

UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM
for the
Birmingham Metropolitan Planning Organization

FY 2015
October 1, 2014 - September 30, 2015

Prepared By The
Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham

Adopted: July 9, 2014



Birmingham Metropolitan Planning Organization

Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Fiscal Year 2015

This document is posted at
<http://www.rpcgb.org/transportation/upwp/>

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This document was a cooperative effort of the US Department of Transportation (USDOT), Federal Highway Administration, the Federal Transit Administration, the Alabama Department of Transportation, and prepared by the Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham, as staff to the Birmingham MPO, in partial fulfillment of Task 3.0 of the FY2014 UPWP and requirements set forth in amended Title 23 USC 134 and 135 (MAP-21, Sections 1201 and 1202, July 2012). The contents of this report do not necessarily reflect the official views or policy of the USDOT.

Birmingham Metropolitan Planning Organization
Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Membership

Fiscal Year 2015

Metropolitan Planning Organization

Chair: Mayor Thomas Henderson, City of Center Point
Vice Chair: Mr. Tim Westhoven, City of Hoover
Secretary: Honorable William Parker, City of Birmingham

Transportation Citizens Committee

Chair: Ms. Jackie Dye, Shelby County
Vice Chair: Mr. Willie Osborne, City of Birmingham

Transportation Technical Committee

Chair: Mr. Greg Dawkins, Birmingham Traffic Engineer
Vice Chair: Mr. Rod Long, City of Hoover, Engineer

Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham

Staff to the MPO

Mr. Charles Ball, Executive Director
Mr. Scott Tillman, Director of Planning and Operations
Mr. Darrell Howard, Deputy Director of Planning
Ms. Lindsay West, Deputy Director of Operations

TRANSPORTATION CITIZENS COMMITTEE (TCC)
May 2014

Chairman: Jackie Dye
 Vice-Chairman: Willie Osborne

Last Name	First Name	Membership District
Adcock	Joanne	East / Northeast Jefferson County
Brown	Anna	City of Birmingham
Cochran	Peggy	South / Southeast Jefferson County
Denson	Elizabeth	City of Birmingham
Dye	Jackie	Shelby County
Ferrell	Butch	City of Birmingham
Fritschi	Ouida	South / Southeast Jefferson County
Giddens	Harry	City of Birmingham
Gilbert	Joel	City of Birmingham
Goldstein	Richard	South/Southeast Jefferson County
Gordon	Judy	South / Southeast Jefferson County
Ludwig	Bruce	South / Southeast Jefferson County
McKenna	Barbara	East / Northeast Jefferson County
Osborne	Willie	City of Birmingham
Owen	Pittman	City of Birmingham
Peebles, III	Johnny	South / Southeast Jefferson County
Richardson	Robert	Shelby County
Robertson	T.H.	City of Birmingham
Rumph	Calvin	Shelby County
Springer	John	City of Birmingham
Stokes	Sarah	South / Southeast Jefferson County
Wiedmeyer	Phillip	South / Southeast Jefferson County

TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE (TTC)

May 2014

Chairman: Mr. Greg Dawkins

Vice-Chairman: Mr. Rod Long

* Indicates Non-voting members

Last Name	First Name	Membership Designation
Abel	Richard	Clastran Representative
Acoff	Alfedo	ALDOT Design Bureau Representative
Andrews*	Clint	FHWA Representative (Non-Voting Member)
Baldwin*	Nan	B'ham Business Alliance Representative (Non-Voting Member)
Boozer	Ken	Jefferson County Dept. of Roads and Transportation Representative
Brady	Chris	City of Vestavia Hills Representative
Caudle	Richard	At-Large
Chaffin	Sheila	UAB Campus Planning Representative
Church	Fenn	Trucking Representative
Cobb	Matthew	City of Homewood Representative
Cothron	Scott	At-Large
Dahlke	Dan	St. Clair County Representative
Darden	Richard	At-Large
Davis	Andre	UAB Parking and Trans Services Representative
Dawkins	Greg	City of Birmingham Traffic Engineer Representative
Folcher	Al	At-Large
Gore*	Ron	ADEM Air Division Chief (Non-Voting Member)
Hale	Doug	Bicycle / Pedestrian Representative
Hatcher	Chris	REV Birmingham Representative
Hawkins	Fred	At-Large
Henry	George	City of Alabaster Representative
Holladay	Scott	At-Large
Hornbuckle	Denise	Traffic Safety Representative
Howanitz	Jason	Jeff. County Dept. of Health Chief Representative
Hunke	David	At-Large
Ikwu-Utwa	Henry	BJCTA
Lawlor	Elizabeth	Railroad Representative
Long	Rod	City of Hoover Engineer Representative
Magee	Tom	City of Birmingham Chief Planner Representative
Malone	Charles	ALDOT Maintenance Representative-Birmingham
McCord	Wallace	At-Large
Oranika	Emmanuel	ALDOT Transportation Metropolitan Planning Admin- Montgomery
Perry	Blair	At-Large
Portera	Bob	At-Large
Reeves	Chris	At-Large
Rivera*	Abigail	FTA Representative (Non-Voting Member)
Rudolph	Alicia	At-Large
Sitton	Winston	Blount County
Strickland	Keith	At-Large
Sullivan	Andrew	At-Large
Taylor	Lance	ALDOT Preconstruction Engineer – Birmingham Representative
Womack	Eric	Shelby County Development Services Representative

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)

Policy Committee

May 2014

Chairman: Honorable Tom Henderson

Vice Chairman: Mr. Tim Westhoven

Secretary: Honorable William Parker

*** Serves on MPO Advisory Committee**

**** Indicates Non-voting members**

Last Name	First Name	Membership District
Abbott	Valerie	City of Birmingham
Alexander	Tommy	Jefferson County Municipalities- Irondale
Allison	Lindsey	Shelby County
Armstrong*	Allen	Blount County Public Transportation
Bartlett**	Mark	Federal Highway Administration (non-voting)
Baumann	Delor	Jefferson County Municipalities- Hueytown
Beard	Cletus	St. Clair County
Bell*	William	City of Birmingham
Bittas*	Andre	City of Birmingham
Blackwell**	Slade	State of Alabama- State Senator (non-voting)
Brasseale*	Jerry	Jefferson County Municipalities- Pleasant Grove
Brooks*	Joyce	BJCTA
Brown	Sandra Little	Unincorporated Jefferson County
Coachman	Kenneth	Jefferson County Municipalities - Fairfield
Cole*	Randy	Shelby County
Cooper	Lisa	City of Birmingham
Davis*	Brian	Alabama Department of Transportation 3rd Division
Dawkins	Greg	City of Birmingham
Hall	Mark	Shelby County
Handlon	Marty	Shelby County- Alabaster
Harris*	Johnny L.	Alabama Department of Transportation 1st Division
Hawkins	Fred	City of Birmingham
Henderson*	Thomas	Jefferson County Municipalities- Center Point
Henley	Harvey	Unincorporated Jefferson County
Holladay*	Scott	Shelby County
Hunke*	David	Shelby County
Jackson*	Walter	Unincorporated Jefferson County
Jilla**	Robert	Alabama Department of Transportation (non-voting)
Jones*	David	St. Clair County
Knight	Joe	Unincorporated Jefferson County
Long	Rod	Hoover - Shelby County
Magee	Tom	City of Birmingham
McCondichie*	Roger	Jefferson County Municipalities- Brookside
Melton	Gene	Jefferson County Municipalities- Trussville
Oden	Lawrence	Jefferson County Municipalities- Mountain Brook
Parker	William	City of Birmingham
Parsons	Steve	Jefferson County Municipalities- Sylvan Springs
Pate	Allen	Hoover -Jefferson County
Pate*	Tracy	Unincorporated Jefferson County
Phillips	Othell	Jefferson County Municipalities- Gardendale
Rafferty*	Kimberly	City of Birmingham
Rice*	Clyde	St. Clair County Public Transportation
Richardson	Gary	Jefferson County Municipalities- Midfield
Stricklin*	Gary	Blount County
Tuck	Loxcil	Jefferson County Municipalities- Tarrant
Waters	Gary	Shelby County
Wallace**	Kurt	State of Alabama- State Representative (non-voting)
Westhoven*	Tim	Hoover - Jefferson County
Zaragoza	Alberto	Jefferson County Municipalities- Vestavia Hills

DRAFT
RESOLUTION 2014-_____

Birmingham Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
Adopting the FY2015 Unified Planning Work Program
As prepared by the Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham

WHEREAS, the Birmingham Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is the organization designated by the Governor of the State of Alabama as being responsible, together with the State of Alabama, for implementing the applicable provisions of amended 23 USC 134 and 135 (MAP-21, Sections 1201 and 1202, July 2012); 23 CFR 450 and 500; 42 USC 7401 et al.; 40 CFR 51 and 93; and

WHEREAS, the U. S. Department of Transportation requires all urbanized areas, as established by the U. S. Bureau of the Census, doing area-wide urban transportation planning that involves more than one Department of Transportation operating administration, to submit a Unified Planning Work Program as a condition for meeting the provisions of Title 23, U. S. Code, Section 134; and

WHEREAS, consistent with the declaration of these provisions, the Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham, in cooperation with the Alabama Department of Transportation, has prepared a Unified Planning Work Program for Fiscal Year 2015; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to its duties, functions, and responsibilities, the Birmingham Metropolitan Planning Organization, in session this _____ day of _____, 2014, did review and evaluate the aforementioned Unified Planning Work Program, summarized on the attached pages; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Birmingham Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) that the same does hereby adopt said Unified Planning Work Program for FY2015.

ADOPTED, this the ____ day of _____, 2014

Date _____
Mayor Tom Henderson, Chairman
Policy Committee
Birmingham Metropolitan Planning Organization

ATTEST:

Charles Ball, Executive Director
Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham

Date _____

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THE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING PROCESS

For the Birmingham Metropolitan Planning Area

Overview

As a condition to the receipt of federal highway and transit capital or operating assistance, each metropolitan planning area (MPA) is required to have a transportation planning process. This process, in general, includes the development of a long-range or regional transportation plan, a short-range transportation improvement program, a plan to promote attainment of air quality standards, a human services coordinated transportation plan, and a planning work program, which includes planning and project development activities to address other transportation issues.

Certification of the transportation planning process is conducted every four years by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) under the requirements of the **Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21)** and is necessary to receive surface transportation program, air quality, national highway system, interstate maintenance, state bridge replacement, and transit capital and operating funds. A decertified process would result in the loss of approximately \$50,000,000 per year. The Birmingham Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) membership is geographically representative of the metropolitan planning area, the entire boundaries of Jefferson, Shelby and portions of Blount and St. Clair Counties, based upon the most recent decennial U. S. Census (2010) and is responsible for the development of the required products.

The Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham (RPCGB) is the designated recipient of U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) planning funds used to assist the MPO in the performance of its responsibilities. These funds are designated by the State in agreement with local governments. The MPO's multi-jurisdictional responsibility is provided by the RPCGB. Two additional committees provide information and recommendations to the MPO Policy Committee - the Transportation Citizens Committee and Transportation Technical Committee.

