

**NARTS UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM
FISCAL YEAR 2025 (DRAFT)**

This Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) outlines the planning activities of the Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission (NWARPC) serving as the Northwest Arkansas Regional Transportation Study (NARTS) from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025.

THE NORTHWEST ARKANSAS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION:

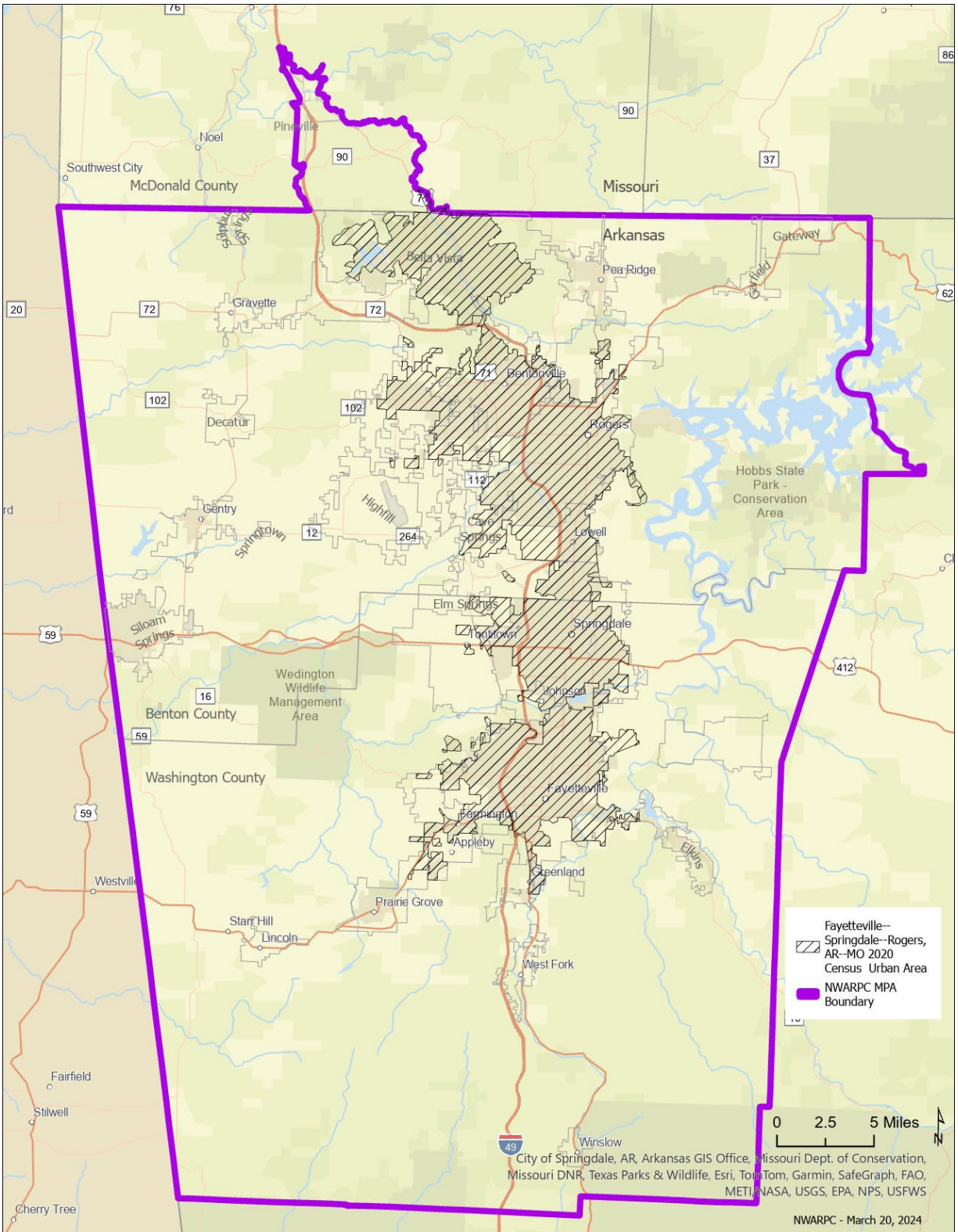
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|---------------|------------------------------|
| AVOCA | LITTLE FLOCK |
| BELLA VISTA | LOWELL |
| BENTON COUNTY | McDONALD COUNTY, MO |
| BENTONVILLE | PEA RIDGE |
| CAVE SPRINGS | PRAIRIE GROVE |
| CENTERTON | PINEVILLE, MO |
| DECATUR | ROGERS |
| ELKINS | SILOAM SPRINGS |
| ELM SPRINGS | SPRINGDALE |
| FARMINGTON | SPRINGTOWN |
| FAYETTEVILLE | SULPHUR SPRINGS |
| GARFIELD | TONTITOWN |
| GATEWAY | WASHINGTON COUNTY |
| GENTRY | WEST FORK |
| GOSHEN | WINSLOW |
| GRAVETTE | UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS |
| GREENLAND | OZARK REGIONAL TRANSIT (ORT) |
| HIGHFILL | RAZORBACK TRANSIT |
| JANE, MO | BEAVER WATER DISTRICT |
| JOHNSON | NWA NATIONAL AIRPORT |
| LINCOLN | AUTHORITY (XNA) |
- ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (ARDOT)
MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (MoDOT)

IN COOPERATION WITH:

- U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION (FHWA)
FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION (FTA)

