



A CITIZEN'S GUIDE to the High Point Metropolitan Planning Organization (HPMPO)

What is a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)?

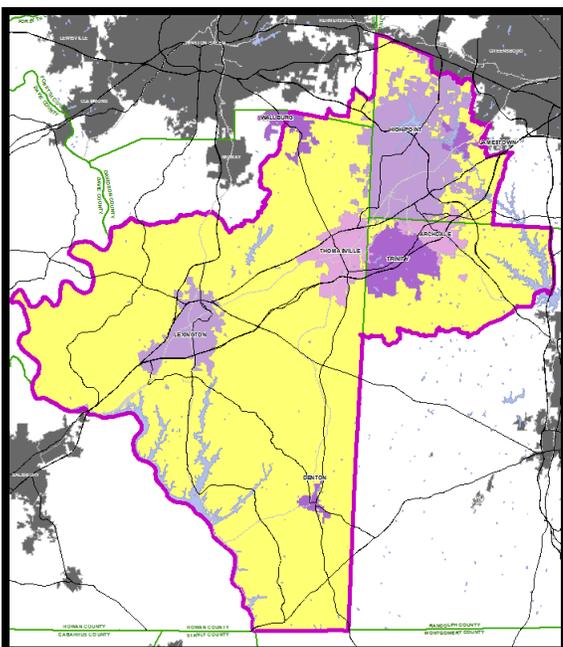
A **Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)** is a federally mandated organization responsible for transportation planning and managing federal transportation funding for the region.

The Federal Highway Act of 1962 required that all urban areas with populations of 50,000 or greater have a designated MPO for transportation to qualify for federal highway or transit assistance. There are over 300 MPOs across the country. North Carolina has 17 MPOs. Most MPOs are part of a city, county or council of governments. A few are independent agencies.



Why is an MPO important to me?

Your ability to travel affects where and how you live, work and play. Public participation is an integral part of the planning process. The purpose of an MPO is to provide local citizens and elected officials the opportunity to be involved in the transportation planning process.



Does High Point have an MPO?

Yes. The **High Point MPO (HPMPO)** office is located in the city's Transportation Department. The HPMPO is directly responsible for making sure that any money spent on existing and future transportation projects and programs is based on a continuing, cooperative and comprehensive (3-C) planning process. All transportation projects and programs that receive federal funding in our region go through this planning process.

How big is the High Point MPO (HPMPO)?

The HPMPO covers almost 700 square miles. The member jurisdictions include Archdale, Denton, High Point, Jamestown,

Lexington, Thomasville, Trinity, Wallburg, Davidson County, Forsyth County, Guilford County, Randolph County, and Divisions 7, 8, 9 of the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT). The HPMPO planning area can change with each Census as the population within urbanized areas grow.

Who are the HPMPO key players?

The MPO is an organization consisting of planning staff and two committees: the Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) and the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC).

The HPMPO has a full-time professional **planning staff** of 3: a Planning Administrator, a Transportation Planner, and a Geographic Information System (GIS) Planner. Responsibilities of the staff include conducting planning studies, forecasting travel demand and patterns, and preparing meeting materials for and implementing directives of the Transportation Advisory Committee and Technical Coordination Committee. In addition, Staff provides technical expertise to all of the member MPO jurisdictions.

The **Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC)** is responsible for making recommendations to the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC). The TCC evaluates whether or not projects are technically warranted and financially feasible. The TCC consists of key staff representatives from the member jurisdictions and NCDOT who have technical expertise in either transportation or community development.

The **Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)** is the decision-making body and is responsible for setting the overall direction of transportation planning. The TAC consists of elected and appointed officials from the member jurisdictions. The Policy Committee is responsible for approving the transportation plans and reports prepared by HPMPO staff. If a plan or report is approved, then MPO staff can begin the implementation process.

When does the HPMPO meet?



The Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) and Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) meet monthly on the last Tuesday of the month at the High Point Chamber of Commerce (1634 N. Main St.). TCC meetings begin at 9:00 A.M. TAC meetings begin at 10:00 A.M.

How do I get involved?

- Visit the HPMPO website for updates: www.hpdot.net/HPMPO/
- Attend committee meetings. All meetings are open to the public.
- Participate in public meetings
- Contact the HPMPO with questions or comments at (336) 883-3225



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