Work tasks described in this report are conducted on a continual basis. An agreement among the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM), Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT), Birmingham-Jefferson County Transit Authority (BJCTA), RPCGB, Jefferson County Department of Health (JCDH), and the MPO outline the responsibility of each organization in the transportation planning process.

Purpose

The Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) is the document that guides the MPO in fulfilling its planning responsibilities for the upcoming year. The primary objective of the UPWP is the development of an integrated planning program that considers the planning activities of each modal group and coordinates these activities to produce a total transportation plan serving all segments of the population. The UPWP presents the budget and work tasks necessary to accomplish and maintain the transportation planning process within the Birmingham metropolitan planning area for FY 2015.

Scope of the Planning Process

The planning tasks for FY 2015 reflect the original Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient, Transportation Equity Act: a Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) eight planning factors and these are retained in MAP-21 as the Scope of the Planning Process. The United States Code (USC) or law, is found under 23 USC 134(d)(1) A-H. The interpretative CFRs remain in 23 CFR 450.306(a).

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 accessibility and mobility of people and freight;
5. Protect and enhance the environment, promote energy conservation, improve 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 for people and freight;
7. Promote efficient system management and operation; and
8. Emphasize the preservation of the existing transportation system.

The committee process is the basis for conducting UPWP tasks. Meetings of the Transportation Citizens Committee, Transportation Technical Committee, MPO Advisory Committee, and the MPO Policy Committee are held monthly or as needed. In addition to the four transportation committees, subcommittees and joint committees are regularly used for the development of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), congestion management activities, and major transit projects.

Most traditional tasks are funded with planning funds (PL). Specialized tasks related to ridesharing, air quality, and local land use/transportation utilizes supplemental funds from the Congestion Mitigation Air Quality Program (CMAQ) and Surface Transportation Program (STP). Large-scale transit planning projects are funded through the FTA and congressional earmark.

Planning Emphasis Areas

On April 23, 2014 FHWA distributed a memorandum to State DOT's to encourage MPO's to identify tasks associated with Planning Emphasis Areas (PEAs). The following lists the three PEAs as defined by FHWA as well as the sections of this UPWP that address these PEAs:

- **MAP-21 Implementation** – Transition to Performance Based Planning and Programming.
 - Performance measures, Performance Indicators, and Livability Principles are discussed in Tasks 2.1 through 2.4, and again in Tasks 5.1 through 5.8, as well as the next section of this introduction to the UPWP.
- **Models of Regional Planning Cooperation** – Promote cooperation across MPO boundaries and across State boundaries where appropriate to ensure a regional approach to transportation planning.
 - Activities defined in Task 1.4 allow staff of the MPO to be active members of the Alabama Transportation Planning Association and the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations which provide opportunities for this PEA.
 - Tasks 2.2, 5.1, and 7.2 all consider a larger regional perspective. The work planned for each of these tasks will cross boundaries and reach out to sister agencies in support of this PEA.
- **Ladders of Opportunity** – Access to essential services – as part of the transportation planning process, identify transportation connectivity gaps in access to essential services.
 - Much of the work described in Task 5.4 - Public Transportation Planning relates to this PEA. The primary focus of the efforts in this task is to ensure essential services are being provided. In addition, identifying transportation connectivity gaps is also one of the goals of the Building Communities Program defined in Task 6.2.

Livability Principles

Increasingly, federal and state agencies are using Performance Measures as a way of ensuring greater accountability for the expenditure of public funds in an ever growing number of programs and activities across a variety of disciplines. Within the transportation sector and the planning processes associated with transportation infrastructure development, ALDOT has adopted the Livability Principles and Indicators as a sustainability measurement against future actions.

All planning tasks will be measured against these Livability Principles:

1. Provide more transportation choices.
2. Promote equitable, affordable housing.
3. Enhance economic competitiveness.
4. Support existing communities.
5. Coordinate policies and leverage investment.
6. Value communities and neighborhoods.

As a measure of sustainability of these principles, the MPO has developed a candidate list of Livability Indicators:

1. Mode Share – percent of travelers using different travel modes.
2. Jobs/Housing Balance – total number of jobs/total housing by area.
3. Travel Time Index – congested vs. free-flow travel time.
4. Number of crashes/incidents by travel mode (community safety emphasis).
5. Project Funding Diversity – percent of transportation projects utilizing multiple funding sources (federal, state, local).
6. Partnerships and Public Involvement – number of partnerships and documentation of PI Activities.

The Indicators will be used in the development and presentation of data for the following plan documents: Long Range or Regional Plan, Transportation Improvement Program, Public Participation Plan, Congestion Management Plan (TMAs only), and the Air Quality Conformity Report (as applicable).

Vision

Following is the vision statement for the Birmingham metropolitan area:

Transportation has become the connective tissue of the region. By foot, by bike, by car, or by public transportation, residents experience reduced congestion and higher mobility, both of which are the result of four important decisions:

1. *Preserving and improving the existing local and interstate highways;*
2. *Developing a responsive, efficient, and highly effective public transportation system;*
3. *Supporting the use of alternative transportation modes; and*
4. *Encouraging sustainable development patterns.*

The UPWP, as outlined in this document, contains work tasks necessary for the RPCGB, BJCTA, and the ALDOT to conduct transportation planning activities for the Birmingham Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA). The Birmingham Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is a Transportation Management Area (TMA) according to 49 USC 5305.

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TASK 1.0: ADMINISTRATION

1.1 MPO Administration

Objectives

To provide transportation committees, agencies, governments, and the general public with transportation-related information, education, and training, to support emergency transportation operations, and to promote federal, state, and local transportation initiatives.

Previous Work

- Prepared for and attended monthly committee meetings; participated in meetings with various local, regional, and state organizations.
- Attended RPCGB Board meetings and Annual Meeting
- Prepared and submitted invoices to ALDOT and reviewed RPCGB financial statements
- Provided information to the RPCGB auditors and reviewed audit report
- All agreements were reviewed for consistency with bylaws
- Provided information and assistance to individuals, businesses, organizations and committees
- Participated in cooperative efforts with agencies and organizations.

Proposed Work

A. MPO Meetings

Monthly business (MPO Policy Committee) and committee (MPO Transportation Citizens, Technical, and Advisory) meetings

B. Ad Hoc Committees

Periodic MPO ad hoc committee (TIP Subcommittee, Congestion Management, Active Transportation, and Transit) meetings

C. RPCGB Board, Committee and Annual Meetings

Attend RPCGB Board Meetings, Finance Meetings, Program Budget Meetings, and RPCGB Annual Meeting.

D. Financial Administration

- **Invoicing** - Prepare and submit monthly invoices to ALDOT and review the RPCGB monthly financial statement.
- **Audits** - Provide information to the RPCGB auditors and review the draft and final audit report.
- **Agreements** - Review agreements for consistency with bylaws.

E. Information and Technical Assistance

Provide information and assistance to individuals, businesses, organizations, and committees.

F. Coordination and Cooperation

Participate in cooperative efforts with agencies and organizations. Some activities for FY 2015 include meetings and committee participation with various local, regional, and state organizations.

Products

- A. Committee agendas, notices, resolutions, and minutes
- B. Invoices to ALDOT
- C. Staff services necessary to ensure certification of the transportation planning process

Staffing

Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham

Timeline for Proposed Work

None

Financial Responsibility

Total	<u>\$181,630</u>
PL (FHWA)	\$145,304
Local	\$36,326

1.2 Unified Planning Work Program

Objectives

To produce a document that outlines work and identifies the planning priorities and activities to be carried out within the Birmingham MPA.

Previous Work

- A UPWP, which identifies tasks and funding sources, was adopted by the Transportation Citizens Committee, Transportation Technical Committee, MPO Subcommittee, and MPO.
- Two Semi-Annual reports were produced for ALDOT review, noting the status of tasks and the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) participation.

Proposed Work

- A. Task Development - The UPWP activities are identified by using the planning emphasis areas for expenditure of planning (PL) funds and tasks programmed in the TIP. Priorities for funding are determined from the National Planning Goals and federal planning factors, the interests of the transportation committees, and the RPCGB Strategic Plan.
- B. Two semi-annual reports will be drafted, April 2015 and October 2015, noting the status of tasks and the DBE participation. Staff will complete the reports and submit to ALDOT for review.
- C. Prepare a Draft and Final FY2016 UPWP

Products

- A. Draft and Final UPWP for FY 2016
- B. Semi-annual reports, with DBE participation

Staffing

Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham

Timeline for Proposed Work

- FY 2015 UPWP - June 2014
- FY 2015 Semi-annual reports, with DBE participation - April and October 2015
- Draft and Final FY2016 UPWP, Summer 2015

Financial Responsibility

Total	\$15,000
PL (FHWA)	\$12,000
Local	\$3,000

1.3 Capital and Operating Purchases

Objectives

To maintain, upgrade, and purchase software and hardware for the purpose of gathering information, simplifying tasks, and articulating data to support transportation planning functions.

Previous Work

Purchased demographic information.

Proposed Work

Software purchases, including license/maintenance fees and upgrades, are regularly made for geographic information systems, surveys, databases and spreadsheets, graphics, and operating systems. Capital purchases to include servers, personal computers and peripherals, and hardware/software for field data collection.

As outlined in the “Agreement for Administering U.S. Department of Transportation Financial Assistance for Financial Assistance for Transportation Planning between the State of Alabama and the Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham,” Article 21 states, in part, “All purchases over \$1,500 must be approved by the State, in advance, in writing, to be eligible for reimbursement.” Further, ALDOT requires anticipated purchases in excess of \$5,000 to have a line item entry in the UPWP.

The following capital and operating equipment is programmed:

Product	Cost	UPWP Task	Purpose
ArcEditor CU/SU	\$7,500	2.3	Desktop software licenses for GIS analysis and mapping.
ArcView CU	\$2,200	2.3	Desktop software licenses for GIS analysis and mapping.
ArcView SU	\$700	2.3	Desktop software licenses for GIS analysis and mapping.
Spatial Analyst	\$500	2.3	Desktop extension license for GIS analysis.
Network Analyst	\$500	2.3	Desktop extension license for GIS analysis.
3D Analyst	\$500	2.3	Desktop extension license for GIS analysis.
ArcServer Enterprise Basic	\$3,400	2.3	GIS server software application.
RLM Map Publisher	\$549	2.2	Desktop extension license for GIS map production.
ArcGIS Online	\$2,500	2.3	GIS subscription service for cloud-based map publishing.
ESRI Community Analyst	\$3,995	2.3	GIS subscription service for data profiles and analysis.
CommunityViz	\$1,700	2.2	Desktop software license for GIS data analysis and modeling.
Southern Exposure Information	\$1,050	2.2	Construction Permits and Housing Market Data for socioeconomic and economic forecasting/analysis.
Adobe Cloud	\$3,500	2.2	Software subscription for online map publishing and document production.
InfoGroup	\$7,000	2.1	Employment data purchase for GIS analysis.
Geolytics	\$1,000	2.1	Demographic and socioeconomic data purchase for GIS analysis.
Woods and Poole	\$395	2.2	Demographic and socioeconomic data purchase for analysis and forecasting.
Economic analysis tool subscription	\$8,000	2.2	Economic analysis tool subscription for industry specific analysis and forecasting.

