

**CAPITAL AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
BYLAWS AND OPERATING PROCEDURES
FOR THE
TRANSPORTATION PLANNING PROGRAM
IN THE AUSTIN METROPOLITAN AREA**

SECTION I DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of these bylaws, the following definitions apply

- A. Metropolitan Transportation Planning Process.** The Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), designated as Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO), in cooperation with the State and with operators of publicly owned transit services, shall be responsible for carrying out the metropolitan transportation planning process in accordance with Section 134, Title 23, United States Code (23 USC 134) and applicable federal and state regulations. CAMPO shall have 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. These plans and programs shall lead to the development and operation of an integrated, intermodal transportation system that facilitates the efficient, economic movement of people and goods.

The metropolitan transportation planning process includes the development of a transportation plan, transportation improvement program (TIP) and a unified planning work program (UPWP) that will encourage the achievement of community goals by evaluating the environmental, energy, economic, and social costs of transportation plans and systems, projecting future travel demands, determining viable transportation alternatives, and evaluating these alternatives to determine the optimum combination of all modes of travel to best serve the citizens of the Austin metropolitan area.

- B. Public Involvement Program.** The metropolitan transportation planning process includes the development of a Public Involvement Program and staff procedures. The

Program is intended to include all Austin metropolitan area citizens, groups, agencies, and transportation providers in a transportation effort that is proactive and provides

complete information, timely public notice, full public access to key decisions, and supports early and continuing involvement of the public in developing plans and programs including the Transportation Plan and Transportation Improvement Program.

The Public Involvement Program shall integrate the concerns of a wide variety of involved parties and encourage and provide for the greatest level of education of transportation issues. The program will provide opportunities for citizens to contribute ideas and voice opinions early and often, both during and after preparation of draft plans and programs. Public participation in CAMPO Transportation Policy Board meetings is governed by Section III. E. of this document.

- C. Transportation Plan.** The metropolitan planning process includes the development of a transportation plan addressing at least a twenty-year planning horizon. The plan shall include both long-range and short-range strategies/actions that lead to the development of an integrated intermodal transportation system that facilitates the efficient movement of people and goods. The transportation plan shall be reviewed and updated at least every five years to confirm its validity and its consistency with current and forecasted transportation and land use conditions and trends and to extend the forecast period. The transportation plan must be approved (adopted) by the CAMPO Transportation Policy Board.
- D. Transportation Improvement Program.** The Transportation Improvement Program specifies how federal transportation funds are spent in the Austin metropolitan area for a minimum three-year period. The TIP will be prepared at least every other year and will include a financial plan that demonstrates how the Transportation Improvement Program can be implemented.

- E. Unified Planning Work Program.** The Unified Planning Work Program is a document setting forth, by work element tasks, the planning priorities facing the metropolitan area and documenting the planning activities to be performed with funds available to CAMPO. The estimated expenditures and funding sources for carrying out the work shall be identified.
- F. Metropolitan Planning Organization.** The Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is that organization designated by the Governor as being responsible, together with the state, for carrying out the provisions of 23 USC 134 (The Urban Transportation Planning Process) and 49 USC 5303, as amended. The MPO is the forum for cooperative decision making by principal elected officials of general purpose local and state government and a representative from the Texas Department of Transportation and the Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority.

SECTION II ORGANIZATION

The structure of the Metropolitan Planning Organization consists of the Transportation Policy Board, the Executive Committee, the CAMPO Office and other Committees, all as described in subsequent paragraphs of these bylaws and operating procedures.

- A. Transportation Policy Board.** The Transportation Policy Board, as the Metropolitan Planning Organization, hereinafter referred to as the TPB, furnishes policy guidance and direction for the continuing transportation study. Ultimate responsibility for the total transportation process including, but not limited to, review and approval of the recommended transportation plan and transportation improvement program rests with the Transportation Policy Board.
- B. Executive Committee.** The Executive Committee are members of the Transportation Policy Board who make recommendations on transportation planning issues, projects and the process as directed by the Transportation Policy Board.

- C. CAMPO Office.** The development of detailed transportation studies, maintenance of accurate data, preparation of reports, and performance of other activities requested by the Transportation Policy Board is the responsibility of the CAMPO Office. The Director of the CAMPO Office is responsible solely to the Transportation Policy Board.
- D. Other Committees.** The Chairperson, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, may establish other committees as needed.

SECTION III TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD

The following rules shall govern the operations of the Transportation Policy Board.

