This UPWP was prepared as a cooperative effort of the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Transit Administration (FTA), Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT), and local governments in partial fulfillment of requirements in Title 23 USC 134 and 135, amended by the FAST Act, Sections 1201 and 1202, December 4, 2015. The contents of this document do not necessarily reflect the official views or policies of the U.S. Department of Transportation.
Birmingham Metropolitan Planning Organization

Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Membership

Fiscal Year 2018

Metropolitan Planning Organization
Chair: Mr. Tim Westhoven, City of Hoover
Vice Chair: Honorable William Parker, City of Birmingham
Secretary: Mr. Randy Cole, Shelby County

Transportation Citizens Committee
Chair: Mr. Willie Osborne, City of Birmingham
Vice Chair: Mr. Calvin Rumph, Shelby County

Transportation Technical Committee
Chair: Mr. Rod Long, City of Hoover
Vice Chair: Ms. Christie Pannell Hester, Shelby County

Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham

Staff to the MPO
Mr. Charles Ball, Executive Director
Mr. Scott Tillman, Director of Planning and Operations
Mr. Michael Kaczorowski, Principal Planner
Ms. Lindsay Puckett, Principal Planner
Ms. Harry He, Transportation Engineer
Mr. Brett Isom, GIS Manager
Mr. Marshall Farmer, Senior GIS Analyst
Ms. Laurel Land, Senior Planner
Ms. Ricki Hall, CommuteSmart/APCA Program Manager
Ms. Cissy Edwards, Public Information Officer
TRANSPORTATION CITIZENS COMMITTEE (TCC)
June 2017

Chair: Mr. Willie Osborne
Vice-Chair: Mr. Calvin Rumph

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# POLICY COMMITTEE

June 2017

**Chair:** Mr. Tim Westhoven  
**Vice Chair:** Honorable William Parker  
**Secretary:** Mr. Randy Cole

*Serves on MPO Advisory Committee  
** Indicates non-voting members

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RESOLUTION 2017-0809

Birmingham Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
Adopting the FY 2018 Unified Planning Work Program

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 23 USC 134 and 135 (amended by the FAST Act, Sections 1201 and 1202, December 2015); 42 USC 2000d-l, 7401; 23 CFR 450 and 500; 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 2018; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to its duties, functions, and responsibilities, the Birmingham Metropolitan Planning Organization, in session this 9th day of August, 2017, 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 FY 2018.

ADOPTED: August 9, 2017

Mr. Tim Westhoven, Chairman
Policy Committee
Birmingham Metropolitan Planning Organization

ATTEST:

Charles Ball, Executive Director
Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham
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THE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING PROCESS

Overview
As a condition to the receipt of federal highway and transit capital and operating assistance, each Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is required to have a transportation planning process. This process includes the development of a long-range or regional transportation plan, short-range transportation improvement program, a plan to promote attainment of air quality standards, human services coordinated transportation plan, and a planning work program that identifies planning and project development activities.

Certification of the transportation planning process is conducted every four years by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) 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 (MPA); the entire boundaries of Jefferson, Shelby, and portions of Blount and St. Clair Counties, based upon the most recent decennial U.S. census (2010). The MPO 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 of Alabama, 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: Transportation Citizens Committee (TCC) and Transportation Technical Committee (TTC).

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 outlines 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 that serves 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 MPA for FY 2018.

Title VI in the Preparation of the UPWP
It is the policy of the Birmingham MPO to provide a planning process that is open to public input in the preparation of plans and programs and is consistent with the planning factors required under the current transportation legislation:

1. Open Process: To have an open planning process that encourages early and continued public participation.
2. Information Access: To provide complete and timely information to interested parties and the public regarding the plans, programs, procedures, policies and technical data produced or used during the planning process.

3. Notice of Activities: To provide timely and adequate public notice of meetings, reviews and major document availability.

4. Public Input and Organization Response: To demonstrate consideration and recognition of public input and to provide appropriate responses thereto.

5. Inclusive Process: The Birmingham MPO places emphasis on the commitment mandated in Executive Order 12898 to protect low income and minority communities/citizens from disproportionate adverse impacts based on planning and implementation of projects and programs identified in the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The MPO provides for considerable participation activity towards this environmental justice goal through the opportunity, both formal and informal, for these identified citizens to share their ideas and concerns throughout the planning and decision making process.

Additionally, the Birmingham MPO is and will be compliant with and follow all Title VI laws, processes, and programs to include the following:

- Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 USC 2000d, et seq. which prohibits exclusion from participation in any federal program on the basis of race, color, or national origin.

- 23 USC 324 which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, adding to the landmark significance of 2000d. This requirement is found in 23 CFR 450.334(1).

- Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 USC 701 Section 504, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of a disability, and in terms of access to the transportation planning process.

- Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 which prohibits discrimination based solely on disability. ADA encourages the participation of people with disabilities in the development of transportation and paratransit plans and services. In accordance with ADA guidelines, all meetings conducted by the MPO will take place in locations which are accessible by persons with mobility limitations or other impairments.

- Executive Order 12898 or referred to as Environmental Justice, which requires that federal programs, policies and activities affecting human health or the environment will identify and avoid disproportionately high and adverse effects on minority or low-income populations. The intent was to ensure that no racial, ethnic, or socioeconomic group bears a disproportionate share of negative environmental consequences resulting from government programs and policies.

- Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Plan which is required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Executive Order 13166, and FTA Circular C 4702.1B, October 2012. The Birmingham MPO has completed a Four Factor Analysis of the Birmingham MPA to determine requirements for compliance with the Limited English Proficiency (LEP) provisions. A Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Plan has been developed and can be accessed as part of the Public Participation Plan at [http://www.rpcgb.org/transportation-planning/public-involvement/](http://www.rpcgb.org/transportation-planning/public-involvement/)

The MPO is responsible for the development of a Unified Planning Work Program. The UPWP is the primary document for establishing MPO work tasks and assigning costs for performing those tasks based on
allocated federal planning funds (PL). The UPWP is developed annually with all the transportation planning agencies in the MPO area. The UPWP is made available on the RPCGB website prior to being introduced for discussion at committee meetings. All committee meetings of the MPO are preceded by notices that include the agenda, date, time, and location of the meeting. The notice is provided at least one week prior to the meetings or as designated in committee bylaws. The notice is provided to local media representatives and groups that address the needs of low-income individuals, minorities, persons with disabilities and the elderly. The notice requests that interested individuals who need special accommodations notify the RPCGB at least three business days prior to the date of the meeting, so necessary arrangements can be made. The notice is posted on the internet. The public has an opportunity to participate in discussions held at the committee meetings. Detailed public participation procedures are outlined in the 2014 Public Participation Plan (PPP) which can be found at http://www.rpcgb.org/transportation-planning/public-involvement/

Scope of the Planning Process
The planning tasks reflect the planning factors in the Fixing America’s Surface Transportation (FAST) Act.