Product	Cost	UPWP Task	Purpose
LRS Data Acquisitions	\$2,500	2.2	Transportation data purchases for LRS event table production, GIS analysis, and model forecasting.
Responseware Seat License	\$4,900	3.0	Software licensing and technical support for online public engagement
Coop Backup Appliance	\$26,000	1.5	Backup appliance for data backup for GIS/Transportation/Planning data.
iSCSI/NAS Storage Appliance	\$8,000	2.3	Storage for GIS Planning/Modeling Data
TOTAL ANNUAL COSTS	\$86,389		

Products

- A. Software and upgrades
- B. Hardware and servers
- C. License and maintenance fees

Staffing

Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham

Timeline for Proposed Work

None

Financial Responsibility

Total	<u>\$107,986</u>
PL (FHWA)	\$86,389
Local	\$21,597

1.4 Education and Training

Objectives

To develop and maintain technical proficiency of staff in order to enable proper guidance and development of the planning process.

Previous Work

Staff members attended, made presentations at, hosted, and assisted with organization of workshops, conferences, and trainings. Subscribed to and read relevant professional publications.

Proposed Work

Attend, make presentations, host, and/or assist with organization of workshops, conferences, and trainings. Subscribe to and read relevant professional publications.

Products

- A. Knowledgeable staff
- B. Workshops, conferences, and trainings to include:
 - Annual Transportation/Planning Conference
 - Bi-monthly (6 total) Brown Bag Lunch and Learn Seminars
 - Quarterly training for Elected Officials, Municipal staff, and Consultants

Staffing

Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham

Timeline for Proposed Work

None

Financial Responsibility

Total	\$43,750
PL (FHWA)	\$35,000
Local	\$8,750

1.5 Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP)

Objectives

To maintain and update the COOP for the Birmingham MPA, which will allow for rapid recovery from a disaster to resume the transportation planning process.

Previous Work

Tested data implementation of COOP and found issues in activation. Proposed changes for system to be enacted in 1st quarter of FY2015.

Proposed Work

- A. Implement COOP activities, including procedures, activation, alternate operations, reconstitution and termination, and information technology.
- B. Upgrade software and data capacity of the COOP system in final quarter of FY2015.

Products

- A. COOP implementation activities
- B. COOP training and exercises
- C. Upgrade software and data capacity of the COOP system

Staffing

Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham

Timeline for Proposed Work

None

Financial Responsibility

Total	<u>\$6,250</u>
PL (FHWA)	\$5,000
Local	\$1,250

TASK 2.0: PLANNING INFORMATION

2.1 Data Collection and Management

Objective

To collect, create, and maintain data in support of local and regional transportation and community planning projects.

Previous Work

The RPCGB has maintained its subscription of demographic and socioeconomic datasets from ESRI and has acquired data from vendors such as Woods and Poole Economics, InfoGroup, Geolytics, and Southern Exposure to support planning efforts. Development trends have continued to be monitored, and additional/updated data sets have been collected or created for use in planning objectives. A regional trends report has been published. Area profile reports and comparison reports are generated on a regular basis upon request and in support of local planning initiatives.

RPCGB continues to expand its GIS resources. Through the sustained production and maintenance of demographic, socioeconomic and transportation data, RPCGB has advanced its GIS library and has added cloud-based mapping functionality and the development of a linear referencing system (LRS) to its GIS resources. Mobile GIS resources have additionally been utilized.

Proposed Work

The RPCGB will purchase data from vendors such as ESRI, InfoGroup, Geolytics, Southern Exposure, Woods and Poole Economics, Multiple Listing Service, and other supplemental data services such as AirSage origin and destination data, HERE and/or Inrix (to support travel time data collection efforts for functionally classified non-National Highway System roadways). Reports generated will address demographic/ socioeconomic trends, county profiles, comparison reports, socioeconomic datasets, transportation system inventories, travel characteristics, and infographics. Additional data collection activities may include, but are not limited to: physical data collection, industry subscriptions, online data purchases, and data services.

The maintenance and expansion of event tables for use in the regional LRS is necessary to better manage and analyze transportation issues. The RPCGB will continue to collect and build transportation data to improve the capabilities of the LRS. Event tables specific to transit routes, the HERE (travel time and freight) datasets, the TIP, and functionally classified roadways will be incorporated into the LRS.

The RPCGB will endeavor to expand its web presence through the incorporation of cloud-based mapping functionalities with a GIS data portal. This web enhancement will provide spatial data to the public domain to better facilitate data sharing and decision making. In addition to the provision of maps, map services, spatial data and associated reports, this will create a single-source point for information to the public, elected officials and the development community.

The MPO will collect and maintain performance indicators, to include metrics to support the Federal Livability Principles, for use in benchmarking transportation system performance and informing the decision-making process to include project prioritization and project selection as directed by Congress with MAP-21 and regulated by the FHWA, and in support of other tasks within this document.

Products

- A. Spatial data expansion and maintenance
- B. The production of demographic, socioeconomic, and other planning-related data files.
- C. The production of regular regional reports that compare the selected data and regional development characteristics. These products will include demographic and socioeconomic regional trends, regional population and employment projections, county and local profiles, and both themed analytical data reports and maps.
- D. The collection of transportation statistics for incorporation into the LRS specific to transit, non-motorized travel, freight, incident management, travel times, the Regional Transportation Plan and the Transportation Improvement Program, and congestion management process to include transportation system management & operations (TSM&O), and regional thoroughfare plan.
- E. The expansion of the online map gallery to make selected thematic maps readily available for public use through the RPCGB website.
- F. The development of an online GIS data portal to incorporate the existing map gallery and to provide spatial data to the public domain.

Staffing

Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham

Timeline for Proposed Work

None

Financial Responsibility

Total	\$93,750
PL (FHWA)	\$75,000
Local	\$18,750

2.2 Data Analysis and Forecasting

Objectives

To collect, create, and maintain demographic and socioeconomic data that is used for the transportation demand model and other planning activities.

Previous Work

The RPCGB has continued to collect a variety of data such as Census, Economic, Natural Resources, Transportation, Transit, and related demographic and socioeconomic data for use within the overall local and regional planning environment.

The RPCGB developed and maintained a regional transportation demand model for the Birmingham MPA, which is a primary screening tool used to identify deficiencies in the future transportation system. The Cube Voyager (Avenue) modeling software was used for travel demand modeling and all other applicable processes, up to and including air quality conformity analysis in support of budget based estimate preparation using the MOVES2010a software. This protocol was used for all future regional and project-specific conformity analyses, to include annual updates and amendments of the 2035 Regional Transportation Plan and existing TIP required through development of the annual Air Quality Conformity Report, and draft and final 2040 Regional Transportation Plan documentation.

The development of base year and projected year population and employment datasets was performed for the region. This information was generated for the metropolitan planning area's traffic analysis zones (TAZ) to assist with evaluation of travel demand in the rural areas adjacent to the metropolitan planning area, freight zones, and other planning activities. Datasets were created at multiple levels of geography including TAZ, Block Group, Census Tract, Planning District and County levels. The data has been used in projects and publications including the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), the State of the Region Report, a Regional Trends Report and in support of other agency planning objectives.

Proposed Work

Proposed work includes the continued refinement and maintenance of population and employment datasets. Toward this effort, data may be purchased from selected vendors for use in the development of the forecasts, and may include, but not be limited to, such vendors as: ESRI, InfoGroup, Woods and Poole, Southern Exposure, Geolytics, and/or other appropriate economic and/or employment forecasting tools.

In support of the PEA – *Models of Regional Planning* (referenced on page 2), the proposed forecasting will consider data and projections outside the MPO boundaries. The RPCGB will also coordinate with appropriate agencies beyond the MPO boundaries in this effort.

Products

- A. Socioeconomic, demographic, and economic datasets (base year and forecast) by TAZ, planning district, census tract, county and region
- B. Regional Projections Report
- C. Special Reports
- D. Support of other agency reports and studies.

Staffing

Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham

Timeline for Proposed Work

None

Financial Responsibility

Total	\$43,750
PL (FHWA)	\$35,000
Local	\$8,750

2.3 Geographic Information Systems

Objectives

To provide detailed information to local, state, and federal agencies, as well as the public, regarding transportation facilities, transportation systems, and operational and asset condition data that supports agency project needs.

Previous Work

RPCGB has been successful in the continued utilization of its SDE catalog system as well as the deployment of cloud-based mapping services. The expansion, collection, creation, and maintenance of cataloged raster and vector datasets have improved agency GIS capabilities. County LiDAR and associated derivative GIS datasets have been acquired. RPCGB upgraded to ArcMap 10.1 and has remained current on maintenance. RPCGB also developed a number of cloud based map services specific to transportation planning and air quality, as well as supportive of general planning services. The RPCGB has also utilized mobile GIS technology with data collection and planning objectives.

Proposed Work

- A. The RPCGB will continue to develop and expand its GIS capabilities specific to the ESRI cloud-based map service platform and mobile application needs.
- B. The RPCGGB will continue to build its library of GIS datasets, to include parcel data and aerial imagery.
- C. Continued acquisition, development, and maintenance of GIS related data for use in the spatial analysis and visual display components of transportation and community planning projects. This data include both raster and vector datasets.
- D. The RPCGB will advance development of an online GIS data portal site to enable agency website visitors to query map data and other performance measures in order that they might visualize the Birmingham MPO's progress towards achieving planning goals and objectives. The MPO's goals are based on the Regional Transportation Plan, and are informed by federal and State guidance for performance measures to include the Federal Livability Principles.
- E. Additional training and/or GIS-related software or hardware, applications, extensions, or licenses may be acquired once evaluated and determined to be necessary and appropriate to fulfill project or staff expectations.
- F. Map Services

Products

- A. Map production, data analysis, and partnerships
- B. The continuation of data collection, development, and maintenance
- C. The continued expansion of the GIS system including the cloud-based platform environment
- D. The expansion of GIS capabilities through training, conferences, workshops, and product evaluations
- E. Local government planning assistance
- F. ESRI maintenance of the GIS system, map services and analysis tools (ESRI ArcMap, ArcGIS Online and ESRI Community Analyst)
- G. The identification and acquisition of additional GIS visualization and analytical tools such as ArcGlobe, ArcScene and/or CityEngine.

Staffing

Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham

Timeline for Proposed Work

None

Financial Responsibility

Total	\$52,500
PL (FHWA)	\$42,000
Local	\$10,500

2.4 Model Development Program

Objectives

To develop and maintain traffic models, air quality emission models, land use/indicator models, and economic analysis model for the transportation planning process.

