



# Lower Connecticut River Valley Council of Governments

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## Metropolitan Planning Organization

### FY 2022-2023 Unified Planning Work Program Executive Summary

#### Overview

The Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) is a biennial statement of work identifying planning priorities and work tasks for the Lower Connecticut River Valley (LCRV) Region for Fiscal Years 2022-2023 which runs from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023. Preparation of the UPWP is required by federal transportation legislation known as the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act), and the Metropolitan Planning Code of Federal Regulations 23CFR 450.308(b) of the United States Department of Transportation. The UPWP must present a continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive ("3C") approach to transportation planning activities in the region. The UPWP is prepared with cooperation and guidance from federal, state, and local agencies, as well as state and public transportation operators.

The UPWP is one of four key documents Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) are required to develop and maintain for the region. The other key documents are the long-range Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Public Participation Plan (PPP).

#### FY 22-23 UPWP Chapters

Chapters in the UPWP include the 1) prospectus, 2) staff outline, 3) important issues, 4) FAST Act planning goals, 5) transportation and integration of FAST Act objectives, 6) financial plan and 7) appendices.

The Prospectus complements the annual work program and provides a narrative that outlines the region's anticipated transportation agenda and linkage to the planning issues facing the RiverCOG MPO region.

The Staff Outline chapter describes the roles and responsibilities of RiverCOG MPO administrative and planning staff.

The Important Issues chapter includes intermodal transportation, public transportation, bicycle and pedestrian transportation, transit-oriented development, airports, roadways, freight, economic vitality/land use/environment, safety and security, and other issues with the objective to plan for a cost effective, safe, and efficient system for all modes of transportation within the LCRV region

FAST Act planning goals are defined under federal legislation, 23usc134(h)(1) and 49usc5303(h)(1), identifying ten planning factors that MPOs must consider in their planning process. The UPWP responds to these planning goals in chapter four (4).

The Transportation and Integration of FAST Act objectives are divided into to five tasks in chapter five (5). These tasks and examples important activities within them include:

#### Task 1 - Management of Planning Process

Development of the 24-25 UPWP, quarterly reports, audit reports

#### Task 2 - Data Collection – General Collection and Analysis

Census and other demographic and planning data, GIS data, transit, traffic and bike/ped data, economic, agriculture and housing data, invasive species and other data

### Task 3 - Planning Activities

Development of the MTP, corridor studies, transit studies, freight studies, bike/ped studies, development of the TIP, development of transportation projects under various state and federal programs, congestion management, incident management, performance and safety management, air quality conformity

### Task 4 - Other Technical Assistance

Municipal and transit district assistance on topics such as mapping, funding sources, state and federal program compliance, program and project review implementation

### Task 5 - Public Information and Involvement

Review public participation policies, conduct project and program community involvement, ensure equity for environmental justice, Title VI, ADA, LEP, underserved populations and others who may have mobility challenges

The Financial Plan chapter contains a series of tables which show:

Table 1 - Staff hours and budget FY 2022 & 2023

Table 2 - Maximum hourly rates for staff FY 2022 & 2023

Table 3 - Financial responsibility by task FY 2022 & 2023

The same series of tables are included to show for carryover funds (FY 2019) for a total of \$1.2 million over the two-year period of the UPWP

The Appendices includes the Statement of MPO/State/Transit operators planning roles and responsibilities as required by 23 CFR Sec. 450.314(a), (h) "Metropolitan Planning Agreements" as well as resolutions adopting the statement FY 22-23 UPWP.