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
8. Emphasize the preservation of the existing transportation system
9. Improve the resiliency and reliability of the transportation system, and reduce (or mitigate) the stormwater impacts on surface transportation
10. Enhance travel and tourism

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, utilize 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.
Planning Emphasis Areas
On April 23, 2014 FHWA distributed a memorandum to state DOTs to encourage MPOs 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:

- **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 and 5.1 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** – Identify transportation connectivity gaps in access to essential services.
  - Much of the work described in Task 5.3 - Public Transportation Planning relates to this PEA. The primary focus 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 and Indicators
Increasingly, federal and state agencies are using performance measures as a way of ensuring greater accountability for the expenditure of public funds in a 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 these principles, the MPO has developed 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 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 ALDOT to conduct transportation planning activities for the Birmingham MPA.
TASK 1.0: ADMINISTRATION

1.1 MPO Administration

Objectives
To provide transportation committees, agencies, governments, and the public with transportation-related information, education, and training, to support transportation operations, and 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
- Reviewed all agreements for consistency with bylaws
- Reviewed all funding agreements
- Provided information and assistance to individuals, businesses, organizations, and committees
- Participated in cooperative efforts with agencies and organizations outlined in the C3 agreement

Proposed Work
- Monthly business and committee meetings (Citizens, Technical, Advisory and Policy)
- Periodic ad hoc committee meetings (Congestion Management)
- Attend RPCGB Board, Finance, and Program Budget meetings, and RPCGB Annual Meeting
- Prepare and submit monthly invoices to ALDOT and review monthly financial statements
- Provide information to the RPCGB auditors and review the draft and final audit report
- Review agreements for consistency with bylaws
- Prepare scope of works for various programs
- Provide information and assistance to individuals, businesses, organizations, and committees
- Participate in cooperative efforts with agencies and organizations

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

Staffing
RPCGB

Timeline for Proposed Work
Ongoing activities throughout the fiscal year

Financial Responsibility
FHWA PL and FTA 5303 planning funds have been consolidated into one PL category

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<td>Local</td>
<td>$40,282</td>
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</table>
1.2 Unified Planning Work Program

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

Previous Work
- A UPWP that identifies tasks and funding sources was adopted by the Transportation Citizens Committee, Transportation Technical Committee, Advisory Committee, and Policy Committee
- Two Semi-Annual reports were produced for ALDOT review, noting the status of tasks and participation of Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBEs)

Proposed Work
- Task Development - UPWP activities are identified by using the planning emphasis areas for expenditure of PL funds and tasks programmed in the TIP. Priorities for funding are determined from the National Planning Goals, federal planning factors, and the interests of the transportation committees.
- Two semi-annual reports will be drafted. The 2017 UPWP final six-month report will be completed in October 2017 and the 2018 UPWP first six-month report will be completed in April 2018, noting the status of tasks and DBE participation. Staff will complete the reports and submit to ALDOT for review.
- Prepare a Draft and Final FY 2019 UPWP

Products
- Draft and Final UPWP for FY 2019
- FY 2017 and FY 2018 semi-annual reports with DBE participation

Staffing
RPCGB

Timeline for Proposed Work
- Draft and Final FY 2019 UPWP - Summer 2018
- FY 2017 Final semi-annual report with DBE participation – October 2017
- FY 2018 Semi-annual report with DBE participation - April 2018

Financial Responsibility
FHWA PL and FTA 5303 planning funds have been consolidated into one PL category

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<td>$8,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Local</td>
<td>$2,125</td>
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1.3 Capital and Operating Purchases

**Objectives**

To maintain, upgrade, and purchase software and hardware for 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
- Analyze existing and potential transit routes and evaluate demographic information
- Monitor and contextualize capacity utilization, operational performance and finance data

As outlined in the Agreement for Administering U.S. Department of Transportation 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 more than $5,000 to have a line item entry in the UPWP.

The following capital and operating equipment is programmed:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product</th>
<th>Total Cost</th>
<th>UPWP Task</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3D Analyst</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>Desktop extension license for GIS analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adobe Creative Cloud</td>
<td>$3,500</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>Software subscription for online map publishing and document production</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aerial Imagery</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>Imagery acquisition for planning and analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ArcEditor CU/SU</td>
<td>$9,500</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>Desktop software licenses for GIS analysis and mapping</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ArcGIS Online/ ArcGIS Pro</td>
<td>$3,500</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>GIS subscription service for cloud-based mapping</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ArcServer Enterprise</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>GIS server software application</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ArcView CU</td>
<td>$2,200</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>Desktop software licenses for GIS analysis and mapping</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ArcView SU</td>
<td>$700</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>Desktop software licenses for GIS analysis and mapping</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Autodesk Revit LT</td>
<td>$410</td>
<td>6.2</td>
<td>Software subscription for architectural design and 3D modeling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Viz</td>
<td>$1,700</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>Desktop software license for GIS data analysis and modeling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment for Planning</td>
<td>$8,500</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>Tablets, Projectors, kiosk mounts for public input, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESRI Community Analyst</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>GIS subscription service for data profiles and analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>InfoGroup</td>
<td>$7,000</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>Employment data purchase for GIS analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inrix</td>
<td>$30,000</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>Travel time data to support traffic modeling and LRS event table production/analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Product</td>
<td>Total Cost</td>
<td>UPWP Task</td>
<td>Purpose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LRS Data Acquisitions</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>Transportation data purchases for LRS event table production, GIS analysis, and model forecasting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maxwell Render Full Suite</td>
<td>$995</td>
<td>6.2</td>
<td>Advanced 3D rendering software</td>
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<td>MioVision Data Processing</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>5.6</td>
<td>Traffic cameras data collection and processing</td>
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<td>Network Analyst</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>Desktop extension license for GIS analysis</td>
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<tr>
<td>SketchUp Pro</td>
<td>$600</td>
<td>6.2</td>
<td>3D modeling software upgrade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Exposure Information</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>Construction Permits and Housing Market Data for socioeconomic and economic forecasting/analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spatial Analyst</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>Desktop extension license for GIS analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strava Metro</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
<td>5.4</td>
<td>Additional/updated aggregated bicycling data for bicycle planning - upgrade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woods and Poole</td>
<td>$495</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>Demographic and socioeconomic data purchase for analysis and forecasting</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL ANNUAL COSTS</strong></td>
<td><strong>$121,100</strong></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Products**
- Software and upgrades
- Hardware and servers
- License and maintenance fees

**Staffing**
RPCGB and third party suppliers

**Timeline for Proposed Work**
Ongoing activities throughout the fiscal year

**Financial Responsibility**
FHWA PL and FTA 5303 planning funds have been consolidated into one PL category

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<td><strong>PL</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Local</strong></td>
<td><strong>$24,220</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1.4 Education and Training

Objectives
To develop and maintain technical proficiency of staff 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
- Knowledgeable staff
- Annual transportation/planning conferences
- Training for elected officials, municipal staff, and consultants
- Cube training, travel demand modeling
- Other workshops, conferences, and trainings

Staffing
RPCGB

Timeline for Proposed Work
Ongoing activities throughout the fiscal year

Financial Responsibility
FHWA PL and FTA 5303 planning funds have been consolidated into one PL category

Total $40,000
PL $32,000
Local $8,000
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**
- Implement COOP activities, including procedures, activation, alternate operations, reconstitution and termination, and information technology
- Upgrade software and data capacity of the COOP system in final quarter of FY 2017

**Proposed Work**
- Continue to implement COOP activities and procedures

**Products**
- COOP implementation activities
- COOP training and exercises
- Upgrade software and data capacity of the COOP system

**Staffing**
RPCGB

**Timeline for Proposed Work**
Ongoing activities throughout the fiscal year

**Financial Responsibility**
FHWA PL and FTA 5303 planning funds have been consolidated into one PL category

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<td>PL</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local</td>
<td>$ 625</td>
</tr>
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</table>
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 purchased data and data subscriptions from vendors including ESRI, InfoGroup, Southern Exposure, Geolytics, and other supplementary data services such as Strava and HERE transportation data. The RPCGB expanded its existing GIS data inventory to include additional economic, transportation, property, and demographic data. Data collection activities have focused on population and socioeconomic datasets, local developments, brownfields, and employment characteristics.