Previous Work

Cube Voyager is the primary travel demand modeling software in use by the Birmingham MPO. It is used to analyze travel demands within the new Census 2010 Birmingham metropolitan planning area (MPA), network travel demand modeling and in support of air quality conformity estimate preparation using the Motor Vehicle Emission Simulator (MOVES2010b) software. The highway network expanded by including portions of Blount and St. Clair Counties based on the Census 2010. Within the Birmingham MPA, the both of Cube Voyager and MOVES2010b are used for the draft 2040 Regional Transportation Plan and Regional Air Quality Transportation Conformity Determination respectively.

In FY 2011, Cube Avenue was purchased and has been successfully tested for subarea traffic simulation. The Cube Avenue model was successfully expanded and applied at the regional level, enabling the Birmingham MPO to evaluate the specific impacts of projects at a larger geographic scale, as well as the ability to conduct before and after studies.

Proposed Work

The RPCGB will maintain the Cube Voyager and MOVES2010b for the short and long range transportation plans. In recognizing the changes affecting the Greater Birmingham region, and the changing needs of the metropolitan planning area as it relates to transportation planning, develop a complete modeling program. The model development program will address regional travel demands. It will also consider the interaction of land use and transportation, identifying and monitoring land use indicators for transportation.

Specific work tasks that will be conducted by the RPCGB include:

- A. Continue the development and maintenance of the regional travel demand model for the Birmingham metropolitan planning area as needed for 2040 RTP and TIP updates.
- B. Continue training of staff to utilize the best modeling practices.
- C. Utilization of the model in support of existing projects and scenario planning.
- D. Continue the development and maintenance of MOVES2010b. Update speed distributions from the travel demand model and local observations. Emissions factors will be developed in accordance with MOVES2010b to meet the requirements set forth in 40 CFR 51 and 93.
- E. Form a modeling technical working group to oversee the data collections, methodologies of data development, documentations and modeling practices.

Products

- A. Travel Demand Model
- B. MOVES Air Quality Model
- C. Area wide/System Performance Indicators
- D. Econometric Model

Staffing

Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham

Timeline for Proposed Work

None

Financial Responsibility

Total	\$81,250
PL (FHWA)	\$65,000
Local	\$16,250

TASK 3.0: PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Objectives

To maintain a process for providing citizens, affected public agencies, representatives of public transportation employees, freight shippers, providers of freight transportation services, private providers of transportation, representatives of users of public transportation, representatives of users of pedestrian walkways and bicycle transportation facilities, representatives of the disabled, elderly and other interested parties, and any other interested parties with sufficient opportunities to be involved in the transportation planning process.

Previous Work

The MPO website is maintained and updated with links to specific projects. Several public involvement meetings were conducted. A public involvement meeting was conducted for the Draft Public Participation Plan. The new PPP was adopted in April 2014 which included a plan for Limited English Proficiency. The Plan will be amended or updated as needed. An updated, reprinted Transportation Public Contact List was completed. Visualization and interactive exercises are used extensively with outreach activities. Social media is used to communicate with the public and online participation for ongoing planning activities is heavily encouraged. A Public Involvement meeting was held for Air Quality Conformity for the 2040 Regional Transportation Plan and Updated/Amended FY2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program.

The MPO facilitated, participated, and/or hosted several training opportunities, including the RPCGB Annual Conference, CommuteSmart workshops, APCA workshops, and other opportunities for education regarding bicycles and pedestrians.

The Title VI, Americans with Disabilities Act, and DBE policy continues to be posted on the MPO website. Regular reports were submitted to the ALDOT.

Proposed Work

A. Public Participation Activities

- MPO website redesign and updated links provided to project specific websites.
- MPO public participation database update and maintenance.
- Meetings and meeting announcements, including monthly committee meetings, public involvement meetings, project meetings, and community outreach, as needed.
- Newsletters published monthly by the RPCGB and project specific newsletters.
- Direct mailings, e-mail announcements, press releases, flyers, notices, and fact sheets.
- Setup and facilitate technical workshops. Costs to include but not limited to speakers, logistics, handouts, etc: \$10,000; Building Communities Conference, \$10,000
- Setup and facilitate/host “virtual” meetings, to include live, interactive online surveys.
- Comment forms and surveys.
- Birmingham MPO “MindMixer” site maintenance.
- Public Involvement meeting to be held for Air Quality Conformity for FY2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program

B. Title VI, Americans with Disabilities Act, and DBE

1. Documentation of minority representation.
2. Documentation of third-party DBE activities conducted for FHWA and FTA funded projects.

Products

- A. Documentation of public involvement meetings
- B. Project specific public involvement outreach activities and collateral materials
- C. Project specific public involvement documentation and reporting
- D. Title VI Report (provided with UPWP semi-annual report)
- E. DBE Report
- F. Transportation planning/project specific webpages
- G. MPO member training and education events/courses

Staffing

Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham

Timeline for Proposed Work

- Title VI Report –November 2014
- DBE Report – November 2014 and May 2015

Financial Responsibility

Total	<u>\$54,668</u>
PL (FHWA)	\$43,734
Local	\$10,934

TASK 4.0: ENVIRONMENTAL PROCESS PLANNING

4.1 Air Quality Planning

Objectives

To achieve and maintain compliance with national air quality standards in the Birmingham nonattainment area of Jefferson and Shelby Counties, to protect and improve public health, to minimize the economic impacts on existing businesses, and to support economic growth consistent with clean air goals.

Previous Work

Alabama Partners for Clean Air (APCA) have worked many outreach efforts throughout the year, particularly in the business and civic community. APCA continues to conducting voluntary emission testing, promotes idle-free zones and facilitates a Car Care program. A report documenting the program and funding activities of APCA for the period October 1, 2013 – September 30, 2014 was completed.

Proposed Work

The following activities will be conducted by the APCA, with assistance provided by the RPCGB:

- A. Public Outreach and Marketing educates the general public about air quality issues and the consequences that individual choices have on air quality.
- B. Employer and employee outreach to get major employers involved in air quality issues and encourages employees to travel to work by modes other than single-occupant vehicles.
- C. Science and Environmental Education teaches children about air pollution, its health impacts, and how it can be prevented.
- D. Clean Cities and Alternative Fuels program is to reduce emissions from fleet vehicles through the use of hybrid technology and alternative fuels. The Alabama Clean Fuels Coalition is lead partner.
- E. Voluntary Emissions Testing and Vehicle Repair provides a free emissions check for vehicle owners and encourages owners of high emitters to have their vehicles serviced.
- F. Program Administration includes managing all air quality contracts, processing invoices, monitoring performance and execution of contracts, and providing support to the APCA.

Note:

1. The Alabama Department of Transportation – Environmental Technical Services (ALDOT ETS) shall remain the sole arbiter of environmental issues on state and federal projects in Alabama, and must be consulted in all instances. ALDOT may seek consultation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) on certain matters and will seek federal approval on a project only when all issues have been addressed.
2. With the exception of certain duties and responsibilities extended to the Birmingham MPO in writing and specific to a particular project and/or a consultant representing an MPO for a specific project, all other actions are the province of ALDOT ETS.
3. Early or initial environmental coordination relating to a specific project with state and federal resource agencies shall only be carried out by the ALDOT ETS.

Products

Annual Report documenting contract performance of organizations, including emissions reductions for the previous fiscal year.

Staffing

Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham, direct contract labor and/or third-party contractors for activities, and organizations identified under Proposed Work.

Timeline for Proposed Work

Annual Report – April 2015

Financial Responsibility

Total	\$800,000
CMAQ (FHWA)	\$640,000
Local	\$160,000

4.2 Environmental Consultation Process

Objectives

To link the transportation planning and environmental assessment processes early in the project development phase. To inform the project development and NEPA processes with the results of the environmental consultation process. To establish inter-agency, cross-disciplinary communication and education To identify and pursue collaborative, cross-disciplinary environmental mitigation strategies and funding opportunities

Previous Work

- Collected a Brownfields database for the Voluntary Cleanup Program locations.
- Participated in the Brownfield Task Force.
- Consulted with federal and state resource agencies regarding the development and advancement of federal-aid, and state/locally funded transportation projects.

Proposed Work

- A. Environmental Mapping - continuous updates and refinements to the environmental maps.
- B. Environmental data collection to catalog and update information specific to:
 - Hazardous Waste Air Release
 - Superfund Sites
 - Toxic Release Inventory
 - Brownfields
- C. Continue to participate in and provide support to Brownfield planning efforts.
- D. Promote consistency between the RTP and state and local land use plans and plans for conservation and development.
- E. Outreach and Education Activities - Provide educational opportunities and training to state and municipal governments environmental planning topics.

Note:

1. The Alabama Department of Transportation – Environmental Technical Services (ALDOT ETS) shall remain the sole arbiter of environmental issues on state and federal projects in Alabama, and must be consulted in all instances. ALDOT may seek consultation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) on certain matters and will seek federal approval on a project only when all issues have been addressed.
2. With the exception of certain duties and responsibilities extended to the Birmingham MPO in writing and specific to a particular project and/or a consultant representing an MPO for a specific project, all other actions are the province of ALDOT ETS.
3. Early or initial environmental coordination relating to a specific project with state and federal resource agencies shall only be carried out by the ALDOT ETS.

Products

- A. Environmental Maps
- B. Outreach and Education Activities

Staffing

Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham, direct contract labor and/or third-party contractors for activities, and organizations identified under Proposed Work.

Timeline for Proposed Work

None

Financial Responsibility

Total	<u>\$18,750</u>
PL (FHWA)	\$15,000
Local	\$3,750

4.3 Advanced Planning, Programming and Logical Engineering (APPLE)

Objectives

To improve the quality and timelines of the overall project development process by:

1. Assisting local governments in determining project feasibility specific to both non-motorized and multimodal travel corridors in advance of entering into an expensive and extended project development process.
2. Assisting project sponsors in better articulating project scope and understanding both the planning considerations and potential costs.
3. Assisting the project development process by educating local governments about the ALDOT project development process.
4. Providing information to the Birmingham MPO in order to better manage uncertainties in program funding.

Previous Work

Completed and Ongoing APPLE Projects to Include:

1. City of Helena - Comprehensive Traffic Study (complete)
2. City of Hueytown- Intersection Relocation (complete)
3. City of Vestavia Hills - Cahaba Liberty Trail Project (complete)
4. Homewood Intersection and Corridor Traffic Operational Study (ongoing)
5. St. Clair County US 411 from CR 10 (Park Avenue) to Kerr Road (ongoing)

Proposed Work

The Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham will continue to assist local governments and small project sponsors in assessing a project's feasibility. The feasibility assessment will better inform the local governments and small project sponsors' decision-making process, and aid them in determining their level of commitment for advancing the project. The goals of the APPLE program will be accomplished in several ways, including:

- A. Funding consultant/contractor work activities that directly develop of APPLE reports
- B. Managing the feasibility assessment process for small municipalities/local governments
- C. Support consultant/contractor activities as related to the development of APPLE reports
- D. Educating project sponsors and contractors about the ALDOT project development process, to include education of the NEPA process

Note:

1. The Alabama Department of Transportation – Environmental Technical Services (ALDOT ETS) shall remain the sole arbiter of environmental issues on state and federal projects in Alabama, and must be consulted in all instances. ALDOT may seek consultation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) on certain matters and will seek federal approval on a project only when all issues have been addressed.
2. With the exception of certain duties and responsibilities extended to the Birmingham MPO in writing and specific to a particular project and/or a consultant representing an MPO for a specific project, all other actions are the province of ALDOT ETS.
3. Early or initial environmental coordination relating to a specific project with state and federal resource agencies shall only be carried out by the ALDOT ETS.