NWARPC DISCLAIMER: This notice is in accordance with the NWARPC 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan, the Federal Transportation Act (BIL/IJA) in cooperation with local agencies, the Arkansas Department of Transportation, the Missouri Department of Transportation, the Federal Highway Administration, and the Federal Transit Administration. Documents are funded in part through grant(s) from the FHWA, FTA, and/or the U.S. Department of Transportation. The views and opinions of the NWARPC expressed herein do not necessarily state or reflect those of the U.S. Department of Transportation. **NWARPC NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY:** The NWARPC complies with all civil rights provisions of federal statutes and related authorities that prohibit discrimination in programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance. Therefore, the NWARPC does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, color, age, national origin, religion or disability, in the admission, access to and treatment in NWARPC’s programs and activities, as well as the NWARPC’s hiring or employment practices. Complaints of alleged discrimination and inquiries regarding the NWARPC’s nondiscrimination policies may be directed to Nicole Gibbs, AICP, Regional Planner – EEO/DBE (ADA/504/Title VI Coordinator), 1311 Clayton, Springdale, AR 72762, (479) 751-7125, (Voice/TTY 711 or 1-800-285-1131) or ngibbs@nwarpc.org; Para llamadas en español, marque el 866-656-1842; para llamadas en inglés, marque el 711 o directamente al 800-285-1131 o ngibbs@nwarpc.org. This notice is available from the ADA/504/Title VI Coordinator in large print, on audiotape and in Braille. If information is needed in another language, contact NWARPC at least 48 hours before the meeting. Si se necesita información en otro idioma, comuníquese con NWARPC al menos 48 horas antes de la junta. **TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS FOR PROGRAM OF PROJECTS (POP):** The public participation procedures outlined in the NWARPC Public Participation Plan (PPP) with respect to TIP development serve as the public participation process required for the development of transit projects as per FTA Circular 9030.1E.

NARTS METROPOLITAN PLANNING AREA (MPA)



FEDERAL METROPOLITAN PLANNING PROGRAM

The [Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act](#) (IIJA) was signed into law on November 15, 2021, also known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). The five-year BIL, federal fiscal years 2022 to 2026, provides \$550 billion in infrastructure funding for “roads, bridges, and mass transit, water infrastructure, resilience, and broadband.”

The Metropolitan Planning Program was continued under BIL and provides for a “cooperative, continuous, and comprehensive framework for making transportation investment decisions in metropolitan areas.” Oversight of the Federal Metropolitan Planning Program is jointly provided by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA).

Notable [changes](#) to the Metropolitan Planning Program include:

Set-aside for Increasing Safe and Accessible Transportation Options

- The BIL requires each MPO to use at least 2.5% of its PL funds (and each State to use 2.5% of its State Planning and Research funding under 23 U.S.C. 505) on specified planning activities to increase safe and accessible options for multiple travel modes for people of all ages and abilities. [§ 11206(b)]
- A State or MPO may opt out of the requirement, with the approval of the Secretary, if the State or MPO has Complete Streets standards and policies in place, and has developed an up-to-date Complete Streets prioritization plan that identifies a specific list of Complete Streets projects to improve the safety, mobility, or accessibility of a street. [§ 11206(c) and (e)]
- For the purpose of this requirement, the term “**Complete Streets standards or policies**” means standards or policies that ensure the safe and adequate accommodation of all users of the transportation system, including pedestrians, bicyclists, public transportation users, children, older individuals, individuals with disabilities, motorists, and freight vehicles. [§ 11206(a)]

Travel Demand Data and Modeling

The BIL requires the Secretary to:

- carry out a study that gathers travel data and travel demand forecasts from a representative sample of States and MPOs and compares travel demand forecasts with observed data; and to use this information to develop best practices or guidance for States and MPOs to use in forecasting travel demand for future investments in transportation improvements; [§ 11205(b)(1)]
- seek opportunities to support States’ and MPOs’ transportation planning processes by providing data to improve the quality of transportation plans, models, and travel demand forecasts; and [§ 11205(b)(2)]
- develop, and make publicly available, a multimodal web-based tool to enable States and MPOs to evaluate the effect of highway and transit investments on the use and conditions of all transportation assets within the State or area served by the metropolitan planning organization, as applicable. [§ 11205(b)(3)]

Housing Coordination

The BIL makes several changes to include housing considerations in the metropolitan transportation planning process, including:

- updating the policy to include, as items in the national interest, encouraging and promoting the safe and efficient management, operation, and development of surface transportation systems that will better connect housing and employment; [§ 11201(d)(1); 23 U.S.C. 134(a)(1)]
- adding officials responsible for housing as officials with whom the Secretary shall encourage each MPO to consult; [§ 11201(d)(2); 23 U.S.C. 134(g)(3)(A)]
- requiring the metropolitan transportation planning process for a metropolitan planning area to provide for consideration of projects and strategies that will promote consistency between transportation improvements and State and local housing patterns (in addition to planned growth and economic development patterns); [§ 11201(d)(3); 23 U.S.C. 134(h)(1)(E)]
- adding assumed distribution of population and housing to a list of recommended components to be included in optional scenarios developed for consideration as part of development of the metropolitan transportation plan; [§ 11201(d)(4)(A); 23 U.S.C. 134(i)(4)(B)]
- adding affordable housing organizations to a list of stakeholders MPOs are required to provide a reasonable opportunity to comment on the metropolitan transportation plan; and [§ 11201(d)(4)(B); 23 U.S.C. 134(i)(6)(A)]
- within a metropolitan planning area that serves a transportation management area, permitting the transportation planning process to address the integration of housing, transportation, and economic development strategies through a process that provides for effective integration, including by developing a housing coordination plan. [§ 11201(d)(5); 23 U.S.C. 134(k)]

FEDERAL PLANNING EMPHASIS AREAS

In December 2021, FTA and FHWA issued updated [Planning Emphasis Areas \(PEAs\)](#) for use by metropolitan planning organizations, state departments of transportation, transit agencies, and federal land management agencies in their Unified Planning Work Programs and State Planning and Research Work Programs. These emphasis areas include:

- **Tackling the Climate Crisis – Transition to a Clean Energy, Resilient Future**
Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) divisions and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) regional offices should work with State departments of transportation (State DOT), metropolitan planning organizations (MPO), and providers of public transportation to ensure that our transportation plans and infrastructure investments help achieve the national greenhouse gas reduction goals of 50-52 percent below 2005 levels by 2030, and net-zero emissions by 2050, and increase resilience to extreme weather events and other disasters resulting from the increasing effects of climate change.
- **Equity and Justice⁴⁰ in Transportation Planning**
FHWA Division and FTA regional offices should work with State DOTs, MPOs, and providers of public transportation to advance racial equity and support for underserved and disadvantaged communities. This will help ensure public involvement in the planning process and that plans and strategies reflect various perspectives, concerns, and priorities from impacted areas.
- **Complete Streets**
FHWA Division and FTA regional offices should work with State DOTs, MPOs and providers of public transportation to review current policies, rules, and procedures to determine their impact on safety for all

road users. This effort should work to include provisions for safety in future transportation infrastructure, particularly those outside automobiles.