The maintenance and expansion of event tables for use in the regional LRS is necessary to better manage and analyze transportation issues. The RPCGB has continued 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 have been evaluated for incorporation into the LRS.

RPCGB continues to expand its GIS resources. Through the sustained production and maintenance of demographic, socioeconomic and transportation data, RPCGB has advanced its GIS data inventory and has added cloud-based mapping resources, geo-applications, and open data resources to its GIS assets. 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, and other supplemental data services including origin and destination data, and Inrix (to support travel time data collection efforts for functionally classified non-National Highway System roadways), and Strava to support non-motorized transportation. 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 RPCGB will work with the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) to coordinate and align the RPCGB’s LRS with ALDOT’s LRS in order to create a near seamless data flow between the two systems. The RPCGB also will maintain and expand event tables for use in these LRS as it is necessary to better identify, analyze, and manage 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 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.

The RPCGB will continue to expand its web presence through cloud-based mapping functionalities and open data resources. This web enhancement provides easier public access to tabular and spatial data to better facilitate data sharing and decision making. In addition to the provision of maps, map services,
downloadable spatial data, traffic counts, and associated reports, this portal is intended to provide a single-source point for information to the public, elected officials, and the development community.

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

**Products**
- Update of the 2013 Transportation System Management and Operations (TSMO) plan
- Spatial data expansion and maintenance through necessary development, purchases, and partnerships
- Production of demographic, socioeconomic, economic, transportation and other planning-related data files
- Produce regional reports that compare 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.
- Reporting on local roadway facility traffic counts, transit ridership, non-motorized travel information, and other transportation and planning statistics for incorporation into the LRS. Other information collected includes, but is not limited to: freight/goods movement, incident management, travel times, congestion by travel mode, TSMO, and regional roadway characteristics.
- Addition and update of static maps to the RPCGB website
- Expansion of the online map gallery to make selected thematic maps readily available for public use through the RPCGB website
- Continued expansion of public domain spatial datasets to the Open Data portal

**Staffing**
RPCGB, direct contract labor, and/or third-party contractors for activities, and organizations

**Timeline for Proposed Work**
Ongoing activities throughout the fiscal year

**Financial Responsibility**
FHWA PL and FTA 5303 planning funds have been consolidated into one PL category

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<td>PL</td>
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<td>Local</td>
<td>$12,500</td>
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2.2 Data Analysis and Forecasting

Objectives
To collect, create, and maintain current and forecasted demographic and socioeconomic data used for the transportation demand model and other planning activities.

Previous Work
The RPCGB has continued to develop and refine demographic and socioeconomic data in support of its transportation and community planning efforts. In addition to the development of traffic analysis zone (TAZ) datasets, several intermediate year datasets have been developed. This data was developed for multiple census geographies, including TAZ, Block Group, Census Tract, Planning District, and County levels, and has been utilized for travel demand evaluations, as well as local area projects and publications. Continued refinement and maintenance of these forecasts has included data purchases, such as those from InfoGroup, ESRI, and Geolytics. The data has been used in projects and publications, including the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), the Regional Projections Report, a Regional Trends Report, and in support of other agency planning objectives.

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 MOVES2014a software.

Proposed Work
Proposed work includes the continued refinement and maintenance of forecast datasets. Proposed work also includes the development, maintenance, and reporting of regional performance indicators. Toward this effort, additional 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 forecasting tools and models.

In support of the PEA – Models of Regional Planning (referenced on page 4), 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
- Socioeconomic, demographic, and economic datasets (base year and forecast) by TAZ, planning district, census tract, county and region
- Regional Projections Report
- Special Reports
- Support of other agency reports and studies

Staffing
RPCGB, direct contract labor, and/or third-party contractors for activities, and organizations
Timeline for Proposed Work
Ongoing activities throughout the fiscal year

Financial Responsibility
FHWA PL and FTA 5303 planning funds have been consolidated into one PL category

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<td>PL</td>
<td>$18,000</td>
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<td>Local</td>
<td>$4,500</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
2.3 Geographic Information Systems

Objectives
To provide spatial data resources, including software, hardware, and data, to support agency operations for both program management and project analysis.

Previous Work
The RPCGB has been successful in developing and expanding its GIS capabilities, including ESRI cloud-based mapping services. This mapping service has enabled the RPCGB to publish interactive thematic maps in a public domain gallery. In addition to the visual dissemination of regional data, users can query data and incorporate published features into their own maps. The RPCGB has additionally added the functionality of geospatial applications, enhanced map viewing applications, and launched an Open Data portal for the dissemination of public domain geospatial data.

RPCGB has continued to expand its library of GIS datasets, including county parcel updates, street centerlines, building footprints, and imagery. Continued utilization of the SDE catalog system has provided a secure and organized platform to house critical GIS datasets. RPCGB upgraded to ArcMap 10.5 and has remained current on maintenance through its participation in the state Enterprise License Agreement (ELA) program. The RPCGB has also continued to utilize mobile GIS technology to enhance data collection efforts.

Proposed Work
- Continue to develop and expand GIS capabilities specific to the ESRI cloud-based map service platform and geospatial/mobile application needs
- Continue to build inventory of GIS datasets, including both raster and vector datasets
- Acquire routine imagery updates to support its planning efforts
- 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
- Continue to advance the development of an online GIS open data portal site in cooperation with participating agencies to enable public access to selected GIS datasets (public domain) to promote data sharing and use of common datasets
- 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
- Map Services

Products
- Map production, data analysis, and partnerships
- Updated orthophotographic imagery
- The continuation of data collection, development, and maintenance
- The continued expansion of the GIS system including the cloud-based platform environment
- The expansion of GIS capabilities through training, conferences, workshops, and product evaluations
- Local government planning assistance
- ESRI maintenance of the GIS system, map services and analysis tools (ESRI ArcMap, ArcGIS Online and ESRI Community Analyst)
The identification and acquisition of additional GIS visualization and analytical tools such as ArcGlobe, ArcScene, City Engine, and ArcGIS Pro

**Staffing**
RPCGB, direct contract labor and/or third-party contractors for activities, and organizations

**Timeline for Proposed Work**
Ongoing activities throughout the fiscal year

**Financial Responsibility**
FHWA PL and FTA 5303 planning funds have been consolidated into one PL category

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<td>Local</td>
<td>$16,250</td>
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</table>
2.4 Model Development Program

Objectives
To develop and maintain traffic models, air quality emission models, and traffic simulation 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 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, both Cube Voyager and MOVES2010b are used for the 2040 RTP and for Air Quality Transportation Conformity Determination, respectively. The MOVES2010b has been updated to the latest version of Air Model from EPA, MOVES2014a. The MOVES2014 is used as the regional transportation conformity air model for the FY 2016-2019 TIP and RTP update in 2016. The MOVES2014a is used for the regional emission rate estimates and CMAQ project emission calculations in 2017. Traffic projection and OD analysis based on travel demand model are conducted in various studied and projects in 2017. The transit network updates based on 2015-2016 are completed.

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.

In FY 2015, Synchro Studio was purchased and has been installed successfully for corridor traffic simulation.

Proposed Work
The RPCGB will maintain the Cube Voyager and Air Model for the short and long range transportation plans. In recognizing the changes affecting the Greater Birmingham region, and the changing needs of the MPA as it relates to transportation planning, the RPCGB will review the updated transit network and future transit development plan and merge them into model. The model will be modified to address regional travel demands and congestion situation.