Products

- A. Project Specific Advanced Planning Reports
- B. Project Specific Owner's Manuals and Agreement/Decision History Summaries

- C. Project status Reports
- D. Project Development Educational Workshops and Seminars

Staffing

Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham, ALDOT, direct contract labor, and/or 3rd party contractors for activities, and organizations identified under Proposed Work.

Timeline for Proposed Work

None

Financial Responsibility

Total	<u>\$ 250,000</u>
STPBH (FHWA)	\$ 200,000
Local	\$ 50,000

4.4 Climate Change

Objectives

To develop Climate Change evaluation metrics. To evaluate the Regional Transportation Plan's impact on climate change. To evaluate planned and programmed transportation projects' impact on climate change. To provide guidance about regional strategies for air quality and congestion mitigation, as well as energy efficiency in order to reduce the Birmingham MPA's carbon footprint.

Previous Work

No work was performed in FY14. Previous work regarding climate change produced a report titled "Climate Change Considerations and On-Road Greenhouse Gas Emissions in the Birmingham Metropolitan Planning Area." This report was completed in FY 2011.

Proposed Work

The Birmingham MPO has reassessed its approach to climate change, and how it will incorporate climate change into the metropolitan planning process. As such, the Birmingham MPO has chosen to narrow its focus, and will address road infrastructure vulnerability. The RPCGB will conduct a Vulnerability and Risk Assessment of transportation infrastructure by performing a thorough inventory and analysis of current road culverts/road crossings and report on the current status and conditions of these assets. An element of this assessment will include the evaluation the impact of storm events and future climate change scenarios on the assets. The process for completing this project is to emulate, or follow, FHWA's current Vulnerability and Risk Assessment Conceptual Model and to utilize other studies that have taken place in the region in order to promote consistency of data.

Other climate change evaluation activities will consider:

- A. Update GHG inventory, and specifically the contribution of mobile source emissions.
- B. Evaluate and monitor mobile source energy consumption.
- C. Develop Climate Change Performance Measures - Establish GHG emission and mobile source energy consumption baseline measures.
- D. Integrate Performance Measures - Incorporate GHG and mobile source energy consumption measures into the MPO's transportation system performance metrics.
- E. Develop GHG and Energy Consumption Targets - Develop a recommended GHG emissions and mobile source energy consumption targets.
- F. Identify a menu of potential climate change adaptation strategies.

Products

- A. Vulnerability analysis of transportation infrastructure to climate change and weather hazards
- B. Baseline climate change performance measures

Staffing

Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham, direct contract labor and/or third-party contractors for activities, and organizations identified under Proposed Work.

Timeline for Proposed Work

None

Financial Responsibility

Total	\$3,125
PL (FHWA)	\$2,500
Local	\$ 625

TASK 5.0: TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS

5.1 Regional Transportation Plan

Objectives

To ensure that the MPO maintains a long range transportation plan for the Birmingham MPA that is:

1. Technically based on the latest available data for land use, demographics, and travel patterns.
2. Comprehensive in nature and supports the development of a multimodal transportation system.
3. Philosophically based on regional goals and values, and are informed by the Federal Planning Factors and Livability Principles
4. Financially based on predictable, reliable funding sources.

To ensure that the RTP promotes a performance based planning approach, is consistent with local comprehensive plans and goals, and supports federal Livability Principles for communities.

Previous Work

- Completed the 2040 RTP including the following functional plans and documents:
 1. State of the Region
 2. Active Transportation Plan
 3. Freight Plan
 4. Transit System Plan
 5. Thoroughfare Plan
 6. Transportation System Management & Operations Plan
 7. Financial Plan
 8. Executive Summary
- Public Involvement Activities and Collateral Materials
- Collected and analyzed data for use in the 2040 RTP.
- Procured consultant services to support the RTP development.
- Analyzed and proposed project and policy recommendations.

Proposed Work

- A. Amend the 2040 RTP Capacity Project List and Maps as appropriate to be consistent with the FY2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program.
- B. Continuation of data collection for use in RTP reports and analysis of proposed project and policy recommendations.
- C. Performance Measures – continue to develop and refine performance measures that will be consistent with the Federal Livability Principles and the Livability Indicators. Performance measures will also support the federal Planning Factors and other MPO directed indicators.

In support of the PEA – *Models of Regional Planning* (referenced on page 2), the continued development of the RTP will consider the transportation system outside the MPO boundaries. The RPCGB will also coordinate with appropriate agencies beyond the MPO boundaries in this effort.

Products

Amended 2040 RTP Capacity Project list and maps

Staffing

Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham, direct contract labor, and partner organizations for activities identified under Proposed Work; third-party contractors to support scenario planning, analytical tool development, and other supporting activities identified under the Proposed Work.

Timeline for Proposed Work

- Fall 2015

Financial Responsibility

Total	<u>\$227,549</u>
PL (FHWA)	\$182,039
Local	\$ 45,510

5.1.1 Air Quality Conformity Analysis and Reporting (RTP)

Objectives

To demonstrate that the Regional Transportation Plan and the funded projects and programs contained within it i.e. the Transportation Improvement Program conform to the approved regional air quality standards as determined by the State Implementation Plan which is prescribed by the Clean Air Act of 1990.

Previous Work:

- The RPCGB is heavily involved in working with the IAC to review proposals related to air quality and to recommend means to reduce emissions and congestion.
- Air quality model runs via MOVES2010b were conducted for the ground level ozone, annual PM2.5, and 24-hour PM2.5 standards.
- A public involvement meeting for modifications to air quality conformity report will be held by September 2014. Results will be documented.
- The Air Quality Conformity Determination Report for the 2040 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and the FY 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for Jefferson and Shelby Counties and a portion of Walker County in Alabama, was drafted and will be ready for approval of the Birmingham MPO by September 2014.

Proposed Work

- A. Continue the involvement and cooperation with IAC to monitoring the air quality for the Birmingham MPA.
- B. Continue the air quality conformity analysis and the air quality conformity determination reporting due to changes in the regulations governing air quality and transportation planning.
- C. Update input files of MOVES with local data collections when they become available. Complete the 2014 emission rate runs for Jefferson and Shelby Counties.
- D. A quantitative demonstration will be conducted for the geographic area designated as nonattainment to determine if motor vehicle emissions exceed the established budget. Also supports Climate Change (see Task 4.4 for details). Project schedule changes for existing highway capacity projects can result in adjusted air quality conformity years (open to traffic). Such adjustments require modifications to the transportation network and an air quality conformity determination. Proposed new highway capacity projects constituting a Plan amendment are subject to assignment to an air quality conformity year and a system level conformity determination.

Products

- A. An Air Quality Conformity analysis that demonstrate that total projected emissions are within the allowable limits and as needed based on modifications to the RTP. Air Quality Conformity Report due September 2015
- B. Emission Rate Datasets for Jefferson and Shelby Counties

Staffing

Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham

Timeline for Proposed Work

Air Quality Conformity Report for updated 2040 RTP/New TIP FY2016-2019, September 2015

Financial Responsibility

Total	<u>\$37,500</u>
PL (FHWA)	\$30,000
Local	\$ 7,500

5.1.2 Regional Transportation Plan Project Listings for Air Quality Conformity

Objectives

To amend the Regional Transportation Plan as necessitated by additions and deletions to the Regional Transportation Plan project and program listings, and modifications to existing project scopes of work and budgets.

Previous Work

Completed the draft capacity project listings for 2040 RTP and in process for approval.

Proposed Work

- A. Continue monitoring the project changes in the 2040 RTP. There are occasions when new highway capacity projects are requested to be added to the 2040 RTP/TIP or existing highway capacity project schedule changes crossing the conformity analysis years. These changes necessitate modifying the Regional Transportation Plan and are subject to assignment to an air quality conformity year and a system level conformity determination.
- B. In addition, project schedule changes for existing highway capacity projects within the Transportation Improvement Program also result in adjusted air quality conformity years (open to traffic). Such adjustments require modifications to the transportation network and an air quality conformity determination to ensure that emissions from transportation sources do not exceed established emissions budget for each conformity attainment year.
- C. In addition, proposed new highway capacity projects constituting a Plan amendment are subject to assignment to an air quality conformity year and a system level conformity determination.

Products

- A. Capacity Project listing tables
- B. Project maps
- C. Revised financial tables based on the Capacity Project listings

Staffing

Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham.

Timeline for Proposed Work

Updated capacity project listing table due to the new TIP FY 2016-2019, September 2015

Financial Responsibility

Total	\$37,500
PL (FHWA)	\$30,000
Local	\$ 7,500

5.2 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Objectives

To develop a list of federally funded transportation projects to be completed by the ALDOT, the BJCTA, local government(s), and other project sponsors. Monitor the Financial Constraint, the status of projects programmed (to include advancement) under the STPBH and the CMAQ and achievement of the Federal Livability Principles. Administer TIP amendment requests. To ensure that the Transportation Improvement Program is advancing the goals, objectives and priorities of the RTP.

Previous Work

- A. Completed an Amended FY2012-2015 TIP document in coordination with the 2040 RTP and Air Quality Conformity report
- B. Researched proposed TIP amendments and presented the amendments to the Transportation Committees and the MPO.
- C. Coordinated TIP amendments with ALDOT and project sponsors as needed.
- D. Discussed the status of STPBH and CMAQ projects with project sponsors.
- E. Developed an online interactive TIP map with project information for public use.
- F. Maintained TIP financial constraint.

Proposed Work

- A. Develop a FY2016-2019 TIP
- B. Coordinate TIP development with ALDOT and project sponsors
- C. TIP Amendments - the RPCGB will process TIP amendments as needed.
- D. Continue to maintain TIP financial constraint
- E. Annual Obligations Listing - the RPCGB will develop and public a list of obligated projects for the previous fiscal year.
- F. Continue to maintain status of CMAQ and STPBH projects.
- G. Update and refine online interactive TIP map.
- H. Livability Indicators - the RPCGB will prepare and present data within the TIP in accordance with the Livability Principles and Indicators guidelines.

Products

- A. FY2016-2019 TIP
- B. Annual Listing of Obligated Projects

Staffing

Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham

Timeline for Proposed Work

FY2016-2019 TIP - Fall 2015

Annual Obligations Listing – Fall 2015

Financial Responsibility

Total	\$150,000
PL (FHWA)	\$ 120,000
Local	\$ 30,000

5.2.1 Amend TIP Project Listings for Air Quality Conformity

Objectives

To amend the Transportation Improvement Plan both annually and as necessitated by additions and deletions to the Regional Transportation Plan project and program listings and modifications to existing project scopes of work and budgets.