- **Public Involvement**

FHWA Division and FTA regional offices should encourage MPOs, State DOTs, and providers of public transportation to increase meaningful public involvement in transportation planning by integrating Virtual Public Involvement (VPI) tools into the overall public involvement approach while ensuring continued public participation by individuals without access to computers and mobile devices.

- **Strategic Highway Network (STRAHNET)/U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) Coordination**

FHWA Division and FTA regional offices should encourage MPOs and State DOTs to coordinate with representatives from DOD in the transportation planning and project programming process on infrastructure and connectivity needs for STRAHNET routes and other public roads that connect to DOD facilities.

- **Federal Land Management Agency (FLMA) Coordination**

FHWA Division and FTA regional offices should encourage MPOs and State DOTs to coordinate with FLMAs in the transportation planning and project programming process on infrastructure and connectivity needs related to access routes and other public roads and transportation services that connect to Federal lands.

- **Planning and Environment Linkages (PEL)**

FHWA Division and FTA regional offices should encourage State DOTs, MPOs and Public Transportation Agencies to implement PEL as part of the transportation planning and environmental review processes.

- **Data in Transportation Planning**

To address the emerging topic areas of data sharing, needs, and analytics, FHWA Division and FTA regional offices should encourage State DOTs, MPOs, and providers of public transportation to incorporate data sharing and consideration into the transportation planning process, because data assets have value across multiple programs.

FEDERAL PLANNING FACTORS BY PROGRAM ELEMENT

[Section 134 of Title 23, U.S.C.](#) reads:

(a) Policy. – It is in the national interest –

(1) to encourage and promote the safe and efficient management, operation, and development of surface transportation systems that will serve the mobility needs of people and freight and foster economic growth and development within and between States and urbanized areas, while minimizing transportation-related fuel consumption and air pollution through metropolitan and statewide transportation planning processes identified in this chapter; and

(2) to encourage the continued improvement and evolution of the metropolitan and statewide transportation planning processes by metropolitan planning organizations, State departments of transportation, and public transit operators as guided by the planning factors identified in subsection (h) and section 135(d).

(f) Coordination in Multistate Areas. —

(1) In general. — The Secretary shall encourage each Governor with responsibility for a portion of a multistate metropolitan area and the appropriate metropolitan planning organizations to provide coordinated transportation planning for the entire metropolitan area.

(2) Interstate compacts. — The consent of Congress is granted to any two or more States—

- (A) to enter into agreements or compacts, not in conflict with any law of the United States, for cooperative efforts and mutual assistance in support of activities authorized under this section as the activities pertain to interstate areas and localities within the States; and
- (B) to establish such agencies, joint or otherwise, as the States may determine desirable for making the agreements and compacts effective.

PLANNING FACTORS

(h) Scope of Planning Process. —

- (1) In general.—The metropolitan planning process for a metropolitan planning area under this section shall provide for consideration of projects and strategies that will—
 - (A) Support the economic vitality of the metropolitan area, especially by enabling global competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency;
 - (B) Increase the safety of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users;
 - (C) Increase the security of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users;
 - (D) Increase the accessibility and mobility of people and for freight;
 - (E) Protect and enhance the environment, promote energy conservation, improve the quality of life, and promote consistency between transportation improvements and State and local planned growth and economic development patterns;
 - (F) Enhance the integration and connectivity of the transportation system, across and between modes, for people and freight;
 - (G) Promote efficient system management and operation; and
 - (H) Emphasize the preservation of the existing transportation system.
 - (I) Improve the resiliency and reliability of the transportation system and reduce or mitigate stormwater impacts of surface transportation; and
 - (J) Enhance travel and tourism.

The Planning Factors, which apply to each Element of the Unified Planning Work Program, are listed in the table below.

FEDERAL PLANNING FACTORS	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
UPWP PROGRAM ELEMENT										
44.21: Program Support and Administration	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X
44.22: General Development and Comprehensive Planning	X			X	X	X	X	X		
44.23: Long-Range Transportation Planning	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
44.24: Short-Range Transportation Planning	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
44.25: Transportation Improvement Program	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

44.21: PROGRAM SUPPORT AND ADMINISTRATION

WORK TASKS

- A. PROVIDE THOSE ADMINISTRATIVE, BUDGETING, BOOKKEEPING, AND CLERICAL DUTIES REQUIRED** in order to perform work tasks and comply with ARDOT, MoDOT, Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment (ADEE), FHWA, and FTA requirements. Progress reports and related documentation will be prepared in conjunction with PL activities, as well as the FY 2026 Unified Planning Work Program.
- B. IMPROVE OFFICE EQUIPMENT, COMPUTER SYSTEMS, AND SOFTWARE AS NEEDED** to keep pace with state-of-the-art technology currently in use for improved communications, mapping, planning analysis and report production. Train staff on software packages. (The cost of equipment and software will be shared proportionately by all elements.)
- C. ATTEND PLANNING, TRANSPORTATION, AND TRANSIT MEETINGS.** Attend training, workshops, and conferences to maintain coordination with other agencies, staff proficiency and professional improvement. Necessary USDOT (FTA/FHWA), EPA/AR Dept of E & E, ARDOT, MoDOT, AMPO, NACTO, CNU, APA, housing, stormwater, open space, EV infrastructure, climate, environmental, and local meetings, and conferences will be attended. Keep informed of ARDOT, MoDOT, FHWA, and FTA programs, as well as local issues and trends in order to provide proper assistance to local governments and agencies.
- D. ASSIST COUNTIES, CITIES, CITIZENS, AND THE MEDIA** in understanding the process of MPO transportation planning and the impact of transportation projects both short term and long term:
1. Staff will update, as necessary, a brochure and the NWARPC website outlining transportation planning procedures for the NARTS Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and the NWARPC/Policy Committee, and the general public. The brochure and web site details how regional plans are implemented and who to contact for questions and answers.
 2. Staff will work with cities to create an understanding of the work and role of the MPO.
 3. Develop and implement a communication strategy as part of the NWARPC Mobility Strategic Communications Plan.
- E. CONTINUE PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCEDURES FOR ALL ASPECTS OF TRANSPORTATION PLANNING** as specified in the NARTS Public Participation Plan (PPP). The PPP and procedures will be reviewed and adjusted as needed to reflect changes in NARTS Bylaws, BIL Act provisions, or other transportation-related legislation. The most recent update occurred in 2020 and was adopted by the NWARPC/Policy Committee on September 23, 2020. The PPP will undergo a review by the TAC and RPC/Policy Committee occurring just prior to the regular update cycle for the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). The PPP update will continue in FY 2025, including findings from the concurrent NWARPC Mobility Strategic Communications Plan.
- F. COMPLY WITH TITLE II OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT, SECTION 504 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT, AND TITLE VI OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT.** The 2024 NWARPC Title VI Program was updated and approved by the NWARPC/Policy Committee on January 24, 2024. It was submitted into TrAMS on January 30, 2024, and will require updating and re-submittal into TrAMS no later than February 1, 2027.
- Update plans as needed to incorporate diversity, equity, and inclusion.

