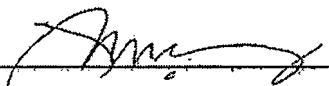
WHEREAS, the Greater Bridgeport and Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization is a part of the larger New York metropolitan transportation management area and included in the New York-Northern New Jersey-Connecticut non-attainment area and acknowledges the environmental, economic and transportation systems interdependencies and interconnections with portions of the three state New York-New Jersey-Connecticut metropolitan region; and

WHEREAS, the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council has drafted an MOU for the three state region that effectively complies with federal guidelines and the MPO is a voluntary participant in the MOU.


NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Greater Bridgeport and Valley MPO has reviewed the MOU and authorizes the Chairman to sign the MOU on behalf of the MPO and directs the Executive Directors of the Greater Bridgeport Regional Planning Agency and the Valley Council of Governments to perform in good faith the activities listed in the MOU..

This resolution shall become effective as of January 30, 2008.

We, the undersigned co-secretaries of Greater Bridgeport and Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), Connecticut, do hereby certify that the resolution adopted by the MPO at a public meeting held on January 30, 2008, at which a quorum was present and that the same is a correct and true transcript from the original thereof.



James T. Wang, Executive Director
GBRPA – MPO Co-Secretary



Richard T. Dunne, Executive Director
VCOG – MPO Co-Secretary

Date: 1/30/08

Responsible Metropolitan Transportation Planning Agencies

GREATER BRIDGEPORT REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY
525 Water Street, Transportation Center, Suite 1
Bridgeport, Connecticut 06604-4902
Phone: (203) 366-5405 Fax: 366-8437
E-mail: jtw@gbrrpa.org

VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
12 Main Street, Derby Train Station
Derby, Connecticut 06418
Phone: (203) 735-8688 Fax: 735-8680
E-mail: rdunne@valleycoa.org



**HOUSATONIC VALLEY
COUNCIL OF ELECTED OFFICIALS**
OLD BROOKFIELD TOWN HALL
162 WHISCONIER ROAD, BROOKFIELD, CT 06804
203-775-6256 FAX 203-740-9167 HVCEO.ORG

**RESOLUTION ADOPTING A
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
FOR COORDINATION OF
TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ACTIVITIES
IN THE NY - NJ - CT METROPOLITAN REGION**

JANUARY 18, 2008

The Housatonic Valley Council of Elected Officials (HVCEO) is the state and federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization for the conduct of transportation planning in the Housatonic Valley Planning Region of Connecticut.

HVCEO hereby certifies that the federally defined urban transportation planning process, conducted in accordance with the terms of metropolitan planning provisions of SAFETEA-LU, will be further conducted in accordance with the attached Memorandum of Understanding for Coordination of Transportation Planning Activities in the NY–NJ-CT Region.

The above mentioned Memorandum of Understanding for Coordination of Transportation Planning is hereby adopted as the policy of the HVCEO.

Andrea O'Connor, HVCEO Secretary
And First Selectman of Sherman, CT

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR
COORDINATION OF TRANSPORTATION PLANNING
ACTIVITIES IN THE THREE STATE NY-NJ-CT
METROPOLITAN REGION**

*New York Metropolitan Transportation Council
North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority
South Western Region Metropolitan Planning Organization
Greater Bridgeport / Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization
Housatonic Valley Council of Elected Officials*

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is made and entered into by and among the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council (NYMTC), the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA), South Western Region Metropolitan Planning Organization (SWRMPO), the Greater Bridgeport / Valley MPO (GB/VMPO), and the Housatonic Valley Council of Elected Officials (HVCEO), collectively referred to hereinafter as "the PARTIES".

WHEREAS, the PARTIES acknowledge that portions of the three state New York-New Jersey-Connecticut metropolitan region are characterized by socio-economic and environmental interdependence, as evidenced through shared ecosystems, interconnected transportation systems and inter-related patterns of employment and population; and,

WHEREAS, NYMTC and NJTPA are part of a federally-designated Transportation Management Area (TMA) that, when combined with SWRMPO, GB/VMPO, and HVCEO, constitute one of the nation's largest commuter-sheds; and,

WHEREAS, 23 U.S.C. 134 and Section 8 of the Federal Transit Act require that Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) be designated for metropolitan regions and that they maintain a continuing, cooperative and comprehensive transportation planning process that results in plans and programs that consider all transportation modes and supports metropolitan community development and social goals; and,

WHEREAS, a key role for MPOs is to serve as forums for cooperative transportation planning and decision-making in metropolitan areas; and,

WHEREAS, 23 CFR 450.314(d) states that, where more than one MPO has authority within a metropolitan planning area or a nonattainment or maintenance area, there shall be an agreement between the state department(s) of transportation and the MPOs describing how their planning processes will be coordinated to assure the development of an overall transportation plan for the metropolitan planning area, and that in nonattainment or maintenance areas, the agreement shall include State and local air quality agencies; and,

WHEREAS, the FHWA/FTA Transportation Planning Certification Review for NYMTC (January 2007) and NJTPA (January 2006) had required that an agreement be fashioned which identifies how the above referenced five MPOs located in the New York, New Jersey and Connecticut commuter-shed would coordinate the development of transportation planning documents and would coordinate to meet the attainment of National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS); and,

