



▶ 2014-17 TIP.....1



▶ FREIGHT COMMITTEE  
MDOT MEETING.....2



▶ ATAC COMMITTEE  
WOLF RIVER BLVD.....3



▶ MPO CALENDAR  
ON THE MOVE..... 4

# Travel times

TO ENCOURAGE AND PROMOTE THE DEVELOPMENT OF A BALANCED, EFFICIENT, AND AFFORDABLE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM TO MEET THE NEEDS OF PEOPLE AND GOODS MOVING WITHIN AND THROUGH THE REGION, WHILE MINIMIZING THE EFFECTS OF TRANSPORTATION-RELATED AIR POLLUTION.

## 2014-17 TIP Adopted

*Public Review and Transportation Policy Board Adoption*

The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for FY 2014-2017 was adopted by the MPO's Transportation Policy Board on September 12, 2013. The TIP is a four year long, fiscally constrained, short-range program, which provides

this period three public meetings, located in each county within the Memphis MPO were held for the public to come and ask questions and provide comments on the plan before the adoption.

All major road projects within the TIP stem from the MPO's Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and the primary purpose of the TIP is to serve as the financial programming document for the MPO. Different federal funding sources are available under the current legislation, MAP-21. A match is required for most projects with the most common funding share being 80% federal and 20% local. Currently the 2014-2017 TIP is under federal review and will become active at the beginning of 2014. Check out some facts about projects included within the TIP below.



**Pictured:** Shelby County Public Meeting for the TIP.

a prioritized list of multimodal transportation projects within the Memphis Metropolitan Planning Organization (Memphis MPO) area. Since the TIP is multimodal it includes different types of projects such as road, bicycle and pedestrian, repaving, signalization, bridge, air quality, and public transit for projects within Shelby County and portions of Fayette and Desoto Counties.

A thirty-day public review and comment period was held from July 10 - August 8, 2013. During



### 2014-17 TIP Facts

**84%** of all locally sponsored projects contain **ADA accessible pedestrian improvements**

**75%** of all locally sponsored projects contain **bicycle improvements**

**41%** of all locally sponsored projects contain **improvements to transit corridors**

**41%** of all locally sponsored projects contain **improvements to freight corridors or goods**

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# Freight Advisory Committee

## Updates on the Freight Plan and IFTI Intermodal Freight Conference

The Memphis MPO Freight Advisory Committee (FAC) held its second meeting on August 6, 2013. The Committee appointed Shelby County Mayor Mark Luttrell as Chair and Mr. Don Colvin of FedEx as Vice Chair. This committee structure ensures that public and private sector freight stakeholders have a direct line of communication with the Transportation Policy Board (TPB). The FAC meeting agenda included presentations covering major highway construction projects in the region, new technology that can improve private sector operational efficiency, and an outline of the next steps in developing an MPO Freight Plan.

The Memphis MPO Freight Plan will be developed in order to give goods movement and freight a more in-depth consideration in the MPO's planning process. A series of projects leading up to the Freight Plan will be undertaken including a Stakeholder Survey, Freight Profile of regional assets, and a Regional Truck Route Master Plan. Information from

each of these efforts will be rolled into the overall Freight Plan for the region that will be incorporated as a chapter of the next Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP).

In other freight news, several Memphis MPO staff attended the 7th Annual Intermodal Freight Conference, hosted by the Intermodal Freight Technology Institute (IFTI) of the University of Memphis, on September 24, 2013 as part of an ongoing effort to build partnerships with the freight community and to further educate MPO staff. Along with Pragati Srivastava, Memphis MPO Administrator, other notable conference speakers included TN Department of Transportation (TDOT) Commissioner John Schroer, Jack Wells of US Department of Transportation (DOT), Congressman Steve Cohen, as well as university and private business professionals.