G. WORK WITH MODOT STAFF AND PLANNING PARTNERS TO PROVIDE COORDINATED TRANSPORTATION PLANNING for the entire metropolitan area and establish all needed agreements, maps, documents, and procedures for cooperative efforts and mutual assistance in support of activities related to Missouri’s inclusion in the Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers, AR-MO Urbanized Area.

	44.21 END PRODUCTS	COMPLETION DATES
A1.	Record keeping, daily correspondence and Progress Reports	Monthly/On-going
A2.	Audit Report and Annual Performance and Expenditure Report	Yearly/On-going
A3.	Committee meetings and planning process coordination	On-going
A4.	FY 2026 UPWP	May 2025
B.	Computer and software upgrades	On-going
C.	Meeting attendance	On-going
D.	Shared Information: NWARPC website, and other pertinent data, news releases, relevant technology transfer information and informational brochure Develop and implement a communication strategy	On-going
E.	Documentation of PPP compliance will be kept on file; update and adoption by RPC/Policy Committee as part of the MTP update process	On-going
F.	Adhere to the 2021 NWARPC Title VI Program; update and submit into TrAMS no later than February 1, 2027	On-going
G.	Coordination with MoDOT	On-going

COOPERATING AGENCIES: NWARPC, ARDOT, MoDOT, FHWA and FTA.

COST DATA:

Federal	\$	229,264
Local (MPO)	\$	<u>222,316</u>
Total	\$	451,580
Element Percent		17%

Note: 100% philanthropic funds of \$165,000 will be utilized to complete the consultant-led NWARPC Mobility Strategic Communications Plan.

44.22: GENERAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING

WORK TASKS

A. MAINTAIN FILES THAT PROVIDE DEMOGRAPHIC AND INFRASTRUCTURE DATA WITHIN THE NARTS AREA. Census population, household, and employment data and other information will be utilized and incorporated into reports, thematic maps, and TAZ boundaries. Staff will assist cities as needed for Census boundary updates. These data will be utilized to develop the demographics of the forecast years for the Travel Demand Model. Collection and reporting of regional data from units of government will continue as necessary. Census 2020 data will be incorporated into planning documents as data becomes available.

B. MAPPING/GIS: Provide mapping and GIS assistance to participating units and maintain county and regional maps. Create data to represent information for TIP, STBGP project locations, TAP locations, etc. Update functional classification map, open space map, watershed maps and others as needed. Coordinate regional GIS efforts for data and information:

1. Vector files (roads, county boundary, annexations, contours, etc.).
2. Raster files (aerial imagery).
3. Interactive Maps.
4. File sharing and workflow strategies.

C. OBTAIN THE MOST CURRENT TRAFFIC COUNT DATA at locations collected by ARDOT and MoDOT.

44.22 END PRODUCTS		COMPLETION DATES
A.	Demographic and infrastructure data for the region will be utilized for transportation planning, forecasting, and analysis	On-going
B.	Maps and digital data sets	On-going
C.	Traffic data files showing most recent traffic counts and changes relative to previous counts will be maintained in cooperation with ARDOT and MoDOT	On-going

COOPERATING AGENCIES: NWARPC, ARDOT, MoDOT, Ozark Transit Authority, Razorback Transit, Arkansas State Data Center, local governments.

COST DATA:

Federal	\$	284,080
Local (MPO)	\$	71,020
Total	\$	355,100
Element Percent		13%

44.23: LONG-RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

WORK TASKS

A. ASSISTANCE TO PARTICIPATING JURISDICTIONS:

1. Assist TAC, NWARPC/Policy Committee and individual jurisdictions in the development and implementation of policies and procedures regarding the selection of projects and the utilization of **SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM** funds for areas with a population greater than 200,000 (**STBGP > 200K**), **TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM (TAP)** and **CARBON REDUCTION PROGRAM (CRP)** funds.
 - Engage the TAC and NWARPC/Policy Committee in an update to the policies, procedures, and application process to reflect new program priorities.
2. Assist counties and cities, as well as the Northwest Arkansas Regional Mobility Authority (RMA) and the NWA National Airport (XNA) Authority, in utilizing transportation resources by disseminating information regarding transportation programs. Staff will also assist counties and cities regarding transportation planning, updating Master Street Plans, and utilization of the Travel Demand Model.
3. Continue to collaborate with Northwest Arkansas planning partners to establish the tools, capacity and public support to address housing, economic development, infrastructure, natural infrastructure,

safe streets and roads for all, complete streets, EV infrastructure, and transportation mode choices to reduce fatal and serious injury crashes, reduce transportation costs and commute times to work, and improve access to public transportation, shopping and services, neighborhood schools, and community amenities for all ages and abilities.

- Support the Cities of Fayetteville and Springdale with the Northwest Arkansas Rail Corridor Safety Study.
- Support the development of a Bus Stop Enhancement Plan for Razorback Transit for the City of Fayetteville and University of Arkansas.

B. TRAVEL DEMAND MODELING:

1. Update the Travel Demand Model in preparation for the 2050 MTP including land use scenarios and high-capacity transit scenarios.
2. Work with ARDOT in utilizing the forecasts for the Travel Demand Model.
3. Train staff on maintenance and use of the Travel Demand Model.
4. Utilize the Travel Demand Model to refine and prioritize the regional arterial network.
5. Assist cities and consultants working with the cities with Travel Demand Model data and scenarios.
6. Utilize the Travel Demand Model to assist both transit agencies with route optimization and scenario planning and development.
7. Utilize the Travel Demand Model to support development of a performance-based approach to transportation decision-making.
8. The recently updated model will be utilized to forecast transportation priorities and develop scenarios for forecast years 2030, 2040 and 2050.
9. The 2045-forecast year will be utilized in ongoing capacity and level of service studies and MTP project selection.

C. ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION

1. Performance Measures and Measurable Goals
 - NWARPC will work with ARDOT, MoDOT and local jurisdictions to identify measures and to develop methodologies to implement performance-based planning and programming for active transportation.
2. Continue the development and implementation of the NWA Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan (adopted as part of the 2040 MTP, March 2016; amended and adopted as part of the 2045 MTP, March, 2021) that will enhance the full connectivity of non-motorized transportation throughout Northwest Arkansas. The Plan will incorporate the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Comprehensive Safety Action Plan, including the development of Regional Complete Street Design Guidelines. The plan guidelines provide for a well-planned, safe and efficient system of Complete Streets, complete local and regional networks of on-street and off-street bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure, and new and improved bridges/underpasses designed with complete and appropriate bike/ped accommodations that meet AASHTO and FHWA guidelines for pedestrians and bicyclists that connect local jurisdictions and destinations such as employment, shopping, health and education centers for all ages and abilities.
 - Complete the update to the NWA Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan.
 - The goals of the Master Plan will be shared with the general public, cities, and consultants.
 - Continue evaluation of the region's topography and natural environment, including greenway corridors, for logical locations and connections.
 - Provide assistance to ensure and facilitate uniformity and consistency in the standards, operations, and management of the network.

- Encourage and support implementation and updating of the individual plans and assist the cities as needed to meet the goal of implementing aspects of the 5E's: engineering, education, encouragement, equity and accessibility, and evaluation and planning.
 - Continue evaluation of individual jurisdictions' bicycle and pedestrian plans for connectivity to the regional system.
 - Continue to provide assistance to communities within the Missouri portion of the MPA in the development and implementation of a regional bicycle and pedestrian system.
 - Continue to provide assistance to communities to connect to the US Bike Route System.
 - Continue to support communities in determining the need, desire and location for bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure.
3. Review, update, and amend Complete Streets policies in adopted NWARPC plans. Encourage the adoption of Complete Streets plans and policies by member agencies, including the adopted regional Complete Streets policy in the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan. Continue to support the NWA Heritage Trail Plan.
 - Offer informational assistance to citizen groups formed to promote the Heritage Trail.
 - Continue the effort to promote proper signage for the Heritage Trail and the broader system.
 - Update the Heritage Trail Plan as historical data is discovered that better represents Heritage Trail.
 - Work with State and local organizations to advance Heritage Trails designations.
 4. Support the National Park Service Butterfield Overland National Historic Trail (NHT)
 - Offer informational assistance to citizen groups formed to promote the Butterfield Overland NHT.
 - Support the effort to promote proper signage of the Butterfield Overland NHT.
 5. Provide staff assistance, as needed, to the Razorback Greenway Alliance.

D. NWARPC 2045 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN (MTP)

1. The MTP was adopted by the NWARPC/Policy Committee on March 24, 2021, meeting federal guidelines that require MTP updates every five years. The MTP incorporated the following:
 - The NWARPC Public Participation Plan (PPP) for public participation and involvement (adopted September 23, 2020)
 - The Travel Demand Model data – Updated regional demographics to 2045
 - The 2045 MTP Transportation Opinion Survey
 - The 2019 NWA Transportation Survey (completed in fall 2019)
 - The 2018 Transit Origin and Destination Survey
 - The 2020 Connect NWA-10-year Transit Development Plan (TDP)
 - The NWA Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan
 - Congestion Management Process update (CMP)
 - Safe and Accessible Transportation Options and Complete Streets
2. Amend the 2045 MTP to include Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) new funding programs and requirements, along with the 2021 Federal Planning Emphasis Areas (PEAs), including provisions for housing coordination, next generation transportation planning, stormwater, and carbon reduction.

E. NWARPC 2050 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN (MTP) DEVELOPMENT

1. The MTP development will begin in FY 2024 to meet federal guidelines that require MTP updates every five years. The MTP will incorporate the following:
 - The NWARPC Public Participation Plan (PPP) for public participation and involvement, including findings from the concurrent NWARPC Mobility Strategic Communications Plan (to be adopted in FY 2025)

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- The Travel Demand Model (TDM) data will be updated with the new AEDI population projections to 2050 in Benton and Washington County – updated regional demographics to 2050
- Transit Alternatives Study (to be developed with TDM)
- Three Regional Growth Scenarios
- MTP Transportation Opinion Survey
- NWA Transportation Survey
- Environmental Justice and Equity Analysis
- 2020 Connect NWA-10-year Transit Development Plan (TDP)
- 2022 Congestion Management Process (CMP)
- 2024 NWA Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan
- 2023 Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Architecture Plan
- 2023 Transportation Systems Management and Operations (TSMO) Plan
- 2023 Regional Comprehensive Safety Action Plan (CSAP)