Specific work tasks include:
- Development and maintenance of the regional travel demand model for the Birmingham MPA, as needed for RTP and TIP updates
- Training of staff to utilize the best modeling practices
- Utilization of the model in support of existing projects and scenario planning
- Development and maintenance of MOVES2014a. Update MOVES input files with all local datasets, and validate speed profiles based on local observations. Emissions factors will be developed in accordance with MOVES2014a to meet the requirements set forth in 40 CFR 51 and 93.
- Cooperate with ALDOT, ADEM, FHWA, EPA, and other agencies to oversee/share the data collections, methodologies of data development, documentations, and modeling practices
- Use Synchro Studio to enhance analyses of existing traffic conditions and if necessary, operational and scenario planning in the corridor studies and the transportation sectors of the Comprehensive Plan
Products
- Travel Demand Model
- MOVES Air Quality Model
- Area wide/System Performance Indicators
- Synchro Traffic Simulation Model

Staffing
RPC, GB, direct contract labor, and/or third-party contractors for activities, and organizations

Timeline for Proposed Work
Ongoing activities throughout the fiscal year

Financial Responsibility
FHWA PL and FTA 5303 planning funds have been consolidated into one PL category

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TASK 3.0: PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

3.1 Public Involvement and Outreach

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

Previous Work
The MPO website, as part of the RPCGB website, was revamped and launched December 2016. It allows for better access to monthly meeting documents. Meetings and announcements were provided for all regularly scheduled committee meetings. The website is maintained and updated with links to specific projects. Two MPO orientation/training videos were produced and are now available on the website. All public involvement procedures have been followed. Social media is used to communicate with the public; online participation for ongoing planning activities is encouraged. The Title VI, Americans with Disabilities Act, and DBE policy continue to be posted on the MPO website. A DBE report was submitted November 2016. A Title VI report was completed September 2017.

The MPO facilitated, participated, and/or hosted several training opportunities, including the RPCGB Annual meeting, freight workshops, active transportation workshop and other opportunities for education for transit, bicyclist, and pedestrian modes of transportation.

Proposed Work
- Coordinate with ALDOT on setting goals, objectives, performance measures, and targets, as required by the FAST Act, for inclusion into the RTP
- Describe Performance Measures, Livability Principles, and Livability Indicators in the Public Participation Plan (PPP), and ensure that agencies and the public have full access to documents and data as requested. The most current available data used in operational plans (Regional Transportation, Transportation Improvement, Congestion Management, and Conformity Report) will be provided in the PPP.
- MPO website continuing update with 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
- E-News Connections sent 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 are not limited to, speakers, logistics, handouts: $10,000
- Setup and facilitate interactive online surveys and other web-based outreach activities
- Comment forms and surveys

Title VI, Americans with Disabilities Act, and DBE Activities:
- Documentation of minority representation
- Documentation of third-party DBE activities conducted for FHWA and FTA funded projects
**Products**
- Documentation of public involvement meetings
- Project specific public involvement outreach activities and collateral materials
- Project specific public involvement documentation and reporting
- Title VI Report
- DBE Report (provided with UPWP semi-annual report)
- Transportation planning/project specific webpages
- MPO member training and education events/courses

**Staffing**
RPCGB, direct contract labor and/or third-party contractors for activities, and organizations

**Timeline for Proposed Work**
- Title VI Report – September 2017
- DBE Report – October 2017 and April 2018

**Financial Responsibility**
FHWA PL and FTA 5303 planning funds have been consolidated into one PL category

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4.1 Air Quality Planning

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

Previous Work
Alabama Partners for Clean Air (APCA) worked many outreach events throughout the year, particularly in the business and civic community. APCA conducted voluntary emission testing, promoted idle-free zones and facilitated a Car Care program. A report documenting the program and funding activities of APCA was completed for the period October 1, 2015 – September 30, 2016.

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

- Marketing and Public outreach educates the public about air quality issues and the consequences that individual choices have on air quality
- Employer and employee outreach to get major employers involved in air quality issues and encourage employees to travel to work by modes other than single-occupant vehicles
- Science and Environmental Education teaches children about air pollution, its health impacts, and how it can be prevented
- Clean Cities and Alternative Fuels program to reduce emissions from fleet vehicles through hybrid technology and alternative fuels. The Alabama Clean Fuels Coalition is lead partner
- Air Quality Forecasting program is to produce and issue daily forecasts of particle pollution levels in Jefferson and Shelby counties. The lead partner for this activity is the Jefferson County Department of Health.
- 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
- Program Administration includes managing all air quality contracts, processing invoices, producing the annual report, monitoring performance and execution of contracts, and providing support to the APCA

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

Staffing
RPCGB, direct contract labor and/or third-party contractors for activities, and organizations

Timeline for Proposed Work
Annual Report – April 2019

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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
- Environmental data collected to catalog and update information specific to:
  - Hazardous Waste Air Release (FRS sites)
  - Superfund Sites
  - Toxic Release Inventory
  - Brownfields

Proposed Work
- Environmental Mapping - continuous updates and refinements to the environmental maps
- Continue to participate in and provide support to Brownfield planning efforts
- Promote consistency between the RTP and state and local land use plans and plans for conservation and development
- Encourage the reduction or mitigation of stormwater impacts on surface transportation
- 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
- Environmental Maps
- Outreach and Education Activities
**Staffing**
RPCGB, direct contract labor and/or third-party contractors for activities, and organizations

**Timeline for Proposed Work**
Ongoing activities throughout the fiscal year

**Financial Responsibility**
FHWA PL and FTA 5303 planning funds have been consolidated into one PL category

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4.3 Advanced Planning, Programming, and Logical Engineering (APPLE)

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

- 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
- Assisting project sponsors in better articulating project scope and understanding both the planning considerations and potential costs
- Assisting the project development process by educating local governments about the ALDOT project development process
- Providing information to the Birmingham MPO in order to better manage uncertainties in program funding

Previous Work
Completed and Ongoing APPLE Projects include:

- City of Vestavia Hills - Cahaba Liberty Trail Project (complete)
- Homewood Intersection and Corridor Traffic Operational Study (complete)
- St. Clair County US 411 from CR 10 (Park Avenue) to Kerr Road (complete)
- Mountain Brook Traffic Study (complete)
- Pelham Trails and Greenways Study (complete)
- Mountain Brook Bridges Study (complete)
- Pelham New Roads Study (complete)
- Helena School Intersections Study (complete)
- Jefferson County Acton Road Study (complete)
- UAB Complete Streets/Road Diet Study (complete)
- Dunnavant Valley Greenway Study (complete)
- Mountain Brook Sidewalks Study (complete)
- Lakeshore Extension Study
- CR-47/CR-39 Intersection Study
- Vulcan Greenway Study
- Crosshaven Drive Study
- Hollywood Blvd/US-280 Study
- 20th Street Study
- Avenue F Bridge Study
- Argo Intersections Study
- Gardendale New Road Study
- Cahaba River Road Study
- UAB North-South Streets Study

Proposed Work
The RPCGB 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 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:
• Funding consultant/contractor work activities that directly develop of APPLE reports
• Managing the feasibility assessment process for small municipalities/local governments
• Support consultant/contractor activities as related to the development of APPLE reports
• 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. Except for certain duties and responsibilities extended to the Birmingham MPO in writing and for a specific 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
• Project Specific Advanced Planning Reports and Technical Memoranda
• Project status Reports
• Project Development Educational Workshops and Seminars

Staffing
RPCGB, ALDOT, direct contract labor and/or third party contractors for activities, and organizations

Timeline for Proposed Work
Ongoing activities throughout the fiscal year

Financial Responsibility

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4.4 Climate Change

Objectives
- Develop Climate Change evaluation metrics
- Evaluate the RTP’s impact on climate change
- Evaluate planned and programmed transportation projects’ impact on climate change
- 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 FY 2017. Previous work produced a report titled *Climate Change Considerations and On-Road Greenhouse Gas Emissions in the Birmingham Metropolitan Planning Area*.