Srivastava gave an overview of the roles and responsibilities of the Memphis MPO in relation to freight planning and federal investment in the regional transportation system. She also outlined upcoming steps the MPO will take in the freight planning process and how the information will be incorporated in the MPO's Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) to coordinate future investment with future needs. Additionally, Srivastava discussed the newly formed Freight Advisory Committee and the role it will play in assisting the MPO staff to identify the priorities and concerns of regional freight stakeholders.



**Pictured:** Jack Wells, US DOT at the IFTI Freight Conference.

## MDOT Quarterly Meeting *Memphis, Tennessee*

The Memphis MPO is proud to host the Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT) MPO quarterly meeting coming up on October 3rd and 4th at Christian Brothers University. The meeting serves as an opportunity for staff from each agency to meet and provide updates on projects, find solutions to operational issues, and share best practices among the MPO's. At this quarterly meeting, MDOT will provide updates and guidance on the overall state long range

transportation plan and the statewide freight plan. Shirley Johnson with the Mississippi Local Assistance Technical Program (LTAP) will be speaking about LTAP's mission to "foster a safe, efficient, and environmentally sound surface transportation system by improving skills and increasing knowledge of the transportation workforce and decision makers." Represented by David Taylor, the Gulf Coast MPO will be discussing

transportation safety in their community. The Memphis MPO will be giving updates on current and ongoing projects including the Household Travel Survey, the Memphis Freight Advisory Committee and next steps for the Freight Plan, and the Memphis Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan.

## FHWA DYNAMIC TRAFFIC ASSIGNMENT WORKSHOP

*Federal Highway Association (FHWA) in coordination with the Memphis MPO hosted a workshop in July on the fundamentals of conducting traffic analyses using Dynamic Traffic Assignment (DTA) techniques.*

*Transportation and community planners, engineers, and consultants attended this one-day workshop to learn more about the appropriate use of Dynamic Traffic Assignment and to understand both the strengths and weaknesses when using this tool for traffic analyses.*

*DTA is a technique that can be applied using a variety of analytical tools. Successful management of DTA analyses must connect: Data + Tools + People*

# Promoting Active Transportation

## FY 2013-2014 Transportation Alternatives Program

The Memphis MPO's Active Transportation Advisory Committee (ATAC) met several times this summer to assist the MPO staff in administering the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) for Fiscal Years 2013-2014. The TA Program is a new funding category under MAP-21 which



**Pictured:** Kyle Wagenschutz presents to the ATAC members

criteria for the program, with the applications reflecting the Memphis MPO's goals for the program. The ATAC also provided scores for a portion of the total points, based on each application's described "benefits to active transportation," considering connectivity, opportunities for

combines elements of the previous enhancement and recreational trails programs. The types of projects typically awarded funding under the program are bicycle & pedestrian improvements, scenic overlooks, and environmental mitigation.

Under MAP-21, a portion of funding under TAP is directly allocated to MPOs to award to projects through a locally-managed competitive program. For FY 2013-2014, the Memphis MPO received approximately \$2.2 million for projects within Tennessee and \$346,000 for Mississippi. The ATAC assisted in developing ranking

physical activity, and integration with public transit.

The MPO's local competition for TAP funding began July 1, 2013 and ended on August 20, 2013. After scoring is completed and project eligibilities under MAP-21 are confirmed, the recommended list of awards for the FY 2013-2014 TAP funds will be presented to the ETC on November 7, 2013 and the TPB on November 21, 2013 at the next regularly scheduled MPO meetings.

## MPO PROJECTS/ TASKS:



**2040 LRTP (Long Range Transportation Plan):**  
Performance Measures

**2014-2017 TIP Development**  
(Transportation Improvement Program)

**Mid-South Regional Travel Survey & Travel Demand Model Update**

**MPO Boundary Update**

**ITS Architecture Update**

**Congestion Management Process (CMP) Update**

## Wolf River Boulevard Opens

The City of Germantown held a ribbon cutting ceremony on Tuesday, August 20th to celebrate the opening of Wolf River Boulevard from Kimbrough Road to Farmington Boulevard. The Wolf River Boulevard project is included in the Memphis MPO 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). This new section of roadway is a two-mile long, four-lane, boulevard with a landscaped median, and bike lanes. The landscape median is planted with natural plants to fit in with the surroundings of the Wolf River and greenway.