Previous Work

Plan modifications and updates.

Proposed Work

- A. Continue annual summary reporting of emissions reductions to document reductions achieved through projects obligated with CMAQ funding.
- B. The Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham re-establishes Financial Constraint in the Transportation Improvement Program annually. In addition, there are occasions when new highway capacity projects are requested to be added to the Transportation Improvement Program. These additions necessitate modifying the Regional Transportation Plan and are subject to assignment to an air quality conformity year and a system level conformity determination. In short, the amendment to the Transportation Improvement Program constitutes a Plan Amendment.
- C. In addition, project schedule changes for existing highway capacity projects within the Transportation Improvement Program also result in adjusted air quality conformity years (open to traffic). Such adjustments require modifications to the transportation network and an air quality conformity determination to ensure that emissions from transportation sources do not exceed established emissions budget for each conformity attainment year.

Products

- A. Project listing tables
- B. Project location maps
- C. Annual obligated project emissions report for FHWA that documents total emissions achieved for projects funded with CMAQ program

Staffing

Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham.

Timeline for Proposed Work

- Project listing tables - September 2015
- Project maps – September 2015
- Annual CMAQ obligated project emissions report – February 2015

Financial Responsibility

Total	\$25,000
PL (FHWA)	\$20,000
Local	\$ 5,000

5.3 Thoroughfare Planning

Objectives

To develop and maintain a map that articulates the vision for the region's ultimate build-out of major roadway network, defining roadway functional classification, and relationship to the public transportation system and the non-motorized transportation network.

To provide a basis for roadway designs that address multimodal mobility and congestion management to include non-motorized transportation, and public transportation, access management, and innovative intersections.

To provide a physical framework on which to monitor and analyze transportation system performance and to identify opportunities to coordinate roadway development with transportation system management and operations strategies.

To provide guidance to local governments for developing community focused, long-range transportation plans that identify the location and type of roadway facilities that are needed to meet projected long-term growth and development needs, enabling them to preserve future corridors for transportation system development and appropriately sized transportation facilities as the need arises.

Previous Work

- Development of a Linear Reference System
- Local Thoroughfare Plan Development Guide
- Regional Thoroughfare Plan Map
- Roadway Functional Classification Map (updated)

Proposed Work

- Maintenance of roadway functional classification
- Regional Thoroughfare Plan update
- Update Local Thoroughfare Plan Development Guide
- Establish thoroughfare monitoring metrics to include baselines
- Incorporate with Transportation System Management and Operations Strategies

Products

- A. Regional Thoroughfare Plan
- B. Regional Thoroughfare Plan Map
- C. Performance Measures
- D. Local Development Guide

Staffing

Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham, direct contract labor and/or third-party contractors for activities, and organizations identified under Proposed Work.

Timeline for Proposed Work

Performance Measures – Winter 2014

Regional Thoroughfare Plan Update to include Map - Fall 2015

Local Development Guide - Fall 2015

Financial Responsibility

Total	<u>\$6,250</u>
PL (FHWA)	\$5,000
Local	\$1,250

5.4 Public Transportation Planning

Objectives

To promote a regional public transportation system by working with existing and potential public transportation providers on evaluating multi-modal needs, deficiencies, and opportunities.

To assist with existing and potential public transportation services through planning, service delivery, and long term financing strategies.

As previously described, FHWA distributed a memorandum to State DOT's to encourage MPO's to identify tasks associated with Planning Emphasis Areas (PEAs). One of the PEAs is titled - *Ladders of Opportunity* – which is defined as: access to essential services – as part of the transportation planning process, identify transportation connectivity gaps in access to essential services. The work defined in this task not only supports this PEA, but is also the primary focus of these efforts.

Previous Work

- Assisted the Birmingham-Jefferson County Transit Authority (BJCTA) in assessing local bus routes
- Collected ridership data, to include boarding and alighting information
- Produced reports.
- Developed maps and other analytical tools.
- Evaluated and designed new service/routes specific to downtown activity centers.
- Assisted BJCTA with analyzing route performance.
- Performed transit corridor studies.
- Coordinated meetings between BJCTA and the Federal Transit Administration
- Participate in monthly meetings with the BJCTA
- Updated transit section of the long range transportation plan

Proposed Work

A. Technical Assistance

RPCGB will provide technical assistance to transportation providers, including assistance with data collection and analysis; identifying and evaluating local bus and paratransit needs, assisting with coordination of elderly and disabled transit services and programs, and coordinating and developing a long range transit plan. Specific work will be provided for the following:

1. Assist in the assessment and recommendations of service provision, routing, funding opportunities, and structure.
2. Provide maps as needed.
3. Other technical assistance efforts will include:
 - Study initiatives to close gaps and enhance service
 - Promote transit oriented developments, districts and corridors
 - Assess opportunities for alternate transit services and modes

B. Coordination

RPCGB will coordinate with intercity rail planning efforts by the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs' (ADECA) Passenger Rail Division, as they investigate rail service feasibility, and in particular, high speed rail modal alternatives.

The RPCGB will continue to work with the City of Birmingham and the BJCTA on the Intermodal Transportation Center project, including streetscape, lighting, and connectivity.

C. Regional Express Bus Service Plan

1. Identify routes, operating hours, headways, and service standards.
2. Develop long-term financial plan.
3. Develop capital purchasing plan.
4. Update regional Park and Ride Plan.

D. Maintain Regional Human Service Coordination Plan

E. Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities (FTA §5310)

RPCGB will provide administrative and technical services necessary to implement and carry out this grant program, including invitations, review, and approval of projects, and ensuring inclusion of approved projects in the TIP.

Products

- A. Maintain and Update Human Services Coordinated Transportation Plan
- B. Transit Data Collection
- C. Route and System Maps (as requested)

Staffing

Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham, other transit providers, contract labor and/or third-party contractors.

Timeline for Proposed Work

- §5310 Call for Projects – July 2015

Financial Responsibility

Total	<u>\$50,000</u>
PL FHWA & FTA 5303	\$40,000
Local	\$10,000

5.5 Active Transportation Planning

Objectives

To support regional connectivity and active transportation networks utilizing multimodal streets, greenways, parks, and other public greenspace by establishing short-term and long-term implementation strategies that address the federal Livability Principles.

Previous Work

- Produced Active Transportation Plan.
- Facilitated multiple meetings with the MPO's Active Transportation Advisory Committee.
- Hosted Bike-to-Work Day and Walk-to-School Day activities.
- Worked with Active Transportation Committee on strategies to accomplish regional goals.
- Facilitated or helped to facilitate several workshops/conferences, such as Building Communities, Complete Streets, Safe Routes To School (SRTS), and local projects.
- Coordinated with Fresh Water Land Trust to implement Red Rock Ridge and Valley Plan.
- Participated in State-wide trails conference.

Proposed Work

- A. General Bicycle/Pedestrian Planning - respond to requests from Birmingham MPO member government for assistance in planning bicycle and pedestrian facilities.
- B. Facilitate the Birmingham MPO's Active Transportation (formerly Bike/Ped) Advisory Committee as needed.
- C. Implement Active Transportation Plan – begin promotion and implementation of the Birmingham Regional Active Transportation Plan, to include data collection (bike/ped traffic counting) and direct actions to incent/advance transportation infrastructure development e.g. pop-up infrastructure, and strategies to incorporate the federal Livability Principles. Continue to work on a needs assessment of the region and prioritize projects as able to provide connectivity to other networks.
- D. Support Implementation of Red Rock Ridge and Valley Plan – support and assist with the development and implementation of the Red Rock Ridge and Valley Plan, the bicycle, pedestrian, and greenways master plan for Jefferson County.
- E. Safe Routes to School Assistance – support and assist local efforts associated with the Safe Routes to School Program. Continue to implement data collection strategies and use the information to help make the case for additional schools to participate in the program. Work on adding more participating schools to the program.
- F. Local Planning Assistance - Coordinate with non-profit and advocacy bicycle, hiking, pedestrian and public transit groups in order to provide assistance with planning and development of greenways and/or trails, on-street bike and sidewalk facilities and transit facilities. MPO staff will provide planning and project development assistance to local project sponsors. This includes project scoping and funding development assistance to communities working to develop their segments of the Red Rock Ridge and Valley Plan and/or the Alabama Department of Transportation's statewide trail plan. Birmingham MPO staff will also provide assistance as time allows to local trail initiatives that are located in the Birmingham metropolitan planning area.
- G. Education and Outreach Activities - Assist local governments and other stakeholders with planning, funding, and implementing bikeways, walkways, and other non-motorized transportation projects. This includes support for ongoing programmatic activities associated with improving non-motorized transportation on a regional level are important, assistance with coordinating regional events for Bike/Walk to Work Day and coordinate and providing support to CommuteSmart Birmingham. Activities include:

- Share the Road outreach campaign and sign placement program
- Regional Bicycle Route Map and interactive website/webpage development

Products

- A. Active Transportation Plan Implementation
- B. Bike/ped traffic counting program
- C. Project scoping assistance
- D. Documentation of annual Bike/Walk to Work Day events
- E. Documentation of participation in regional trails initiatives
- F. Documentation of assistance to local communities
- G. Education events, workshops, outreach, and webpage development

Staffing

Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham, direct contract labor and/or third-party contractors for activities, and organizations identified under Proposed Work.

Timeline for Proposed Work

None

Financial Responsibility

Total	<u>\$37,500</u>
FHWA PL	\$30,000
Local	\$7,500

5.6 Logistics Systems Planning

Objectives

To develop a regional intermodal goods movement transportation strategy that will identify improvement for freight movements and address the federal Livability Principles.

Previous Work

- Freight system data collection and performance measures
- Freight related employment and economic activity mapping
- Stakeholder outreach
- Meetings with I-20 corridor partners
- Freight element of Long Range Transportation Plan

Proposed Work

A. Freight System Data Collection and Performance Measures

(see Task 2.1 – Data Collection and Management)

B. Regional Truck Route Mapping

(see Task 5.3 - 1 Thoroughfare Planning)

C. Stakeholder Outreach

Stakeholders will be engaged in order to assess needs and continue established dialogue.

D. Freight Outlook Plan

The RPCGB will expand on the freight portion of the LRTP, and begin measuring the freight system performance with indicators identified in that document. The plan will address all freight modes including motor carrier, air, barge and rail as well as the intermodal movement between them.

E. Interstate 20 / Interstate 22 Freight Corridor Strategy

Continue developing the I-20 Freight Corridor Strategy to assist the RPCGB's understanding of freight movement along the corridor in order that cross-regional strategies might be developed and advanced. Expand the corridor to include I-22 to Memphis. The strategy will engage other regional councils of government, to include their respective metropolitan and rural planning organizations, as well as freight movers, businesses, and other stakeholders to establish an ongoing dialogue about how both public and private resources might be leveraged in order to improve goods movement and enhance economic opportunities. Ideally, strategy also will inform the State Freight Plan and the goods movement strategies of neighboring regional councils of governments and industry concerns.

