

FTA

FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

FTA/FHWA Role in the Metropolitan Planning Process

April 17, 2015

FTA Office of Planning and
Environment



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration

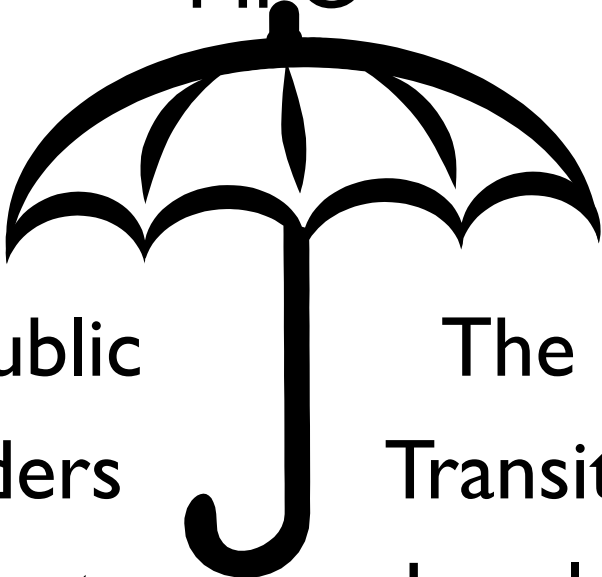
FTA and FHWA Roles

FTA



FHWA

MPO



The Public
Stakeholders
Private Sector

The State
Transit Operators
Local Jurisdictions

Role of FTA and FHWA

1. Review/Approval of Planning Products
 - Unified Planning Work Program
 - Metropolitan Transportation Plan
 - Transportation Improvement Program
 - State Transportation Improvement Program
2. Planning Oversight
 - MPO Certification Review
 - Planning Finding
 - Air Quality Conformity
3. Technical Assistance and Training

Role of the MPO

- MPO is decision-making authority for spending federal-aid transportation funds
- MPO is the Policy Board, supported by staff who provide supportive technical resources
- MPO Policy Board decisions result from consultation, coordination, and consideration with State and local partners
- Public and Stakeholder participation important throughout planning process

MPO and Intergovernmental Relations

Roles and Responsibilities of MPO Participants

- MPO Policy Board – Adopts all MPO planning Products
- MPO Committees – Advisor to MPO Board
- MPO “Agency” Staff – Manage planning activities
- State DOT, Transit Providers and Local Government Agencies – Participate in the planning process and the development of the required planning products.

FTA and FHWA Roles

Discussion Questions

- Do you work closely with your respective MPOs?
- Do you participate on a technical advisory committee?
- Which MPO planning products do you review?
- Does another entity (State DOT, local government entity, transit agency) do your coordinated human service transportation plans?

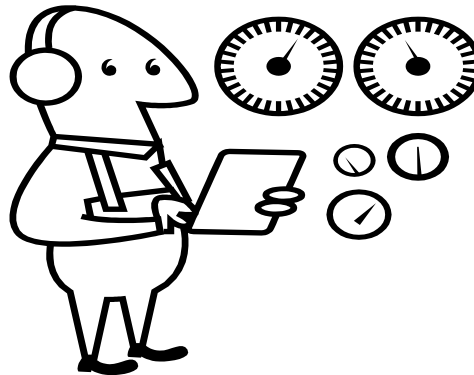
Decision-making Context: Planning Affects Project Development and Grant Award

UPWP	Long Range Plan	Transportation Improvement Program	State Transportation Improvement Program	FTA Grant
Travel Forecasts	Prioritize Projects	Selected from Plan	Approved by FTA/FHWA	
Demographics	Regional Concensus	4-year priorities	All MPO's and Non-Metro	
GIS	Financial Resources	Identified Funding	List of Projects	
Corridor Analysis	Future Needs	List of Projects	Identified funding	
Surveys	Multimodal			
Financial Plans				

Grant Award Context: A Continuum of Decision-making

1. Unified Planning Work Program-

- Public involvement and stakeholder engagement
- Data collection, surveys, model development, GIS
- Performance analysis, corridor studies, needs studies
- Products: Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), others



Grant Award Context: A Continuum of Decision-making

2. Metropolitan Transportation Plan

- 20-Year Transportation Vision for Metropolitan Area
- Fiscally Constrained with “Reasonable” Costs/Revenues
- Informed by Public and Stakeholder Engagement
- Adopted by MPO Board



Grant Award Context: A Continuum of Decision-making

3. Transportation Improvement Program

- Priority projects from Metropolitan Transportation Plan
- Fiscally constrained, detailing revenues and costs
- Prepared cooperatively with the State & transit providers
- Approved by MPO and



Grant Award Context: A Continuum of Decision-making

4. State Transportation Improvement (STIP)

- State compilation of projects from all MPOs' TIPs
- Fiscally constrained, detailing revenues and costs
- Approved by the State and subsequently by FTA/FHWA
- Projects in the STIP are Eligible for Federal Grants



Grant Award Context:

A Continuum of Decision-making

5. Projects Selected from STIP for Grant Award

- Year 1 of STIP is Implementation Priority
- Later-Year Projects May Advance with STIP Revision

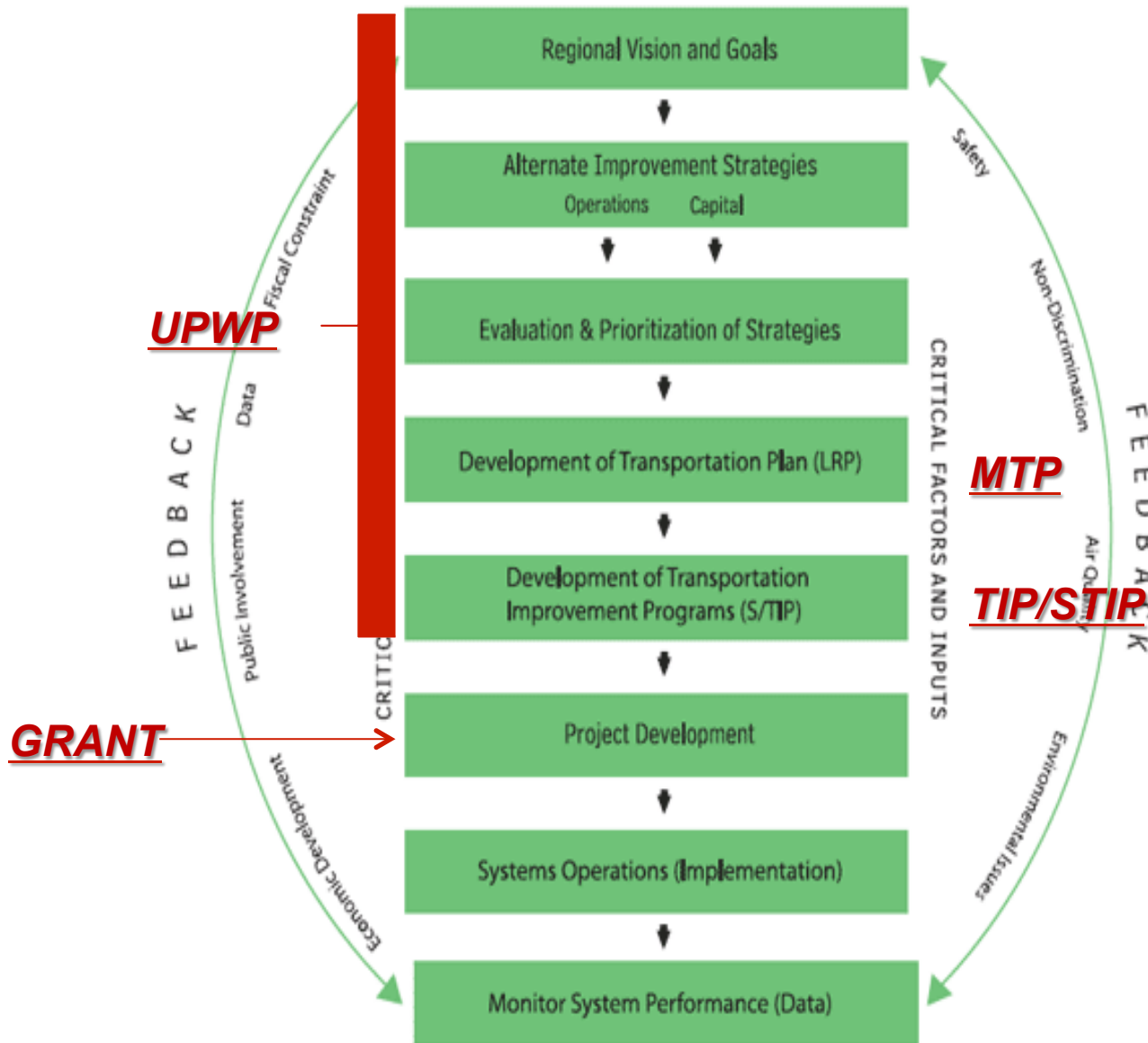
6. FTA Grant Application for Year 1 in STIP

- Scope and Cost Must Agree with STIP

Grant Award



Planning Process and Project Development



Grant Award Context: A Continuum of Decision-making

Planning Affecting Grants: *Public Involvement*

Planning Issue – Poor public involvement leads to:

- Lack of awareness of proposed projects
- Public opposition to proposed projects
- Unanticipated environmental justice/Title VI issues
- Withdrawal of support by State or local officials

How to Address

- Review MPOs Public Participation Plan (PPP)
- Are public involvement activities in the UPWP?

Grant Award Context: A Continuum of Decision-making

Planning Affecting Grants: *Public Involvement*

How to Address (cont.)

- Hold events in the community
- Coordinate with community institutions (churches, schools, neighborhood associations)
- Use social media
- Reach limited English proficiency with interpreters and bi-lingual information
- Workshops, charrettes and information sessions