



Catalyst for Regional Progress

PVPC

To: Participant in the MPO Transportation Planning Process  
From: Dana Roscoe  
Date: March 11, 2011  
Subject: MPO Certification Review

Over the past several years, you may have been involved in some aspect of the Metropolitan Planning Organization's (MPO's) Transportation Planning Process. You may have served on an MPO committee, participated in an MPO study, or attended an MPO meeting or workshop. Whatever level of involvement you have had, you had the opportunity to observe one or more parts of the MPO's Transportation Planning Process. We are contacting you now to offer you an opportunity to participate in an evaluation of our planning process.

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) will soon be conducting a review of our Transportation Planning Process. This evaluation is conducted every four years in order to certify our activities as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Springfield Transportation Management Area (TMA). They are particularly interested in hearing from people who have participated in some aspect of our work. Following a predetermined agenda, the Federal Review Team will review several different emphasis areas of the Transportation Planning Process. There will be a limited amount of time for public comment at the end of each agenda item.

You are welcome to submit comments or any thoughts you might have, concerning your observations on how we have undertaken this process. Written comments may be sent to either FHWA or FTA at the addresses below. If you submit comments you should indicate the general nature of your involvement with the Pioneer Valley MPO.

**FHWA:** Mr. Richard J. Marquis, Acting Division Administrator  
55 Broadway, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor, Cambridge, MA 02142

or via email: [michael.chong@dot.gov](mailto:michael.chong@dot.gov)

**FTA:** Ms. Mary Beth Mello, Regional Administrator  
55 Broadway, Suite 920, Cambridge, MA 02142

or via email: [william.gordon@dot.gov](mailto:william.gordon@dot.gov)

You are also welcome to attend the on-site review, which is scheduled to take place **on March 23, at 3:00 pm**, here at PVPC  
60 Congress Street – 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room  
Springfield, MA 01104-3419

**Springfield Transportation Management Area  
Transportation Planning Certification Review  
Pioneer Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization  
Agenda**

**60 Congress Street,  
Springfield, MA**

**Wednesday, March 23, 2011**

- 9:00 – 9:15 Introductions
- 9:15– 9:45 Follow-up on Recommendations from Previous Review
- 9:45 – 11:00 Meeting the Planning Requirements of SAFETEA-LU
- Development of the Regional Transportation Plan
  - Linking Planning and the Project Development Process
  - Operations and Management of the Transportation Infrastructure
  - Linking the Planning and Environmental Processes
- 11:00– 11:05 BREAK
- 11:05 – 11:30 Meeting the Requirements of SAFETEA-LU (cont.)
- New Consultations
  - Environmental Mitigation
- 11:30– 12:15 WORKING LUNCH
- 12:15 – 1:00 Title VI, Environmental Justice, Limited English Proficiency, and Public Participation Process
- 1:00 – 2:00 Financial Constraint
- Regional Transportation Plan
  - Transportation Improvement Program
  - Year of Expenditure
- 2:00-2:15 BREAK
- 2:15– 2:45 Congestion Management Process
- 2:45 – 3:15 Linkage between the Planning Process and the Strategic Highway Safety Plan
- 3:15 – 4:00 Coordination of Planning Activities within the Springfield TMA among:
- MassDOT
  - PVRTA
  - Interested Parties and stakeholders
- 4:15 Adjourn