- A. Membership.** Membership on the Transportation Policy Board is established by the Joint Powers Agreement.
- B. Voting Representation.**

1. **Voting Alternate.** A member of the Transportation Policy Board may designate an alternate to exercise some or all of that member's authority as a member of the Transportation Policy Board pursuant to the applicable subsection (a) and (b) of this subparagraph (B)(1). The alternate designated by a member will count toward a quorum and may vote on any matter authorized by the member designating the alternate. A person designated as a voting alternate may vote as an alternate on behalf of only one designating member. A member who designates an alternate shall give written notice of the alternate's name and voting authority to the Chairperson prior to the first meeting for which the alternate is designated. The authority of an alternate designated under this subparagraph (B)(1) shall continue until it is rescinded or changed by written notice from the designating member to the Chairperson.

- a. An elected official may designate as an alternate a person appointed as an alternate by the body who appointed that member.
 - b. A member who is not an elected official may designate as an alternate a person employed by or who serves on the Board of the organization represented by that member.
- 2. **Non-Voting Proxy.** A member of the Transportation Policy Board may appoint a proxy to attend a meeting in the member's stead. The proxy appointed by a member does not count toward a quorum and may not vote.
- C. **Quorum.** Fifty percent (50%) of the total members encompassed in paragraph A or their alternate shall constitute a quorum of the members for transaction of business at all meetings.
- D. **Officers.** The Transportation Policy Board elects a Chairperson and a Vice Chairperson for a term of two years. It is the preference that the Vice Chair succeeds to the Chair position. However, the Executive Committee shall reserve the right to recommend that the Vice Chair not succeed to the Chair's position at the end of the two-year term. The Chair and the Vice Chair must come from different counties. Elections are to be held at the first meeting of each even year. If the Chairperson resigns or is no longer eligible to be a member of the Transportation Policy Board, the Vice Chairperson will serve as Chairperson until an election is held.
- E. **Meetings.** The Chairperson, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, shall establish the dates and times of meetings, and the Chairperson designates in the written notice of the meetings the location and business to be transacted or considered. Any Board member may submit a matter for consideration on a future agenda. If the Chairperson does not include that item on the agenda, the member may

petition the Executive Committee and the Executive Committee may require the item to be placed on a future agenda.

Written notice of the meeting, the agenda, and all supporting documents shall be mailed to each member of the Board at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting.

All meetings are to be held as open meetings as defined in Chapter 551, Government Code, and the CAMPO Director shall insure that the written notice of the meeting is posted in the appropriate governmental offices at least seventy-two (72) hours prior to the meeting, and shall insure that at least two copies of the agenda and such supporting documentation as is available to the members of the Transportation Policy Board are made available for public inspection in the CAMPO Office at the same time they are made available to Board members.

In the absence of the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson from a meeting of the Transportation Policy Board at which a quorum is present, the Executive Director will convene the meeting and the remaining members of the board present shall elect a presiding officer who shall serve until the conclusion of that meeting or until the arrival of the Chairperson or Vice Chairperson.

Public participation in meetings shall be as follows. Internal reports from CAMPO employees and committees not posted for action by the board are not eligible for public comment. If action is required on an item which has already been the subject of a public hearing, no public comment will be taken. Otherwise, persons wishing to comment on a specific agenda item must fill out the card provided by the CAMPO staff. The card will be presented to the Chairperson before the board begins consideration of the item. The card must specify the item on which they will comment and include the speaker's name and whom they represent. Speakers are limited to three minutes and a speaker's time may not be assigned to another speaker.

Persons wishing to address the board about issues not on the agenda should offer their comments during the “Citizens Communication” agenda item. Persons wishing to speak during “Citizens Communication” must contact the CAMPO staff via phone, electronic mail, facsimile transmission, or in person between 9:00 a.m. on the 6th day before the meeting at which they wish to speak and 4:30 p.m. on the day of the meeting at which they wish to speak. Such persons must give their name and specify the topic on which they wish to address the board. Topics are limited to those that directly or indirectly affect transportation in the CAMPO geographic area. No more than ten persons will address the board during Citizens Communication at any given meeting. Speakers are limited to three minutes and a speaker’s time may not be assigned to another speaker. Speakers are requested to not directly address individual members of the board or the CAMPO staff. The Chairperson will enforce decorum.

- F. Functions.** The functions of the Transportation Policy Board shall be as delineated in the Joint Powers Agreement.
- G. Attendance.** If a member of the Transportation Policy Board misses more than half of the Board meetings scheduled during a calendar year, the Chairperson may contact the member’s appointing body to request a replacement appointee to the Transportation Policy Board.