F. Interstate 65 Freight Corridor Strategy

Develop an I 65 Corridor strategy to assist with RPCGB's understanding of freight movement along the corridor that leads from the Port of Mobile into America's heartland. The strategy will engage other regional councils of government, to include their respective metropolitan and rural planning organizations. It will identify freight movers, businesses, and other stakeholders to establish an ongoing dialogue about how both public and private resources might be leveraged in order to improve goods movement and enhance economic opportunities. This activity will lay the groundwork for a strategy to inform local, regional and state plans and goods movement strategies among the corridor partner.

Products

- A. Freight Data Collection
- B. Regional Truck Route Map

- C. Stakeholder Outreach
- D. Expanded Freight Outlook Plan
- E. I-20/I-22 Freight Corridor Strategy
- F. I-65 Corridor Engagement

Staffing

Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham, direct contract labor and/or third-party contractors for activities, and organizations identified under Proposed Work.

Timeline for Proposed Work

- Expanded Freight Outlook Plan - Winter 2014/2015
- I-20/I22 Freight Corridor Strategy - Summer 2015
- I-65 Corridor Engagement – Fall/Winter 2014

Financial Responsibility

Total	<u>\$87,500</u>
PL (FHWA)	\$70,000
Local	\$ 17,500

5.7 Transportation System Performance Management and Monitoring

Objectives

To identify and/or develop appropriate measures to monitor the performance of the transportation system in accordance to the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) goals and objectives, the Congestion Management Process (CMP), Federal and State performance targets, and supporting/complementary planning functions i.e. economic development, land use, etc.

To provide sufficient information to inform the transportation decision making process, to include project prioritization and selection.

To develop and maintain an inventory of transportation system infrastructure and services in order to inform asset and performance management systems.

Previous Work

The RPCGB continues to collect and inventory a variety of transportation related data. Previous work includes:

- Congestion Management Process Committee Coordination
- Regional Transportation System Management and Operations (TSM&O) Strategy
- Regional Thoroughfare Plan
- Regional Transportation Data Clearinghouse (UAB Transportation Data Center)
- Bi-annual congestion report

Proposed Work

Proposed work for Federal Fiscal Year 2015 (FFY2015) includes:

Congestion Management Process Update

The Congestion Management Process (CMP) enables the Birmingham metropolitan planning area to comply with federal regulations for transportation management areas having populations of 200,000 or more. It empowers the RPCGB, acting as the Birmingham MPO, to identify and/or develop performance metrics on which to monitoring and compare congested conditions year over year. The information gathered is also used to inform the transportation decision-making process, in particular providing a framework within which the Birmingham MPO can come together to discuss and evaluate merits of applying federal transportation funds to roadway capacity projects. The CMP is intended to be updated every 4 years in advance of the development of the metropolitan transportation plan in order that it might inform this plan's development. However, the Birmingham CMP has not been updated since 2008, and does include Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21) provisions. It is envisioned that the CMP update will be all encompassing, and include the following elements:

- A. CMP Administration** - The CMP update is two-years overdue and there are several components that need to be included as they were either previously omitted or not required at the time. This would include: modification and/or clarification of the CMP administrative process. It is envisioned that as part of administering the CMP, that written documentation of how the CMP might be applied to the Birmingham metropolitan planning area will developed and provided as guidance for the Birmingham MPO. The CMP update also will expand the congestion monitoring network. Finally, the CMP will provide written guidance for project prioritization and selection, incorporating TSM&O considerations, congestion measures, and other performance metrics into the overall process.
- B. Transportation System Management and Operation (Phase 2)** - In 2014, as part of the Birmingham 2040 Regional Transportation Plan update, the RPCGB completed Phase 1 of a Transportation System Management and Operations (TSM&O) strategy. Phase 2 will provide a program description

and prioritize corridors within which to apply a Regional Transportation Operations Program (RTOP). Building off of the success of the Birmingham MPO regional signal retiming corridor project and the lessons learned from the U.S. 280 Corridor Management, RTOP is envisioned to be a multi-jurisdictional, corridor management program that will address signal timing, signal maintenance, traveler information, and incident management with the goal of improving traffic flow and reducing vehicle emissions. TSM&O Phase 2 also will identify strategies to implement other recommendations from TSM&O Phase 1. TSM&O Phase 2 will be coordinated through the Congestion Management Process, and be provided oversight by the CMP's Committee.

- C. Transportation System Performance Monitoring and Reporting** - Building off of previous work and following the guidance of the U.S. Department of Transportation as it relates to the implementation of MAP-21, the Birmingham MPO will identify a series of performance measures to address MAP-21 and State DOT performance criteria, the regional transportation plan goals and objectives, Federal Livability Principles, and mode specific metrics e.g. public transportation, non-motorized transportation, freight, etc. The work in this task will support, and is supported by the work identified in Task 2.0, Planning Information, as well as the work identified in Task 5.3, Thoroughfare Planning. Performance metrics will be presented in a variety of formats to include online presentation of information and written reports.
- D. Regional Transportation Data Clearinghouse Modification/Expansion** - Building upon the relationship that has been established between the Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham and the University of Alabama at Birmingham, the Birmingham MPO will make modifications to the existing Regional Transportation Data Clearinghouse. Where feasible, the Data Clearinghouse will be expanded to incorporate transportation research. The Transportation Data Clearinghouse will provide efficient access to a comprehensive data sets that contain current and historic information on the land development characteristics, as well as the character and performance of the region's transportation system. As its name suggests, data will be made available to the ALDOT, the region's transportation agencies, local governments, RPCGB and Birmingham MPO stakeholders, and the general public. Key tasks and/or programmatic activities to be included within the Regional Transportation Clearinghouse function include:
- 1. Traffic Count Program** - obtain traffic count data (including turning movement counts) as may be required for monitoring the transportation system, and to support program and project studies (to be determined).
 - 2. Origin/Destination Snapshot** In conjunction with a UAB research project to conduct a household travel survey, the Birmingham MPO will develop a snapshot of household trip origins and destinations in order to supplement the regional travel demand model and to develop both regional and sub-area specific profiles of household trip making characteristics.
 - 3. Transit Data Collection Program** obtain and maintain transit networks within the RPCGB's GIS and travel demand mode; obtain transit ridership data to include boarding and alighting information, trip making matrices, transit user characteristics.
 - 4. Freight System Data Collection Program** – Collect freight system data utilizing both publicly available and privately held data. This will include developing an inventory of freight trip generators and attractors.
 - 5. Trail Count Program** - conduct bicycle and pedestrian counts along both regional and local off-road trails and on-street bicycle facilities. Counts will be collected using infrared and magnetic counters. Data will be downloaded, tabulated and assessed in order to evaluate usage and demand characteristics.

Products

- A. Congestion Management Process Update
- B. Performance Metrics
- C. Regional Transportation Data Clearinghouse Modifications

Staffing

Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham, direct contract labor and/or third-party contractors for activities and organizations identified under Proposed Work.

Timeline for Proposed Work

- A. Congestion Management Process Update
 - Administrative Guidance Document - Winter 2014
 - TSM&O Phase 2 Implementation Program - Spring 2015
- B. Performance Metric Identification and Reporting
 - Metric Identification - Spring 2015
 - Reporting - Fall 2015
- C. Regional Transportation Data Clearinghouse Modifications
 - Clearinghouse Structure/Modifications - Fall 2014
 - Data Collection Plan - Fall 2014
 - Programmatic/Mode Specific Data Collection - Beginning Spring 2015

Financial Responsibility

Total	\$268,750
PL (FHWA)	\$15,000
STPBH	\$200,000
Local	\$53,750

5.8 Transportation Safety and Security Planning

Objectives

To incorporate transportation safety into the planning process and improve transportation safety in the community. To provide support and coordination for the transportation sector's role in overall regional emergency preparedness planning. MAP-21 requires metropolitan planning to increase the safety of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users. These and other factors, along with heightened awareness of the safety problem, have demonstrated the need for the regional transportation safety planning program.

MAP-21 also requires that the metropolitan planning process address the security of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users. Transportation security addresses a much larger regional emergency preparedness planning program primarily funded outside the UPWP by U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Transportation security considerations often include specialized needs for transportation sector involvement in Homeland Security-directed preparedness activities.

Previous Work

- A. Reviewed safety data, analyzed and documented in the safety section of the 2040 RTP
- B. Reviewed CARE data and identified improvements to data to assist with planning effort
- C. Reviewed CARE data and identified improvements to data to assist with planning efforts
- D. Coordinated MPO safety planning efforts with ALDOT
- E. Participated in Safety Planning Workshop with Cambridge Systematics and UAH in Huntsville

Proposed Work

- A. Continue to coordinated safety planning efforts with ALDOT
- B. Work with municipal stakeholders to determine the Birmingham MPO's roles (if any) in declared emergencies and catastrophes – Region 1 Emergency Planning Team.
- C. Participate in Region 1 Emergency Planning Team activities and work with RESF-1 (Transportation) and RESF-3 (Public Works) on SWOT (strength, weaknesses, opportunities, threats) assessments, resource typing, and project needs.
- D. Support pedestrian and bicycle safety outreach campaigns, to include Public Service Announcements to educate non-motorists and motorists about behaviors impacting traveler safety
- E. Monitor the federal rulemaking on performance measures for safety.
- F. Continue to support the Jefferson State College transportation safety education programs.

Products

- A. Continue to participate in ALDOT's Safety Planning project

Staffing

Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham

Timeline for Proposed Work

None

Financial Responsibility

Total	\$25,000
PL (FHWA)	\$20,000
Local	\$ 5,000

5.9 Technical Assistance for Local Communities and Agencies

Objectives

To provide technical assistance, and/or support to local entities (governmental and non-governmental), and the general public for any planning related issues and requests that are either too small in scope or too short-lived to rise to the level of requiring a formal scope and budget.

To account for staff time spent addressing technical assistance and support requests as described above may include:

- Staff time to participate in technical review committees and task forces
- Developing monthly progress and budgetary reports
- Technical quality control
- Data/document request fulfillment

Previous Work

- A. Meeting attendance
- B. Assistance to local governments
- C. Data mining and report processing
- D. Document printing and delivery
- E. Printing maps
- F. Meeting facilitation/organization

Proposed Work

The Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham will assist local governments, small project sponsors, and non-governmental organizations by providing general planning support and technical assistance on an as-requested basis, and when financially and technically feasible. This includes:

- A. Attending City Council, local Planning Commission, neighborhood association, and other community and/or organizational meetings as requested
- B. Providing comments/input to reports, correspondence, and discussions on transportation related topics on specific transportation issues or items
- C. Mapping assistance
- D. Data assistance

Products

- A. Assistance with project management and implementation as necessary
- B. Analyses and planning assistance as requested
- C. Reports and memoranda related to local assistance as required.
- D. Attendance at meetings as requested.
- E. Attendance, if available, at workshops, conferences and training to improve efficiency and skills under this work program task

Staffing

Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham

Timeline for Proposed Work

None

Financial Responsibility

Total	<u>\$37,500</u>
PL	\$30,000
Local	\$ 7,500

TASK 6.0: PROGRAMS and TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

6.1 CommuteSmart Program (Rideshare)

Objectives

To reduce reliance on the single-occupant automobile through programs that result in air emissions reductions and continue to address the federal Livability Principles.

