

Draft Merrimack Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization (MVMPO) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

What is It?

The MVMPO MOU outlines the framework of the MVMPO and specifies the Organization's function, its membership, structure, and operation in pursuing its responsibilities in implementing of the federally mandated '3C Planning Process' in the Merrimack Valley.

Why is it being updated?

The MVMPO MOU was last Updated in 2011. As part of our federal Transportation Planning Certification Review last summer, USDOT required that the MPO update this document.

Key Changes:

- Better defines the process for selecting four MVMPO Subregion representatives;
- Acknowledges that the MVMPO will meet monthly and can be accommodated in a virtual setting (pending status of Commonwealth's Open Meeting Laws);
- Clarifies that MVMPO Meetings will follow Roberts Rules of Order;
- Defines the processes that the MPO will follow in:
 - Developing Financial Plans that will be used in preparing the Metropolitan Transportation Plan and Transportation Improvement Program;
 - Preparing a List of Projects in the region that receiving federal transportation funding obligations in the preceding federal fiscal year, and
 - How the MPO will address its Performance Management Planning responsibilities.

What's Next

This Draft was presented to the MVMPO at its February 23rd meeting, and it will be distributed to the mayors, town managers and administrators and boards of selectmen. We've already received comments from USDOT and others. We hope to receive additional comments on the Draft and present them to the MVMPO at its March 23rd meeting where the document may then be modified and approved.