2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan - Framework - National, State, and Region						
National Goal Area	National Goals	ArDOT Goals	MoDOT Goals	NWARPC 2045 MTP Goals		2045 MTP System Performance Measures
Infrastructure Condition - State of Good Repair	To maintain the highway infrastructure asset system in a state of good repair	Invest in the existing highway and bridges to maintain and preserve the existing system.	Take care of the transportation system and services we enjoy today	Preserve and Maintain Infrastructure	Maintain the existing and planned transportation system through ongoing maintenance, rehabilitation, reconstruction, and/or preservation.	Percentage of interstate pavements in good condition Percentage of interstate pavements in poor condition Percentage of non-interstate NHS pavements in good condition Percentage of non-interstate NHS pavements in poor condition Percent of NHS bridges by deck area classified as Good condition Percent of NHS bridges by deck area classified as Poor condition Pavement Condition on NHS Transit (PTASP) mean distance between major mechanical failure Transit (TAM) Plan transit bus/fleet age/condition
Safety and Security	To achieve a significant reduction in traffic fatalities and serious injuries on all public roads	Improve statewide safety for all modes and all users and reduce system vulnerability and improve system resiliency to maintain essential travel during extreme events.	Keep all travelers safe, no matter the mode of transportation	Improve Safety	Increase transportation safety for all modes of travel	Number of fatalities Fatality rate per 100 million VMT Number of serious injuries Serious injury rate per 100 million VMT Number of non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries Transit (PTASP) Number of fatalities and injuries and rate per revenue miles traveled
Congestion Reduction and System Reliability	To achieve a significant reduction in congestion on the National Highway System. To improve the efficiency of the surface transportation system	Invest in the multimodal transportation system to improve mobility, connectivity, accessibility, and reliability for people and goods.	Improve reliability and reduce congestion on Missouri's transportation system	Reduce Congestion Improve Reliability	Maximize the capacity and reliability of existing facilities on regionally significant routes and minimize the need for new roadways.	Interstate Travel Time Reliability Measure: Percent of Reliable Person-Miles Traveled on the Interstate Non-Interstate Travel Time Reliability Measure: Percent of Reliable Person-Miles Traveled on the Non-Interstate NHS Freight Reliability Measure: Truck Travel Time Reliability Index
Freight Movement and Economic Vitality	To improve the national freight network, strengthen the ability of rural communities to access national and international trade markets, and support regional economic development	Improve intermodal transportation system connectivity, efficiency, and mobility to support existing industries and strengthen national and regional economic competitiveness. Partner with Metropolitan Planning Organizations, Planning and Development Districts, local governments, and other responsible modal agencies to improve intermodal transportation system safety, accessibility, and connectivity.	Invest in projects that spur economic growth and create jobs	Improve Regional Mobility	Increase transportation mobility and accessibility for both persons and freight, thus promoting economic vitality in the region.	Miles of Complete Streets Miles of roadways with Access Management % population served by trails within 1/4 mile % population served by public transit within 1/4 mile Unlinked Trips per revenue mile (Transit, NTD) Unlinked Trips per Revenue hour (Transit, NTD)
Environmental Sustainability	To enhance the performance of the transportation system while protecting and enhancing the natural environment	Enhance the performance of the transportation system while avoiding, minimizing, and/or mitigating impacts to natural and cultural resources.	Give Missourians better transportation choices	Protect the Environment	To enhance the performance of the transportation system while protecting and enhancing the natural environment.	Number of Jurisdictions with drainage criteria manuals Number of jurisdictions with Karst BMP's Cave Springs Recharge Area

F. ASSIST STATE DOTS WITH THE FOLLOWING:

- Highway 412 Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) Study, from I-35 (west of Tulsa and running N/S through Oklahoma City) to I-49, for designation as a future interstate highway, in coordination with Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT) (Cherokee Turnpike/Cimarron Turnpike in Oklahoma) and ARDOT.
- Highway 59 and Highway 72 Corridor Study
- State DOT's [Complete Streets Plan/Policy](#)
- State DOT's [EV Infrastructure Deployment Plan](#)
- State DOT's [Alternative Fuel Corridor Designations](#)
- State DOT's [Vision Zero / Safety Plans / Safe System Approach](#)
- State DOT's [Carbon Reduction Plan Strategy](#)
- State DOT's [Bicycle and Pedestrian Accommodation Policy](#)
- State DOT's [Freight Rail and Passenger Rail Plan](#)

G. CONTINUE ACTIVITIES TO ADVANCE THE FOLLOWING, THROUGH NWARPC/POLICY COMMITTEE, TAC, AND OTHER SUBCOMMITTEES

1. NWARPC 2045 MTP implementation.
2. Highway 112 Access Management Regional Vision Statement and Access Management Plan Agreements. Apply for ARDOT and USDOT grants to implement the Hwy 112 Complete Streets-Connecting Communities project (TAP, RAISE, SS4A, and other grant programs as applicable).
3. Transportation System Management and Operations (TSMO) implementation.
4. Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Architecture Plan implementation.
5. Congestion Management Process (CMP) implementation.
6. NWA Regional Comprehensive Safety Action Plan development and implementation.
7. Connect NWA Transit Development Plan (TDP) implementation.
8. Transportation Alternatives Analysis – Evaluation of all reasonable modal and multi-modal alternatives and general alignment options for identified transportation needs.
9. Development of an NWA Energy & Environment Innovation (EEI) Plan – Comprehensive Action Plan.
10. Development of a Regional Corridor Vision and Strategy.
11. NWA Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan, individual Community Plans and Heritage Trail Plan.
12. NWA Open Space Plan updates.

H. COORDINATE WITH MODOT IN MTP IMPLEMENTATION

Continue to work with MoDOT staff and planning partners to provide coordinated transportation planning for the entire metropolitan area, especially in cooperative efforts toward implementation of the MTP, in support of Missouri's inclusion in the Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers, AR-MO Urbanized Area.

I. INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT AND JOBS ACT (IIJA) (PUBLIC LAW 117-58, ALSO KNOWN AS THE "BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW) COMPLIANCE:

1. The IIJA - BIL was signed into law on November 15, 2021.
2. The NWARPC 2045 MTP was approved by the RPC/Policy Committee on March 24, 2021, with the approval of Resolution #2021-02, and was developed to incorporate both MAP-21 and FAST Act, and updated to incorporate BIL requirements, and any additional applicable legislation.
3. Actively review BIL Notice of Funding Opportunities (NOFO's), identify BIL funding opportunities for regional and local projects, prepare discretionary grant applications, and assist communities in completing discretionary grants.

4. Develop plans and documentation to meet Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) requirements for MPO.

J. REGIONAL SS4A COMPREHENSIVE SAFETY ACTION PLAN – PHASE II:

NWARPC will continue the consultant-led Regional SS4A Comprehensive Safety Action Plan Phase II, as described in the FY 2022 Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO), Assistance Listing #20.939 for the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Discretionary Grant Opportunity. The purpose of the Safety Action Plan Phase II is to complete five Individual Community Safety Action Plans, two Systemic Safety Webinars, Safety Demonstration Projects, Communications and Outreach Tools, and a Regional Complete Streets Design Guide.