WHEREAS, it was subsequently determined that, because of census boundary changes, participation in this agreement by the non-TMA MPOs (SWRMPO, GB/VMPO, and HVCEO) was not mandatory, but would be advisable as consistent with good planning principles; and,

WHEREAS, SWRMPO, GB/VMPO, and HVCEO are voluntary participants in this MOU; and,

WHEREAS, this MOU constitutes the aforementioned agreement in order to address the requirements of 23 CFR 450.314(d) for the PARTIES and the recommendations of the federal certification reviews of NYMTC and NJTPA; and,

WHEREAS, the PARTIES agree to follow this MOU in order to ensure coordination in the development of the mandated products of the metropolitan transportation planning process including the process for meeting attainment of NAAQS ; and,

WHEREAS, this MOU is intended to ensure that the products of each respective MPO transportation planning process takes into account the impacts of the plans and programs developed by the other MPOs; helps avoid duplication of effort; reflects consistency of approaches where possible; and ensures the consideration of the interests of all five MPOs;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the PARTIES hereto agree to perform in good faith the activities of voluntary coordination, cooperation and consultation amongst themselves, as follows:

GENERAL

1. Hold an annual meeting of the Executive Directors and appropriate key managers of the five MPOs which are PARTIES to this agreement, as well as interested policy board member agency representatives, including but not limited to, the public transit operating agencies and the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, to discuss and review the areas of coordination, cooperation and consultation as outlined in this MOU.

Representatives of the State Departments of Transportation and Environmental Protection/Conservation and other resource agencies in the three states will also be invited and encouraged to participate. The purpose of the annual meeting will be to engage in discussions of mutual interest with a focus on the development of the respective Unified Planning Work Programs (UPWPs) for the coming year.

The annual meeting will also serve as a mechanism for assessing this MOU and for discussing further expectations and approaches, as appropriate.

2. Cooperate in efforts toward achieving, wherever possible, general consistency of plans through informal communication and document exchange.

3. Participate, to the extent practicable, in the transportation planning process of the other PARTIES through such activities, as are deemed appropriate, as technical committee memberships and/or meeting participation, including the use of the PARTIES' public participation processes and involvement in regional studies, as well as through informal and ongoing communications regarding same.

UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP)

1. As individual MPOs, make available UPWP products as appropriate to the other PARTIES.

2. Exchange information, including DRAFT copies of the UPWP, and maintain communication among the PARTIES regarding how best to achieve coordination and consistency among the Plans.

3. Discuss opportunities for collaborative activities that could be incorporated as tasks and/or products and thereby included in the Work Programs of the PARTIES, as appropriate, for the upcoming year.

4. Consider that the five MPOs will not necessarily be at the same stage of UPWP development at the same time, and that coordination will be tempered by the schedule of each MPO's planning process.

MODELING

- 1. Exchange modeling information at appropriate levels of geography, attempting where possible to relate the data to the MPOs' existing, respective Traffic Analysis Zone systems.
- 2. Share modeling as appropriate, including socio-economic, census, forecast and survey data and results; trip tables and travel demand model assumptions; and model validation data, state line traffic volumes and traffic volumes at the external boundaries of the other agencies' models.
- 3. Consult in the development of enhanced travel demand models.
- 4. Examine and utilize opportunities for joint development of TMA new modeling applications for the region as appropriate.

TRANSPORTATION PLAN

- 1. During the development of the Long-Range Transportation Plan, consult as appropriate all parties regarding key elements of the plan such as principles, scenarios, strategies, major project assumptions and key issues.
- 2. Exchange information, including DRAFT copies of the Long Range Plans and proposed amendments, and maintain communication among the PARTIES, including affording each other the opportunity to review and comment on projects proposed in the Long Range Plan, especially on projects that border, or have a significant impact upon, other PARTIES' MOU jurisdictions.
- 3. Consider that the five MPOs will not necessarily be at the same stage of plan development at the same time, and that coordination will be tempered by the schedule of each MPO's planning process.

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

- 1. Consult in the development of TIPs.
- 2. Exchange information, including DRAFT copies of the TIP and proposed amendments, and maintain communication among the PARTIES, including affording each other the opportunity to review and comment on draft projects proposed in the TIP, especially on projects that border, or have a significant impact upon, other PARTIES' MOU jurisdictions.
- 3. Consider that the five MPOs will not necessarily be at the same stage of TIP development at the same time, and that coordination will be tempered by the schedule of each MPO's planning process.

AIR QUALITY STATE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN CONFORMITY

- 1. Exchange information on the design concept and the design scope of projects that should be included in the regional emissions analysis.
- 2. Consult on the assumptions used in the mobile emissions model in each state.
- 3. Exchange information, including DRAFT copies of the Conformity Analysis, and maintain communication among the PARTIES.
- 4. Consider that the five MPOs will not necessarily be at the same stage of Conformity determination at the same time, and that coordination will be tempered by the schedule of each MPO's planning process.