Wolf River Boulevard is a regionally significant project and completion of this two-mile segment provides the connection from Walnut Grove in



**Pictured:** Mayor Goldsworthy, City of Germantown provides opening remarks at the Ribbon Cutting.

Memphis to Collierville-Arlington Road in Collierville. Construction on this project began in March 2011 and took almost two and a half years to complete. Construction of this two-mile section also included two major bridges over the Wolf River and culvert/pipe crossings of unnamed tributaries of the Wolf River. This project was federally funded through the Surface Transportation Program (STP). 80% of the STP funds for the project were provided by the federal government and awarded through the MPO and the remaining 20% was provided through the City of Germantown as a local match.



# Memphis MPO Calendar

## October through December 2013

It is the policy of the Memphis MPO to provide an active and representative forum for all segments of the Metropolitan Planning Area, MPA in the development of common regional transportation goals, alternatives, and plans. The Public Participation Plan (PPP) of the Memphis MPO serves as a guide to undertake this task. In accordance with the PPP, below are the dates for the upcoming MPO meetings.

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October							November							December						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5						1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31				

Transportation Policy Board (TPB)     Engineering & Technical Committee (ETC)  
 Holiday

\*Reference the *Calendar of Events* on MPO's Website, www.memphismpo.org for meeting times and locations.

## MPO Planners on the Move

### Education, Outreach, and Events

The Memphis MPO participated in the following activities during June - September 2013

### June

June 5 - ATAC Mtg  
 June 17 - TDOT Public Meeting Germantown Rd  
 June 18 - Mid-South Greenprint Executive Mtg  
 June 18 - FHWA Webinar Performance Mgmt  
 June 19 - TDOT/FHWA Every Day Counts Training  
 June 19 - ATAC Workshop  
 June 24 - MATA Board Mtg  
 June 25 - ETC Workshop for TAP Program  
 June 26 - MDOT Project Tracking Mtg

Aug 7 - MATA Board Mtg  
 Aug 13-15 - TNMUG TransCAD TDM Training  
 Aug 19 - Greenprint Fair Housing & Equity Assessment Steering Committee Mtg  
 Aug 20 - TDOT Freight Committee Mtg - West TN  
 Aug 20 - Wolf River Blvd Groundbreaking  
 Aug 26 - MATA Board Mtg  
 Aug 29 - TPB Mtg

### July

July 11-12 - Greenprint Bus Transit to Workplace Study Kickoff  
 July 12 - MPO Coordinator's Mtg  
 July 16 - TDOT Traffic Incident Management  
 July 16 - TIP Public Mtgs (Fayette and Desoto Counties)  
 July 16 - Annual Traffic Incident Management Self-Assessment  
 July 24 - FHWA Dynamic Traffic Assessment Workshop  
 July 25 - Mid-South Greenprint Consortium Mtg  
 July 30 - TIP Public Mtg (Shelby County)

### September

Sept 5 - Mid-South Greenprint Executive Mtg  
 Sept 12 - ETC and TPB Special Call Mtg  
 Sept 13 - Greenprint Fair Housing & Equity Steering Committee Mtg  
 Sept 15-17 - 2013 Urban Sustainability Directors Network Conference  
 Sept 24 - TDOT Regional Summit  
 Sept 24 - Intermodal Freight Conference at U of M  
 Sept 24 - TDOT Public Mtg Shelby Farms Pkwy  
 Sept 26 - Mid-South Regional Greenprint Consortium Mtg  
 Sept 26 - MS Local Technical Assistance Program Advisory Committee Mtg  
 Sept 30 - FHWA Webinar Performance Based Planning

### August

Aug 1 - ETC Mtg  
 Aug 6 - Freight Advisory Mtg  
 Aug 7 - Sec. of Transportation, Anthony Foxx visits

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