K. ENVIRONMENT AND RESILIENCE PLANNING

1. **Air Quality Planning** – Continued air quality attainment status monitoring.
 - Monitor air quality and its impact on transportation conformity.
 - Explore participation in the EPA Ozone and PM Advance Programs.
2. **Energy and Environment Innovation (EEI) Plan** – NWARPC, in partnership with the Arkansas Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ), City of Fort Smith, and Metroplan, will contribute to the State’s Energy and Environment Innovation (EEI) Plan, by completing a consultant-led Regional Priority Action Plan (PAP), Regional Comprehensive Action Plan (CAP), and a subsequent Status Report, through an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) Planning Grant awarded to the state, with a portion suballocated to NWARPC. The plan will enable access to and enhance competitiveness for federal funding for energy infrastructure and supports investment in technologies and practices that reduce pollutant emissions, create high-quality jobs, and spur economic growth in the region and state.
 - Phase 1 – Priority Action Plan (Complete)
 - Phase 2 – Comprehensive Action Plan (mid-2025)
 - Phase 3 – Status Report (mid-2027)

	44.23 END PRODUCTS	COMPLETION DATES
A.	NARTS participation through staff assistance to local jurisdictions in STBGP GT 200K and TAP programs and by disseminating information regarding transportation programs	On-going
B.	Utilize TDM to assist transit agencies with route optimization and scenario planning and assist jurisdictions	On-going
C.	Amend the NWARPC 2045 MTP to include recent studies, Travel Demand Model data, CMP and TSMO/ITS as required.	On-going
D.	Assist ARDOT and MoDOT with various studies/projects	On-going
E.	Continue activities to advance regional plans and community involvement through the NWARPC/Policy Committee, TAC, and other committees	On-going
F.	Coordination with MoDOT on MTP implementation	On-going
G.	NWARPC 2045 MTP compliance with BIL NWARPC 2050 MTP development	On-going
H.	Adopt the updated Regional Bicycle Pedestrian Master Plan	December 2024
I.	Consultant-led Regional Comprehensive Safety Action Plan Phase II	January 2025
K.	NWA Energy and Environment Innovation (EEI) Priority Action Plan	April 2024

COOPERATING AGENCIES: NWARPC, ARDOT, MoDOT, ODOT, Ozark Transit Authority, Razorback Transit, Northwest Arkansas National Airport Authority, NWA Regional Mobility Authority, and local governments.

COST DATA:

Federal	\$ 911,306
Local (MPO)	\$ <u>363,826</u>
Total	\$ 1,275,132
Element Percent	48%

Notes:

- The FY 2025 UPWP will use at least 2.5% of FHWA PL funds on specified planning activities to increase safe and accessible options for multiple travel modes for people of all ages and abilities including complete streets. PL funds will be utilized for staff support to complete SS4A Phase II Complete Streets Guidelines.
- \$200,000 USDOT SS4A Grant funds awarded to NWARPC plus match from philanthropic sources will be utilized to complete the consultant-led Regional Comprehensive Safety Action Plan Phase II.
- \$440,000 suballocated EPA CPRG Planning Grant (no match required) will be utilized to complete the consultant-led NWA Energy & Environment Innovation (EEI) Plan, including the Regional Priority Action Plan, Regional Comprehensive Action Plan (CAP), and Status Report.

44.24: SHORT-RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

WORK TASKS

- A. INTER-GOVERNMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS:** Review area FTA and FHWA funding applications.
- B. PERFORMANCE-BASED APPROACH – METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING:** BIL continues MAP-21 requirements for the MPO to establish and use a “performance-based approach to transportation decision making” that supports BIL National Goals. The MPO will continue to coordinate with ARDOT and MoDOT on the establishment of a “performance-based approach” to transportation planning and the establishment of MPO “performance measures and performance targets” that will be integrated into the NWARPC 2045 MTP and the NARTS Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).
- C. EVALUATE CRASH RATE DATA:** Evaluate the available crash rate data within the metropolitan planning area. Staff will coordinate with ARDOT and MoDOT on the use of the data to meet BIL performance measures, ARDOT and MoDOT performance targets, and future MPO performance measures for the region to reduce traffic fatalities and serious injuries on public roads.
- D. OZARK TRANSIT AUTHORITY AND RAZORBACK TRANSIT:**
 1. Continue to support and assist the transit agencies in their activities, including providing subrecipient oversight for FTA grant administration.
 2. Recommend continued and expanded route testing with NWA businesses and municipalities.
 3. Assist the transit agencies with route planning and scheduling through appropriate software acquisition.
 4. Continue to coordinate and support ARDOT, ORT and Razorback Transit in implementation of their public transportation agency safety plans (PTASP).

5. Approval by the NWARPC/Policy Committee of the PTASP, at least within 180 days after the date of transit agency approval. The NWARPC/Policy Committee approved Resolution #2020-12 on December 2, 2020, in support of ORT’s and Razorback Transit’s PTASP(s).
6. Manage and support the awarded FTA Areas of Persistent Poverty (AoPP) Grant Enhancing Equitable Transit Connections in NWA project.

E. TRANSIT DEVELOPMENT PLAN (TDP):

1. The NWARPC/Policy Committee approved Resolution #2020-06 on October 28, 2020, thereby adopting the Connect NWA-10-year TDP.
2. Continue to assist ORT, Razorback Transit and local jurisdictions with implementation of the Connect NWA TDP.
3. The MPO coordinates with ORT and Razorback Transit for updates to the TDP in order to select projects for inclusion in the TIP.

F. TRANSIT PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

1. Coordinate transit performance measures with Ozark Transit Authority, Razorback Transit, and ARDOT.
2. Coordinate with ARDOT to develop and utilize performance measures and analytical methods to measure the transportation system’s connectivity to essential services.
3. TAM Plan Ozark Regional Transit Authority and Razorback Transit.
 - a. The NWARPC MPO will monitor performance measures and set targets in coordination with Ozark Transit Authority and Razorback Transit. In order to determine progress toward achievement of targets, NWARPC MPO will conduct system performance reports with each update of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). Additionally, NWARPC MPO will describe how implementation of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is anticipated to make progress toward achievement of targets.
 - b. The NWARPC MPO, in coordination with Ozark Transit Authority and Razorback Transit, will adopt State of Good Repair (SGR) performance targets for each transit asset type for each agency. NWARPC MPO will assess progress towards region-wide attainment of the transit SGR performance targets to better determine how funding decisions support transit targets for SGR.

G. EVALUATE TRANSIT DATA

Staff will evaluate transit data within the Metropolitan Planning Area. Staff will coordinate with Ozark Transit Authority and Razorback Transit on the use of the data to meet BIL performance targets, and future MPO performance measures for the region. The travel demand model will be utilized for scenario testing and model runs in support of the two agencies’ planning efforts.