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

Products
- Vulnerability analysis of transportation infrastructure to climate change and weather hazards
- Baseline climate change performance measures

Staffing
RPCGB, direct contract labor and/or third-party contractors, and organizations

Timeline for Proposed Work
Ongoing activities throughout the fiscal year.

Financial Responsibility
FHWA PL and FTA 5303 planning funds have been consolidated into one PL category

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5.1 Regional Transportation Plan

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

- Technically based on the latest available data for land use, demographics, and travel patterns
- Comprehensive in nature and supports the development of a multimodal transportation system
- Philosophically based on regional goals and values, and are informed by the federal Planning Factors and Livability Principles
- 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.

Previous Work
- Coordinated with state and federal agencies
- Initiated a Regional Freight Plan with Cambridge Systematics. Conducted a Freight Training session with 40 attendees, conducted 20 stakeholder interviews, hosted three Freight Advisory Committee Meetings, compiled a regional freight system profile, and began the project identification and prioritization process.
- Initiated a Greater Birmingham Regional Active Transportation Plan with Toole Design Group. Conducted 15 stakeholder interviews, hosted an Active Transportation Advisory Committee meeting, conducted public involvement meetings and pop up events, conducted tv interviews and online surveys and mapping tools, reviewed demand, safety and bicycle level of stress analyses.
- Continuation of data collection for use in RTP reports and analysis of proposed project and policy recommendations

Proposed Work
- Completion of the Regional Freight Plan – the development of a Regional Freight Plan will act as the guiding document for the implementation of freight projects in the region. It will include short, medium, and long term goals, objectives, and performance measures. It will set policy priorities and include recommendations for policy changes at the local and state level. Finally, it will include a listing of prioritized projects with specific freight benefits and will serve as the freight element of the 2045 RTP.
- Completion of the Greater Birmingham Regional Active Transportation Plan (B-Active Plan) – the development of the Active Transportation Plan will serve as the Active Transportation element of the 2045 RTP, and therefore will provide the basis by which future funding priorities of the MPO are established for bicycle and pedestrian accommodations within Jefferson, Shelby and portions of St. Clair and Blount Counties.
- Coordinate with ALDOT on setting goals, objectives, performance measures, and targets, as required by the FAST Act, for inclusion into the RTP.
- 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.
• Send out a Request for Qualifications and select a firm to serve as an on-call consultant. This consultant will provide various tasks to support the production of the RTP. Specific tasks will be determined as needed during the development of the RTP.

• Collect and analyze safety data for trends and produce appropriate graphics to be published in the RTP

• In support of the PEA – *Models of Regional Planning* (referenced in Task 2.2), 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**
- Regional Freight Plan
- Greater Birmingham Regional Active Transportation Plan (B-Active Plan)
- Performance Measures

**Staffing**
RPCGB and direct contract labor and/or third-party contractors for activities, and organizations

**Timeline for Proposed Work**
Ongoing activities throughout the fiscal year

**Financial Responsibility**
FHWA PL and FTA 5303 planning funds have been consolidated into one PL category

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5.1.1 Air Quality Conformity Analysis and Reporting (RTP)

Objectives
To demonstrate that the RTP, and the funded projects and programs contained within it and the TIP, conform to the approved regional air quality standards as determined by the Statewide Implementation Plan (SIP), and are consistent with the Clean Air Act of 1990.

Previous Work:

- The RPCGB worked with the IAC to review proposals related to air quality and to recommend ways to reduce emissions and congestion
- Air quality model runs via MOVES2010b/MOVES2014 were conducted for annual PM2.5 and 24-hour PM2.5 standards in 2016
- Complete the 2016 emission rate runs for Jefferson and Shelby Counties

Proposed Work:

- Continue the involvement and cooperation with IAC to monitor air quality for the MPA
- Continue the air quality conformity analysis and the air quality conformity determination reporting to comply with changes in the regulations governing air quality and transportation planning
- Continue to update input files of MOVES2014a with local data collections when they become available
- Climate Change will be supported (see Task 4.4 for details)
- Adjustments will be made in the conformity determination process to accommodate schedule changes in highway capacity projects, conformity years, and other modifications to the network
- Amendments to the Regional Plan and the FY 2016-19 TIP will be done as needed

Products:

- An Air Quality Conformity analysis that demonstrates the total projected emissions are within the allowable limits or as needed based on modifications to the RTP
- Emission Rate Datasets for Jefferson and Shelby Counties

Staffing
RPCGB, direct contract labor, and/or third-party contractors for activities, and organizations

Timeline for Proposed Work
Ongoing activities throughout the fiscal year

Financial Responsibility
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5.1.2 Regional Transportation Plan Project Listings for Air Quality Conformity

**Objectives**
To amend the RTP as required, using additions and deletions to the program listings, and modifications to existing scopes of work and budgets.

**Previous Work**
- Monitored the proposed projects and changes of project scopes of work
- Identified capacity projects to be included in the conformity analysis
- Selected capacity project based on the air quality conformity analysis years

**Proposed Work**
- Continue monitoring the capacity project changes
- Identify new highway capacity projects to be added to the 2045 RTP/TIP
- Monitor highway capacity project schedule changes crossing the conformity analysis years
- Review and document proposed new highway capacity projects constituting a Plan amendment that are subject to assignment to an air quality conformity year and a system level conformity determination

**Products**
- Capacity Project listing tables
- Project maps
- Revised financial tables based on the Capacity Project listings

**Staffing**
RPCGB

**Timeline for Proposed Work**
Updated capacity project listing table when needed

**Financial Responsibility**
FHWA PL and FTA 5303 planning funds have been consolidated into one PL category

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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 governments, 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 and Indicators. Administer TIP amendment requests, and ensure that the Transportation Improvement Program is advancing the goals, objectives and priorities of the RTP.

Previous Work
- Coordinate TIP development with ALDOT and project sponsors
- TIP Amendments - the RPCGB processed TIP amendments as needed
- Continued to maintain TIP financial constraint
- Annual Obligations Listing - the RPCGB developed and published a list of obligated projects for the previous fiscal year
- Continued to monitor the status of CMAQ and STPBH projects
- Updated and refined on-line interactive TIP map

Proposed Work
- TIP Amendments - the RPCGB will process TIP amendments as needed
- Continue to maintain TIP financial constraint
- Annual Obligations Listing - the RPCGB will develop and publish a list of obligated projects for the previous fiscal year
- Continue to monitor status of CMAQ and STPBH projects
- Identify and contact sponsors of inactive projects with a focus on projects over 10 years old
- Update and refine online interactive TIP map
- Collect and analyze safety data for trends and report concerns
- Coordinate with ALDOT on setting goals, objectives, performance measures, and targets, as required by the FAST Act, for inclusion into the TIP
- Prepare and present Livability Indicator data to be displayed in the TIP as numbers or percentages in charts, tables, or maps

Products
Annual Listing of Previous Year Obligated (Authorized) Projects

Staffing
RPCGB

Timeline for Proposed Work
Annual Obligations Listing – Fall 2017

Financial Responsibility
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5.2.1 Amend TIP Project Listings for Air Quality Conformity

**Objectives**
To amend the TIP, both annually and as required, in accordance with additions and deletions to the RTP project and program listings and modifications to existing scopes of work and budgets.