SECTION IV EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- A. Membership.** The Executive Committee will consist of the Transportation Policy Board Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson and members of the Transportation Policy Board that are, at a minimum, representative of the jurisdictions that are signatory of the Joint Powers Agreement. The members of the Executive Committee shall be appointed by the Chairperson of the Transportation Policy Board at the first meeting

each year. The jurisdictional representatives of the Joint Powers Agreement are indicated below:

Texas Department of Transportation	1
City of Austin	1
County of Travis	1
County of Williamson	1
County of Hays	1
Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority	1

B. Function. The functions of the Executive Committee shall be as follows:

1. Meet at the direction of the Chairperson.
2. Take actions on items delegated by the Transportation Policy Board and/or make recommendations on items to the Transportation Policy Board.
3. The Executive Committee will have no distinctive powers on their own unless given by the Transportation Policy Board or established by these bylaws and operating procedures.

SECTION V CAMPO OFFICE

The following rules govern the operations of the CAMPO Office:

- A. Direction.** The CAMPO Director will be selected by the Transportation Policy Board. The CAMPO Director will hire staff, supervise, and prepare contracts as necessary to perform the work outlined in the Unified Planning Work Program.
- B. Funding.** The budget of the CAMPO Office must be consistent with the Unified Planning Work Program.
- C. Functions.** The functions of the CAMPO Director and CAMPO Office are established in the Joint Powers Agreement.

SECTION VI OTHER COMMITTEES

The following rules govern the operations of other committees.

- A. **Other Committees.** The committee will perform tasks and functions as requested by the Chairperson, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee.
- B. **Membership.** Members of other committees are appointed by the Chairperson with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee. Membership of each committee may include persons who are not board members with expertise of a nature that would be beneficial to the planning process.
- C. **Officers.** The Chairperson and Vice Chairperson for the committee shall be designated by the Chairperson of the Transportation Policy Board.
- D. **Meetings.** Meetings of a committee are held as necessary to perform the tasks and functions of the committee. The Chairperson of the committee calls such meetings as necessary and shall notify all committee members of the time, date, and place of the meeting.
- E. **Technical Advisory Committee.** The Technical Advisory Committee's purpose is to advise the Transportation Policy Board in its development of
 1. The long-range metropolitan transportation plan;
 2. The Transportation Improvement Program, including review of and recommendations on candidate projects for the TIP;
 3. The Unified Planning Work Program; and
 4. Other transportation planning activities, as directed by the Transportation Policy Board or CAMPO's Executive Director.

SECTION VII ETHICS POLICY

A. A member of the Transportation Policy Board or employee of CAMPO shall not:

1. Accept or solicit any gift, favor, or service that might reasonably tend to influence the member or employee in the discharge of official duties or that the member or employee knows or should know is being offered with the intent to influence the member's or employee's official conduct;
2. Accept other employment or engage in a business or professional activity that the member or employee might reasonably expect would require or induce the member or employee to disclose confidential information acquired by reason of the official position;
3. Accept other employment or compensation that could reasonably be expected to impair the member's or employee's independence of judgment in the performance of the member's or employee's official duties;
4. Make personal investments that could reasonably be expected to create a substantial conflict between the member's or employee's private interest and the public interest; or
5. Intentionally or knowingly solicit, accept, or agree to accept any benefit for having exercised the member's or employee's official powers or performed the member's or employee's official duties in favor of another.

B. An employee of CAMPO who violates Subsection (a) is subject to termination of the employee's employment or another employment-related sanction. Notwithstanding this subsection, a policy board member or employee who violates Subsection (a) is subject to

any applicable civil or criminal penalty if the violation also constitutes a violation of
another statute or rule.

SECTION VIII ADOPTION

These bylaws and operating procedures shall be in full force and effect at such time as they have been approved by a majority vote of the Transportation Policy Board at a meeting at which a quorum, as defined herein, is present.

SECTION IX REVISIONS

These bylaws and operating procedures may be revised by approval of the Transportation Policy Board at a meeting at which a quorum, as defined herein, is present.

Adopted unanimously by the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Transportation Policy Board on June 10, 1996; revised by resolution on February 8, 1999, April 14, 2003, February 13, 2006, January 22, 2007, November 9, 2009, January 20, 2010, May 10, 2010, September 13, 2010, February 13, 2012 and January 13, 2014.

ATTEST:

Maureen McCoy
Director