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# Purpose of the Plan

This document contains the Chisholm Trail Metropolitan Planning Organization's (MPO) official policy for the provision of meaningful public participation in transportation planning and related activities. The Public Participation Plan describes the strategies and techniques that the Chisholm Trail MPO uses to inform and engage the public in transportation planning issues with the purpose of maximizing participation and effectiveness.

# **Federal Requirements for Public Participation**

The Chisholm Trail MPO Public Participation Plan has been developed in accordance with the requirements of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). The IIJA encourages proactive participation process throughout the transportation planning process mandating public access to complete information, timely public notice, and early and continuing public participation opportunities in developing plans.

The Chisholm Trail MPO's public participation process shall:

- 1. Be developed in consultation with all interested parties and shall, at a minimum, describe explicit procedures, strategies, and desired outcomes;
- 2. Provide adequate public notice of public participation activities and time for public review and comment at key decision points, including a reasonable opportunity to comment on the proposed metropolitan transportation plan and the TIP;
- 3. Provide timely notice and reasonable access to information about transportation issues and processes;
- 4. Employ visualization techniques to describe metropolitan transportation plans and TIPs;
- 5. Make public information (technical information and meeting notices) available in electronically accessible formats and means, such as the World Wide Web;
- 6. Hold any public meetings at convenient and accessible locations and times;
- 7. Demonstrate explicit consideration and response to public input received during the development of the metropolitan transportation plan and the TIP;
- Seek out and consider the needs of those traditionally underserved by existing transportation systems, such as low-income and minority households, who may face challenges accessing employment and other services;
- Provide an additional opportunity for public comment, if the final metropolitan transportation plan or TIP differs significantly from the version that was made available for public comment by the MPO and raises new material issues that interested parties could not reasonably have foreseen from the public involvement efforts;
- 10. Coordinate with the statewide transportation planning public involvement and consultation processes; and
- 11. Periodically reviewing the effectiveness of the procedures and strategies contained in the participation plan to ensure a full and open participation process.

### Title VI and Non-Discrimination

Chisholm Trail MPO's public participation process shall remain consistent with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act and other Title VI regulations, Executive Order 12898 (Environmental Justice), Executive Order 13166 (Limited English Proficiency), The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and other federal non-discrimination policies. It is the Chisholm Trail MPO's policy that no person shall, on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, age, or familial status be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination or retaliation under any federally or non-federally funded program or activity administered by the Chisholm Trail MPO.

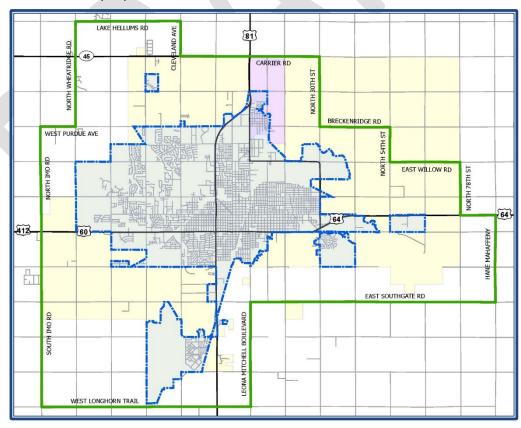
To ensure that cultural and language barriers are overcome, Limited English Proficiency (LEP) procedures will be implemented, such as making information readily available, having documents translated, and public notices broadcasted for Spanish-speaking populations. Meetings and/or public hearings shall be made accessible and user-friendly for all stakeholders, taking into consideration convenient locations and schedules. Upon request, Chisholm Trail MPO will provide appropriate accommodations for residents with hearing and/or sight impairment.

Send any request for accommodation to the MPO Secretary, sanderson@enid.org.

### **Chisholm Trail MPO**

## Metropolitan Planning Area

The Chisholm Trail Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA) is 97.07 square miles, including most of the City of Enid (excluding Vance Air Force Base), the Town of North Enid and portions of Garfield County. In 2020, the Chisholm Trail MPA consisted of 52,735 people.



### **Transportation Policy Board**

The Transportation Policy Board (TPB) has been designated as the MPO for the Chisholm Trail metropolitan area and is the final approval authority for transportation planning. The TPB reviews and approves the overall work program and makes policy determinations concerning the transportation plan and the transportation improvement program.

## Transportation Technical Board

The Transportation Technical Board (TTB) coordinates transportation issues at the technical level and provides technical advice to the TPB.

# **Planning Documents and Public Involvement**

One of the most essential responsibilities of the Chisholm Trail MPO is the continual development or updating of several core products that guide the transportation planning process. The various documents, reports, and publications the Chisholm Trail MPO produces provide policy and technical information that the public needs in order to make more informed contributions. The Chisholm Trail MPO will make these plans and policy documents available to the public at meetings, on the Chisholm Trail MPO website, in person or by mail upon request, and at other appropriate locations and public meetings around the region.

### Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)

The MTP is one of the main products of the metropolitan transportation planning process, addressing no less than a twenty (20) year horizon. The transportation plan includes both long-range and short-range strategies that provide for the development of an integrated multimodal transportation system to facilitate the safe and efficient movement of people and goods in addressing current and future transportation demand.

## Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

The TIP is a prioritized list of transportation projects proposed for implementation during the next four years. Projects included in the TIP must be consistent with the MTP. The TIP is required to be financially constrained in each year of the program. This means that the funding identified for transportation projects in a given year must be equal to the amount reasonably expected to be available under existing federal, state and local programs. Prior to adoption of the TIP (or amendment) the Chisholm Trail MPO provides an opportunity for public review and comment and holds a public hearing. A project utilizing federal transportation funds may not proceed unless it is included in the TIP. Amendments and revisions of the TIP may occur at any time during the FY.

# Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

The purpose of the UPWP is to provide guidance for the continuing, comprehensive, and cooperative (3C) approach to transportation planning. The UPWP is based on the transportation planning priorities in the Enid area in consideration of federal planning factors and federal emphasis areas. The UPWP lists all work to be addressed during the FY and identifies revenue sources. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) must approve the budget and statement of work in the UPWP in writing by June 30<sup>th</sup>, before costs may be incurred for the new FY. The Chisholm Trail MPO will develop its first UPWP in FY2024.

# Public Participation Process (PPP)

The intent of the PPP is to encourage and support proactive public participation throughout the planning and decision making process related to the development of proposed transportation plans, programs, and projects so that a safe, efficient transportation system reflecting the needs and interests of all stakeholders can be

provided. Public participation provides residents, affected public agencies, providers of transportation and other interested party's reasonable opportunity to comment and participate in goal setting, problem solving, and expand the focus of transportation decision making.

Table 2 – Public Review Summary

#### Adoption

Planning Product	Schedule	Public Meeting Notice	Public Review and Comment Period
MTP	Every 5 years	1-5 days	30 days
TIP	Every 2 years	1-5 days	30 days
UPWP	Every year	1-5 days	14 days
PPP	Periodically	1-5 days	45 days

#### **Amendments**

Planning Product	Schedule	Public Meeting Notice	Public Review and Comment Period
MTP	As needed	1-5 days	14 days
TIP <sup>1</sup>	As needed	1-5 days	14 days
UPWP	As needed	1-5 days	14 days
PPP	As needed	1-5 days	45 days

## Other Significant Activities/Products

The Chisholm Trail MPO will consider and undertake appropriate outreach procedures on a case by case basis for other significant activities such as Planning Studies, Regional Plans, and other activities as deemed necessary.

# **Public Participation Strategies**

To best reach residents, the Chisholm Trail MPO uses a variety of outreach tools, engagement methods, and informational techniques. Although these tools often work together, they can be used individually for online and face to face engagement to inform and engage stakeholders, and obtain input for the transportation planning decision-making process.

Ways to convey information and engage residents may include:

### **Public Meetings**

All Chisholm Trail MPO board meetings are public meetings. Members of the public and representatives from all organizations are welcome and encouraged to attend.

#### **Public Hearings**

The Chisholm Trail MPO is committed to providing for sufficient opportunity and means for the public to review and comment on the transportation planning process, including the adoption of the MTP and TIP. Affected public agencies, representatives of public transportation organizations, private providers of transportation, representatives of users of public transportation, representatives of users of pedestrian walkways and bicycle transportation facilities, representatives of individuals with disabilities, and other interested parties will also

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> TIP modifications do not require a public comment period. Refer to the TIP/STIP procedures for more information.

have reasonable opportunity to review and comment on any substantial or significant change suggested for the MTP or TIP. Prior to adoption or amendment of the MTP or TIP, a public hearing will be conducted by the Chisholm Trail MPO's TPB. A notice of public hearing will be published in at least one newspaper in advance of any action taken by the TPB.

#### Email

Emails will be used to distribute transportation planning documents and information to those interested parties for review and comment. The Chisholm Trail MPO will develop and maintain a listing of interested parties to include:

- Residents
- Affected Public Agencies
- Representatives of Public Transportation
- Freight Shippers
- Providers of Freight Transportation Services
- Private providers of transportation
- Representatives of users of public transportation
- Representatives of users of pedestrian walkways and bicycle transportation facilities
- Disability Advocacy Groups
- Other interested parties

### Website

The Chisholm Trail MPO maintains a website to distribute information to the public about the transportation planning process. The site is regularly updated with content about ongoing projects and programs including opportunities for public participation.

### Social Media

In some cases, the Chisholm Trail MPO may use social media platforms to encourage and elicit public participation.