**Previous Work**
- Completed the 2015 and 2016 annual CMAQ obligated project emissions report
- Selected existing and committed projects for plan updates

**Proposed Work**
- Continue annual summary reporting of emissions reductions to document reductions achieved through projects obligated with CMAQ funding
- Continue monitoring the capacity project changes
- Identify new highway capacity projects to be added to the 2045 RTP/TIP
- Monitor highway capacity project schedule changes crossing the conformity analysis years
- Review and document proposed new highway capacity projects constituting a Plan amendment that are subject to assignment to an air quality conformity year and a system level conformity determination

**Products**
- Project listings
- Project location maps
- Annual obligated project emissions report for FHWA that documents total emissions achieved for projects funded with the CMAQ program

**Staffing**
RPCGB

**Timeline for Proposed Work**
- E+C project list - September 2018
- Annual CMAQ obligated project emissions report – February 2018

**Financial Responsibility**
FHWA PL and FTA 5303 planning funds have been consolidated into one PL category

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5.3 Public Transportation Planning

Objectives
To promote a regional public transportation system that connects people to activities and services, while encouraging job growth, especially in economically distressed areas. RPCGB will help existing and potential public transportation providers with planning, service delivery, financing strategies, and evaluation of multimodal needs, deficiencies, and opportunities.

Previous Work
- Participated in meetings with the BJCTA and its consultants
- Assisted BJCTA in the administration of the local Section 5310 grant
- Conducted procurement process for capital equipment on behalf of nonprofit organizations
- Provided information and assistance to eligible agencies regarding grants
- Provided technical assistance to small transportation providers
- Conducted a transportation study for the Alabama Council on Developmental Disabilities
- Begin work on update of Human Services Coordinated Transportation Plan

Proposed Work
- Coordinate with ALDOT on setting goals, objectives, performance measures, and targets, as required by the FAST Act, for inclusion in the RTP
- Provide technical assistance to transportation providers, including assistance with data collection and analysis
- Identify and evaluate local bus and paratransit needs, and assist with coordination of elderly and disabled transportation, including:
  - Maps and analysis of demographic data
  - Technical assistance with service enhancements, transit oriented development, alternate modes of transportation, and consolidation of services/central call center
  - Transit planning, BRT, and regional bus service
  - Updating the Human Services Coordinated Transportation Plan
  - Ensuring approved projects are included in the TIP and STIP
  - Assisting the BJCTA with maintaining and modifying transit system and route maps
  - Assisting the BJCTA with development of their Transit Assessment Management Plan, including the state of good repair performance measures

Products
- Human Services Coordinated Transportation Plan
- Data collection and analysis
- Route and system maps (as requested)
- Requests for Projects; Requests for Quotes

Staffing
RPCGB, transportation providers, contract labor and/or third-party contractors

Timeline for Proposed Work
Ongoing activities throughout the fiscal year
**Financial Responsibility**

FHWA PL and FTA 5303 planning funds have been consolidated into one PL category

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5.4 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
- Hosted Bike-to-Work Day and Walk-to-School Day activities
- Facilitated a bicycle safety conference with FHWA
- Coordinated with Fresh Water Land Trust to implement Red Rock Ridge and Valley Trail System in area plans
- Purchased data from Strava, which collects GPS data from actual bike rides thereby mapping the most popular routes in the region
- Encouraged municipalities to develop a city-wide (or county-wide) bicycle/pedestrian plan
- Developed and managed a Sidewalk Master Plan for the City of Homewood
- Facilitated discussions regarding Road Diets and Complete Streets with University of Alabama Birmingham (UAB) and the City of Birmingham
- Helped to secure funding for the City of Birmingham Sidewalk Master Plan
- Helped to secure funding for the City of Birmingham multi-modal plan and assisted with the development of the scope for the plan
- Developed a GIS database of all federally funded bicycle facilities (existing and funded/proposed)
- Developed a GIS database for all federally funded pedestrian projects
- Utilized Miovision for bike/ped counts to identify corridors with high bicycle and pedestrian activity
- Supported the launch of the Bike-share (ZYP) program
- Coordinated Safe Routes to School activities, including the purchase of hardware and software for schools to develop safe walking maps

Proposed Work
General Bicycle/Pedestrian Planning - respond to requests from Birmingham MPO member governments for assistance in planning bicycle and pedestrian facilities. Encouraging cities to select projects from the Red Rock Ridge and Valley Trail System or other local bike/ped plans when submitting projects for the Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) or CMAQ funding. Continue to maintain the GIS database of federally funded pedestrian and bicycle facilities. Utilize Strava data to identify high use bicycle corridors.

Facilitate the Birmingham MPO’s Active Transportation (formerly Bike/Ped) Advisory Committee as needed.

Birmingham Regional Active Transportation Plan Update – issue a Request for Proposals to update the Active Transportation Plan. The MPO staff will assist with the data collection effort. The scope of work will include an inventory of facilities and programs, an Existing Conditions report, the development of a non-motorized network to address critical gaps in the regional system, which will serve as a framework for identifying and selecting bicycle and pedestrian projects for the future Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP). A toolbox for funding and implementation strategies will be created.

Utilize the Miovision camera to collect bike/ped data at various locations.
Local Planning Assistance – Regular coordination with non-profit and advocacy groups to provide assistance with the planning and funding of bike/ped facilities. MPO staff will continually encourage cities to formally adopt and implement their portion of the Red Rock Ridge and Valley Trail System and/or the Alabama Department of Transportation’s Statewide Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. MPO staff will encourage cities to adopt Complete Streets policies.

Education and Outreach Activities – MPO staff will support ongoing programmatic activities and will assist with outreach efforts. MPO staff will coordinate regional events for Bike/Walk to Work Day and will provide support to CommuteSmart Birmingham.

Safety — Collect and analyze safety data for trends and develop options to mitigate concerns.

Products
- GIS database and maps illustrating bicycle and/or pedestrian projects
- Active Transportation Plan Update
- Bike/ped traffic counts (Miovision)
- Red Rock Ridge and Valley Trail System maps for municipalities to use in implementation efforts
- Documentation of annual Bike/Walk to Work Day events
- Education events, workshops, outreach, and webpage development

Staffing
RPCGB, direct contract labor and/or third-party contractors for activities, and organizations

Timeline for Proposed Work
Ongoing activities throughout the fiscal year

Financial Responsibility
FHWA PL and FTA 5303 planning funds have been consolidated into one PL category

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5.5 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 related employment and economic activity mapping
- Stakeholder outreach
- Met with I-20/I-22 corridor partners
- Participated in Megaregional planning activities
- Developed Freight element of Long Range Transportation Plan

Proposed Work
Freight System Data Collection and Performance Measures (see Task 2.1 – Data Collection and Management)

Stakeholder Outreach - Stakeholders will be engaged to assess needs and continue established dialogue. Stakeholders will also be sought to participate in development of the Freight Plan.