Previous Work

Ongoing activities have been conducted for employer-based outreach programs, vanpool operations services, and park-and-ride lot development. An annual report documenting accomplishments was prepared and printed.

Proposed Work

- A. Outreach and Marketing Activities - Designed to increase the number of employers who encourage use of commuting alternatives and the number of participants in the program.
- B. Turn-Key Vanpool Operations Services
- C. Park and Ride - Increase number of locations for park and ride, install directional signs on roadways, and increase marketing efforts.
- D. Work on steps to implement and promote a bikeshare in downtown Birmingham.

Products

- A. Document emissions reduction estimates – February 2015
- B. Outreach and marketing of vanpool and rideshare programs
- C. Outreach and marketing of park and ride program
- D. Annual Report – February 2015

Staffing

Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham, direct contract labor and/or third-party contractors for activities, and organizations identified under Proposed Work, Enterprise Leasing Company, South Central LLC \$400,000, marketing, media \$150,000 and Third Party Contract \$65,000.

Timeline for Proposed Work

- Document emissions reduction estimates – February 2015
- Annual Report – February 2015

Financial Responsibility

Total	<u>\$1,200,000</u>
STPBH (FHWA)	\$1,200,000
Local	\$0

6.2 Building Communities Program

Objectives

To provide grants to local communities within the Birmingham MPA for projects, strategies, and services that support the Scope of the Planning Factors and meet the federal Livability Principles, including transportation and land use integration, economic vitality, safety and security, accessibility and mobility, environmental/air quality, and system preservation.

Previous Work

- City of Gardendale - Comprehensive Plan
- City of Vestavia Hills - U.S. 31 Form Based Code
- City of Homewood - West Homewood Form-Based Code
- City of Birmingham - Framework Plans
 1. North Birmingham Community Framework Plan
 2. Titusville Community Framework Plan
 3. Western Area Framework Plan

Proposed Work

A negotiated process between the RPCGB and MPO governments is used to develop Building Communities projects consistent with eligible transportation and land use activities. Land use and transportation needs are identified, a determination is made for consistency with Building Communities' goals, a project scope of work and budget are developed, and a cost sharing agreement is made. The MPO will document projects in the semi-annual report.

Projects currently in progress in FY 2014 and scheduled to be completed in FY 2015 include:

- Shelby County Columbiana rails- to-trails conversion study
- City of Birmingham
 1. North Birmingham Community Framework Plan
 2. Titusville Community Framework Plan
 3. Western Area Community Framework Plan

Projects currently being negotiated in FY 2014 to begin in FY 2015 and be completed during FY2016:

- City of Birmingham
 1. Pratt/Ensley Community Framework Plan
 2. Eastern Crescent Community Framework Plan
 3. Form Based Code
 4. Comprehensive Transportation Plan
- City of Alabaster - Comprehensive Plan Update
- City of Bessemer - Downtown Redevelopment Plan
- City of Vestavia Hills - Cahaba Village Plan Update

Products

Plans and programs suitable for implementation

Staffing

Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham, direct contract labor and/or third-party contractors for activities, and organizations identified under Proposed Work

Timeline for Proposed Work

None

Financial Responsibility

Total	<u>\$625,000</u>
STPBH (FHWA)	\$500,000
Local	\$125,000

TASK 7.0: CORRIDOR PLANNING and SPECIAL PROJECTS

7.1 U.S. 11 East /U.S. 78 East Corridor Alternatives Analysis

Objectives

Provide transportation alternatives to improve travel in the U.S. 11/U.S. 78 East corridor and addresses federal Livability Principles.

Previous Work

- Transit Alternatives Analysis and Transit Service Plans
- Building Communities Project - City of Leeds Master Plan
- US11 Southwest Corridor Alternatives Analysis

Proposed Work

Work activities will consider alternatives that augment, support, and complement existing transit services, non-motorized travel, and roadway operations and management. The study will also provide land development/redevelopment scenarios for the corridor. Specific activities include:

- A. Public engagement and stakeholder outreach to receive input regarding needs, scenario development, and improvements.
- B. Data collection and analysis.
- C. Identification of alternatives.
- D. Corridor-wide land use and multi-modal transportation vision, alternatives, and feasibility.
- E. Implementation plans and funding strategies.

Products

- A. Public and stakeholder outreach events
- B. Data collection and documentation
- C. Map products
- D. Corridor concept alternatives
- E. Implementation plan and funding alternatives

Staffing

Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham and third-party contractors.

Timeline for Proposed Work

- Alternatives for Corridor – Spring 2015
- Implementation Plan – Fall 2015

Financial Responsibility

Total	\$1,250,000
5309 (FTA)	\$1,000,000
Local	\$ 250,000

7.2 Corridor Planning and Development Support

Objectives

To develop corridor-management plans for specific highways. To provide administrative and technical support for existing and emerging corridor coalitions

Previous Work

- U.S. 31 Corridor Study - Vestavia Hills (Building Communities project)
- U.S. 11 Southwest Transit Corridor Alternatives Analysis
- U.S. 11 East/U.S. 78 Corridor Alternatives Analysis

Proposed Work

A. U.S. Highway 78 West Corridor Plan

Reevaluation of recommendations to expand capacity along U.S. Highway 78 west in light of the opening of Corridor X (I-22), a new interstate that parallels the U.S. Highway 78 corridor.

B. U.S. 31 City of Alabaster “Medical Mile” Corridor

As part of the City of Alabaster’s Comprehensive Plan Update, the “Medical Mile” will be evaluated in order identify strategies to encourage corridor redevelopment in accordance with the City’s urban design and corridor aesthetic ideals, providing multimodal travel alternatives, and providing a pedestrian friendly environment.

C. Corridor Planning Support

Support continued corridor planning work conducted under the Building Communities and/or APPLE programs by providing limited technical assistance per the criteria identified in UPWP Task 5.9 – Technical Assistance for Local Communities and Agencies.

D. Corridor Coalition Administrative and Technical support

Provide support to existing and emerging corridor based organizations that are pursuing the implementation of transportation system recommendations identified during previous planning processes.

1. Five Mile Creek Corridor Coalition

The RPCGB will assist the communities located along the Five Mile Creek greenway corridor to develop a formal Five Mile Creek Corridor Coalition, and continue to assist these communities with the management and implementation of the Five Mile Creek greenway trail project.

2. U.S. 11/Bessemer Super Highway Corridor Coalition Administration and Technical Assistance

The RPCGB will assist the communities located in the Bessemer Super Highway Corridor (U.S. 11 Southwest) with forming, developing, and managing a corridor coalition in order that they might begin to advance and realize the recommendations of the U.S. 11 Southwest Transit Corridor Alternatives Analysis.

3. Regional Brownfield Task Force

The RPCGB will support the ongoing work of the Regional Brownfield Task Force by providing administrative and technical assistance to help manage the program, secure funding, and address travel demands and other transportation issues in critical travel corridors via land development and reuse solutions. (see task 4.2)

In support of the PEA – *Models of Regional Planning* (referenced on page 2), the proposed corridor analyses will consider the transportation system outside the MPO boundaries. The RPCGB will also coordinate with appropriate agencies beyond the MPO boundaries in this effort.

Products

- A. U.S. Highway 78 West Corridor Plan document
- B. City of Alabaster “Medical Mile” Corridor Plan
- C. U.S. 11/Bessemer Super Highway Corridor Coalition: Administration and Technical Assistance
 - Annual Work Program
 - Regular meetings
 - Workshops and training events
- D. Tables, data summaries, and technical memorandums as required for specific projects that have not yet been identified

Staffing

Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham

Timeline for Proposed Work

U.S. Highway 78 West Corridor Plan - Fall 2015
City of Alabaster “Medical Mile” Corridor Plan - Fall 2015
U.S. 11/Bessemer Super Highway Corridor Coalition

Financial Responsibility

Total	<u>\$18,750</u>
PL (FHWA)	\$15,000
Local	\$ 3,750

7.3 I-65 North Corridor Alternatives Analysis

Objectives

Provide transportation alternatives to improve travel in the I-65 corridor North of Birmingham.

Previous Work

None

Proposed Work

- A. Procurement of Professional Services**
 - Request for Proposals
 - Proposal Review, Interviews, and Selection
 - Contracting & Notice to Proceed
- B. Project Management and Administrative Oversight**
 - Refine Scope of Activities
 - Project Schedule Development
 - Task Assignments
 - Project Monitoring and Adjustments
 - FTA Coordination and Reporting
- C. Public Involvement**
 - Project Steering Committee
 - Community Outreach Activities

Products

- A. Project Management Protocols
- B. Public Involvement Reports
- C. Data collection and documentation
- D. Map products
- E. Corridor concept alternatives
- F. Implementation plan and funding alternatives

Staffing

Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham and third-party contractors.

Timeline for Proposed Work

- Consultant Selection – Winter 2014
- Data collection documentation & Public Involvement Reports – Spring 2015
- Corridor concept alternatives – Fall 2015

Financial Responsibility

Total	\$1,400,000
5309 (FTA)	\$1,120,000
Local	\$ 280,000

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A

APPENDIX B

6. Value communities and neighborhoods.

Enhance the unique characteristics of all communities by investing in healthy, safe, and walkable neighborhoods—rural, urban, or suburban.

Performance Indicator: Partnerships and Public Involvement

Number of Partnerships and Documented PI Activities

Public Involvement Activity Type	Public Involvement Activity	Total Activity
MPO Committee and Policy Board Meetings	Transportation Citizens Committee Transportation Technical Committee Transportation Advisory Committee Transportation Policy Committee	20 Meetings
Capacity Buildings Technical Training Workshops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete Streets • Bike Safety Workshop 	2 Workshops
Public Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MPO 101 Training • RPCGB Annual Meeting • Brown Bag Series • Popup Avondale • Popup Bessemer 	7 Activities
Project Related Public Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homewood Stakeholder meeting/public meetings • Vestavia US 11 stakeholder meeting/public meetings • US 11 Southwest Corridor meetings • US 11 Southeast Corridor meetings • Titusville Neighborhood meetings • Gardendale meetings • Center Point meetings • Thomas Neighborhood • Montevallo ATP • Helena APPLE Meetings 	28 Meetings
Webpages and Web Presence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Think Forwards 2040 • MindMixer Online Discussion Forum • US 31 Vestavia Hills Video • West Homewood FBC Video • Helena APPLE Webpage/Survey • Popup Webpage • Brown Bag Presentations (4 posted to web) • MPO 101 Presentations (5 presentations) 	15
General Community Outreach	Alabama Partners for Clean Air (APCA) community events	12
Total Activities		84