Freight Profile and 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. The Freight Plan will identify freight assets that currently exist in the region as well as characteristics of freight movements into, out of, and through the area. To this end, the RPCGB seeks to develop a baseline assessment of freight in infrastructure and activity that will be compiled into a Regional Freight Profile. The Freight Profile will consist of the following information for each of the major freight modes in the four-county region of Jefferson, Shelby, St. Clair, and Blount:
- Description of existing infrastructure
- Volume of freight moved
- Commodities moved
- Economic impact
- Planned infrastructure changes

Using the Freight Profile as a baseline of information, the RPCGB will develop a Regional Freight Plan. The freight plan will act as the guiding document for the implementation of freight projects in the region. It will include short, medium, and long term goals, objectives, and performance measures. Performance measures will be coordinated with ALDOT as statewide measures are developed and adopted. It will set policy priorities and include recommendations for policy changes at the local and state level. It will analyze safety data for trends and identify concerns. Finally, it will include a listing of prioritized projects with specific freight benefits. The various components of the freight plan will need to be created and vetted through consultation with regional stakeholders, including partner agencies, freight system users, and the public. Along with the plan, the consultant will develop a strategic framework and recommendations for the ongoing development of the freight plan.
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 potentially include I-22 to Memphis. The strategy will engage other regional councils of government potentially in other states as well as Alabama. This outreach should 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 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.

Interstate 65 Freight Corridor Strategy - Following the I-20/I-22 Corridor Strategy, the RPCGB will begin to 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 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**
- Freight Data Collection
- Stakeholder Outreach
- Freight Profile and Plan
- I-20/I-22 Freight Corridor Strategy
- I-65 Corridor Engagement

**Staffing**
RPCGB, direct contract labor and/or third-party contractors for activities, and organizations

**Timeline for Proposed Work**
Ongoing activities throughout the fiscal year

**Financial Responsibility**
FHWA PL and FTA 5303 planning funds have been consolidated into one PL category

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5.6 Transportation System Performance Management and Monitoring

Objectives
To identify and/or develop appropriate measures to monitor the performance of the transportation system in accordance with the RTP goals and objectives, the Congestion Management Process (CMP), federal and state performance targets, and supporting/complementary planning functions; i.e., economic development or land use.

Previous Work
- CMP Committee Coordination
- Regional Transportation Data Clearinghouse Agreement (UAB Transportation Data Center)
- HERE Data monthly summary reports
- Top 10 Bottleneck summary reports

Proposed Work
RPCGB will work and coordinate with ALDOT on setting goals, objectives, performance measures, and targets, as required by the FAST Act, concerning freight movements and operations in the planning area.

The CMP enables the Birmingham Metropolitan Planning Organization 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 after year. The information gathered is also used to inform the transportation decision-making process, specifically 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.

Transportation System Performance Monitoring and Reporting - Building from previous work and following the guidance of the U.S. Department of Transportation, the Birmingham MPO will continue to identify performance measures including analyzing and summarizing HERE data. This will include an expansion of the ongoing coordination with ALDOT and their efforts with this work. The MPO will also endeavor to improve transportation system resiliency and reliability.

Safety – Safety data will be collected and analyzed for trends and options to mitigate concerns will be developed.

Trail Count Program - conduct bicycle and pedestrian counts along both regional and local off-road trails and on-street bicycle facilities. Data will be downloaded, tabulated and assessed to evaluate usage and demand characteristics.

In addition, the RPCGB will be hosting a workshop titled “Integrating Planning for Operations into the Regional Transportation Planning Process.” This is an initiative by the FHWA, and it will assist with the work proposed in this task.

BJCTA will collect, maintain and report on transit performance indicators to include metrics to support the federal Livability Principles for use in benchmarking the transit system’s performance and informing both the MPO’s and BJCTA’s decision-making process.
**Products**
- Set goals, objectives, performance measures, and targets that will be used to monitor the transportation system to enhance freight movements throughout the region
- Update and enhance the freight database
- Regional Transportation Data Clearinghouse Agreement
- HERE Data monthly summary reports
- Top 10 Bottleneck summary reports
- Regional Transportation Data Clearinghouse Administration
- Data processing for MioVision

**Staffing**
RPCGB, direct contract labor and/or third-party contractors for activities and organizations

**Financial Responsibility**
FHWA PL and FTA 5303 planning funds have been consolidated into one PL category

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5.7 Transportation Safety Planning

Objectives
To incorporate transportation safety into the planning process and improve transportation safety in the community. To support ALDOT’s efforts to improve safety on the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.

Previous Work
- Coordinated MPO safety planning efforts with ALDOT
- Helped set up and hosted Regional Safety Planning Meeting with ALDOT Safety Engineer, University of Alabama, Cambridge Systematics, and several local officials
- Assisted in drafting Regional Safety Plan to be developed by University of Alabama and Cambridge Systematics
- Supported pedestrian and bicycle safety outreach campaigns including Public Service Announcements
- Attended two Safety Planning Workshops hosted by ALDOT in Montgomery

Proposed Work
- Coordinate with ALDOT on setting goals, objectives, performance measures, and targets, as required by the FAST Act, concerning safety in the MPA
- Evaluate traffic, freight, bicycle, and pedestrian movements to enhance safety in the MPA
- Work with municipal stakeholders to determine the Birmingham MPO’s roles (if any) in declared emergencies and catastrophes – Region 1 Emergency Planning Team
- Continue to support pedestrian and bicycle safety outreach campaigns, to include Public Service Announcements to educate non-motorists and motorists about behaviors impacting traveler safety
- Monitor the federal rulemaking on performance measures for safety
- Continue to assist with the development of the Regional Safety Plan which will be used to create the Statewide Safety Plan
- Participate as a stakeholder on a committee to be developed by ALDOT for the Statewide Safety Plan
- Expand the education and outreach efforts of the Translational Research for Injury Prevention (TRIP) Laboratory at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (Dr. Despina Stavrinos, Assistant Professor of Psychology). The TRIP Lab with further educate young drivers about the consequences of distracted driving

Products
- Set goals, objectives, performance measures, and targets; identify high accident locations; develop maps and reports concerning safety issues; and evaluate traffic, freight, bicycle, and pedestrian movements
- Progress reports from Translational Research for Injury Prevention (TRIP) Laboratory

Staffing
RPCGB, direct contract labor and/or third-party contractors for activities, and organizations

Timeline for Proposed Work
Ongoing activities throughout the fiscal year
**Financial Responsibility**
FHWA PL and FTA 5303 planning funds have been consolidated into one PL category

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5.8 Technical Assistance for Local Communities and Agencies

**Objectives**
To provide technical assistance, and/or support to local entities (governmental and non-governmental), and the 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**
- Meeting attendance
- Assistance to local governments
- Data mining and report processing
- Document printing and delivery
- Printing maps
- Meeting facilitation/organization

**Proposed Work**
The RPCGB 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:

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

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

**Staffing**
RPCGB

**Timeline for Proposed Work**
Ongoing activities throughout the fiscal year.
Financial Responsibility
FHWA PL and FTA 5303 planning funds have been consolidated into one PL category

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6.1 CommuteSmart Program (Rideshare)

**Objectives**
To improve air quality and reduce traffic congestion by working with individuals and employers to reduce the number of drive-alone commutes.

**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**
- 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
- Turn-Key Vanpool Operations Services
- Study the establishment of a regional bikeshare cooperative

**Products**
- Document emissions reduction estimates – March 2018
- Outreach and marketing of vanpool and rideshare programs - Ongoing
- Customer service support to program participants - Ongoing
- Commuter incentive programs such as GetGreen and CommuterClub - Ongoing
- Partner with companies with 150 or more employees - Ongoing
- Annual Report – March 2018

**Staffing**
RPCGB, direct contract labor and/or third-party contractors for activities, and other organizations

**Timeline for Proposed Work**
- Document emissions reduction estimates – March 2018
- Annual Report – March 2018

**Financial Responsibility**

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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 Alabaster State Route 119 Overlay District and Design Guidelines
- City of Center Point Comprehensive Plan Update
- City of Birmingham - Framework Plans:
  - Northeast Area Framework Plan
  - Southwest 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 2017 and scheduled to be completed in FY 2018 include:
- City of Birmingham:
  - Ensley – Pratt Framework Plan
  - Eastern Area Framework Plan
- City of Homewood Central Business District Master Plan
- Built Environment and Health Project (for the City of Birmingham Neighborhoods)

Projects currently being negotiated in FY 2017 to begin in FY 2018 and be completed during FY 2019:
- City of Birmingham:
  - City Center Framework Plan
  - Southern Area Framework Plan

Products
Plans and programs suitable for implementation

Staffing
RPCGB, direct contract labor and/or third-party contractors for activities, and organizations

Timeline for Proposed Work
Ongoing activities throughout the fiscal year

Financial Responsibility

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TASK 7.0: ADA

7.1 Compliance

Objectives
The RPCGB, on behalf of the Birmingham Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), will continue to provide technical assistance to various cities and counties within the MPA to perform ADA Self Evaluations, ADA Transition, or ADA Access Plans in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

Previous Work
- Contacted each of the municipalities to determine the status of any existing ADA Self Evaluations and Transition Plans
- Collected contact information on ADA Coordinators for each municipality
- Documented the status of the municipalities and ADA Coordinators on a tracking table
- Made recommendations for those municipalities that do not have a Self-Evaluation or Transition Plan
- Assisted municipalities with their Self Evaluations, Transition Plans, or Access Plans (only assistance will be provided; no plan development)
- Performed field reviews as necessary to provide research and recommendations the municipalities

Proposed Work
- Continue to document the status of the municipalities and ADA Coordinators on tracking table
- Continue to make recommendations for those municipalities that do not have a Self-Evaluation or Transition Plan
- Continue to assist municipalities with their Self Evaluations, Transition Plans, or Access Plans (only assistance will be provided; no plan development)
- Continue to perform field reviews as necessary to provide research and recommendations

Products
- ADA Tracking Table including status

Staffing
RPCGB, direct contract labor, and/or third-party contractors for activities, and organizations

Timeline for Proposed Work
Ongoing activities throughout the fiscal year

Financial Responsibility
FHWA PL and FTA 5303 planning funds have been consolidated into one PL category

Total $43,750
PL $35,000
Local $8,750
LIST OF ACRONYMS

ADEM .......................................................... Alabama Department of Environmental Management
ALDOT .......................................................... Alabama Department of Transportation
APCA .......................................................... Alabama Partners for Clean Air
BJCTA .......................................................... Birmingham Jefferson County Transit Authority
CMAQ .......................................................... Congestion Mitigation Air Quality
COOP .......................................................... Continuity of Operations Plan
CPG .......................................................... FHWA and FTA Consolidation of Planning Fund
CTP .......................................................... Comprehensive Transportation Plan
EPA .......................................................... Environmental Protection Agency
FAST-Act .......................................................... Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act
FHWA .......................................................... Federal Highway Administration
FTA .......................................................... Federal Transit Administration
GHG .......................................................... Greenhouse Gases
GIS .......................................................... Geographic Information System
HSCTP .......................................................... Human Services Coordinated Transportation Plan
IAC .......................................................... Interagency Consultation
JCDH .......................................................... Jefferson County Department of Health
LAP .......................................................... Language Assistance Plan
LEP .......................................................... Limited English Proficiency
LRTP .......................................................... Long Range Transportation Plan
MOVES(2014a) ................................................... Motor Vehicle Emissions Simulator
MPA .......................................................... Metropolitan Planning Area
MPO .......................................................... Metropolitan Planning Organization
NEPA .......................................................... National Environmental Policy Act of 1969
PL .......................................................... Federal Highway Administration Planning Funds
RTP .......................................................... Regional Transportation Plan
SAFETEA-LU ...... Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users
SLS .......................................................... State or Local Share
SRTS .......................................................... Safe Routes to School
STIP .......................................................... State Transportation Improvement Program
STP .......................................................... Surface Transportation Program
STPBP .......................................................... Surface Transportation Program for Birmingham
TAP .......................................................... Transportation Alternatives Program
TAZ .......................................................... Traffic Analysis Zones
TIP .......................................................... Transportation Improvement Program
USDOT .......................................................... U.S. Department of Transportation
VMT .......................................................... Vehicle Miles Traveled
**TABLE 1**

**UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM**

**FY 2018**

*(Organizational Responsibility)*

**Federal Dollars Only**

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*The FHWA PL and FTA 5303 planning funds have been consolidated into the PL-FHWA/FTA category*
## TABLE 2
UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM
FY 2018
(Funding Sources)

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<th>ALDOT SUPPORT:SLS</th>
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<td>5.1 Regional Transportation Plan</td>
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PL = $912,628 (annual FY 2018 mark) + $200,000 projected carryover from FY 2017 = $1,112,628. ** Indicates carryover funding by task from FY 2017. All carryover is for contracts with consultants from FY 2017. The FHWA PL and FTA 5303 planning funds have been consolidated into the PL-FHWA/FTA category. MPOs may carry over funds for 3 years. The oldest unexpended funds will be returned to the funding pool for reallocation.
Birmingham MPO Policy Committee

Advisory Committee (sets MPO Policy Committee Agenda)

Transportation Citizens' Committee

Nominating Committee

Transportation Technical Committee

Nominating Committee

Congestion Management Committee

The staff of the Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham also serves as staff to the Birmingham Metropolitan Planning Organization.

Legend:
- Green: Decision Makers
- Red: Voting Committees
- Yellow: Formal Committees
- Blue: Ad Hoc Advisory Committees

Formal Connections:
LIVABILITY INDICATORS

1. **Provide more transportation choices**
   Develop safe, reliable, and economical transportation choices to decrease household transportation costs, reduce our nation’s dependence on foreign oil, improve air quality, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and promote public health.

   **Performance Indicator:** Mode Share

2. **Promote equitable, affordable housing**
   Expand location- and energy-efficient housing choices for people of all ages, incomes, races, and ethnicities to increase mobility and lower the combined cost of housing and transportation.

   **Performance Indicator:** Jobs/Housing Balance

3. **Enhance economic competitiveness**
   Improve economic competitiveness through reliable and timely access to employment centers, educational opportunities, services, and other basic needs by workers, as well as expanded business access to markets.

   **Performance Indicator:** Travel Time Index

4. **Support existing communities**
   Target federal funding toward existing communities—through strategies like transit-oriented, mixed-use development and land recycling—to increase community revitalization and the efficiency of public works investments and to safeguard rural landscapes.

   **Performance Indicator:** Percentage of Projects that Include Air Quality Mitigation

5. **Coordinate and leverage federal policies and investment**
   Align federal policies and funding to remove barriers to collaboration, leverage funding, and increase the accountability and effectiveness of all levels of government to plan for future growth, including making smart energy choices such as locally generated renewable energy.

   **Performance Indicator:** Project Funding Diversity

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
## Current Studies

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### Potential Studies

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<th>Sponsor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trails/Greenways</td>
<td>Alabaster</td>
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<td>Transit Station</td>
<td>Bessemer/BJCTA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Green Streets</td>
<td>City of Birmingham</td>
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<tr>
<td>City Center Framework Plan</td>
<td>City of Birmingham</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Area Framework Plan</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Clair County Railroad Crossing Study</td>
<td>St. Clair County</td>
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<tr>
<td>US-31 Corridor Signal System Study</td>
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### Statewide Plans

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<td>Statewide Freight Plan</td>
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<td>Statewide Transportation Plan / Model Update</td>
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Note: for more information on any of these studies, contact the project sponsor or the RPCGB