H. STATEWIDE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION COORDINATION PLAN

Staff will continue to monitor the Statewide Plan and assist public transit operators and human services providers in coordinating the delivery of transit services.

I. CONGESTION MANAGEMENT PROCESS

Staff will continue to implement the Congestion Management Process for the region.

	44.24 END PRODUCTS	COMPLETION DATES
A.	Application reviews	On-going

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B.	Performance-based approach (Performance Measures and Measurable Goals)	On-going
C.	Analysis of crash data for performance measures and targets in coordination with ARDOT and MoDOT	Federal due dates/On-going
D.	NARTS participation in ORT and Razorback Transit activities	On-going
E.	Transit Development Plan/TAM Plan Targets/Assist in implementation of Transit Development Plan	On-going
F.	Collection and analysis of data for performance targets and measures in coordination with ARDOT	Federal due dates/On-going
G.	Collection and analysis of data for performance targets and measures in coordination with ORT and Razorback Transit	Federal due dates/On-going
H.	Coordinate with ARDOT on the Statewide Public Transportation Coordination Plan	On-going
I.	Congestion Management Process	On-going
J.	Enhancing Equitable Transit Connections in NWA Project and Plans	September 2025

COOPERATING AGENCIES: NWARPC, ARDOT, MoDOT, FHWA, FTA, various state and federal agencies, NWA Regional Mobility Authority, Ozark Transit Authority, Razorback Transit, area human service agencies and local jurisdictions.

COST DATA:

Federal	\$ 407,264
Local (MPO)	<u>\$ 76,816</u>
Total	\$ 484,080
Element Percent	18%

NOTES:

- The required local match of \$20,000 for the awarded \$180,000 FTA Areas of Persistent Poverty (AoPP) Grant (90% Federal-10% Local Match) will be provided by and split between Ozark Regional Transit Authority and University of Arkansas Razorback Transit.
- The transit planning software three-year (2024-2027) renewal total contract cost is \$124,000. Razorback Transit will pay \$59,208 (includes Razorback Transit scheduling software and one time implementation fee, non-federal) over the course of the three years. ORT will pay \$4,628.01 over the three years. NWARPC to pay \$4,627.99 over the three years. Federal PL share is \$55,536 over the three years.

44.25: TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

WORK TASKS

- A. THE FFY 2023-2026 TIP** was adopted on December 7, 2022, and will be amended or administratively modified as needed. NWARPC MPO will work with ARDOT and MoDOT to update the amendment and administrative modification criteria.

- B. **BIENNIAL TIP UPDATES** will coincide with ARDOT and MoDOT STIP updates, when possible. **The FFY 2025-2028 TIP** will be developed for adoption in FY 2025.
- C. **COORDINATE WITH MODOT** on prioritization of TIP projects for the Missouri portion of the MPA.
- D. **THE ANNUAL LISTING OF PROJECTS (ALOP)** for which federal highway and transit funds have been obligated will be published on the NWARPC website every December.
- E. **PROPOSED FFY 2025 PROGRAM OF PROJECTS (POP)**. The POP includes projects proposed for Ozark Transit Authority and Razorback Transit to be funded from the Urbanized Area’s FTA Section 5307 apportionment. POP projects must be listed in the TIP. The TIP public participation and approval processes serve to satisfy the requirements for Ozark Regional Transit and Razorback Transit for public participation under Section 5307. The POP is published on the NWARPC website after NWARPC/Policy Committee approval or December 31, whichever comes first.

	44.25 END PRODUCTS	COMPLETION
A.	FFY 2023-2026 TIP amendments and administrative modifications as needed; and amendment and administrative modification criteria update.	On-going
B.	FFY 2025-2028 TIP development	On-going
C.	Coordinate with MoDOT on TIP project prioritization	On-going
D.	2024 Annual Listing of Projects (ALOP)	NWARPC/Policy Committee approval or December 2024
E.	FFY 2025 Program of Projects (POP)	Upon NWARPC/Policy Committee approval

COOPERATING AGENCIES: NWARPC, ARDOT, MoDOT, FHWA, FTA, Ozark Transit Authority, Razorback Transit and local governments.

COST DATA:

Federal	\$	95,405
Local (MPO)	\$	<u>23,851</u>
Total	\$	119,256
Element Percent		4%

NOTES:

- Confirmed carry-over funds may be added to the FY 2025 UPWP PL funds.
- Missouri PL funds in the amount of \$11,000 with a \$2,750 local match will be added to Element 44.21, 44.23 and 44.25 to support Missouri-based planning activities.
- All references to PL funds in this document relate to Arkansas PL funds unless noted to be Missouri funds.

THE FOLLOWING ARE HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE NARTS FY 2024 WORK PROGRAM TASKS:

- NWARPC received a Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Triennial Review Recipient Information Request (RIR), dated December 26, 2023 with a deadline of February 29, 2024 and a site visit scheduled for May 9-10, 2024.
- The 2021 NWARPC Title VI Program went through an update process, including public comment. The RPC/Policy Committee approved Resolution #2024-01 Adopting the 2024 NWARPC Title VI Program on January 24, 2024. The Program was submitted to FTA through TrAMS on January 30, 2024.
- NWARPC adopted the Regional “Vision Zero” Comprehensive Safety Action Plan (CSAP) on June 28, 2023, including a Vision Zero goal to eliminate all fatal and serious injury crashes that occur on the regional roadway network by 2038, enabling multiple jurisdictions to apply for the USDOT Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) program, including the City of Fayetteville, which was awarded a \$25 million SS4A Implementation Grant; NWARPC was awarded a \$300,000 USDOT Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Safety Action Plan Grant to undertake supplementary safety planning work, including a Regional Complete Streets Design Guide and Individual Community Safety Action Plans.
- NWARPC, in cooperation with Ozark Regional Transit (ORT) and Razorback Transit, was awarded \$180,000 FTA Areas of Persistent Poverty (AoPP) Grant for the *Enhancing Equitable Transit Connections in Northwest Arkansas* bus stop improvement project.
- NWARPC partnered with the Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment (ADEE), Metroplan, and the City of Fort Smith to develop the Arkansas Energy and Environment Innovation (EEI) Priority Action Plan (PAP); and coordinated a regional coalition for Green Network – Transportation and Carbon Removal measures, which merged into a Tri-Region application with Metroplan and Fort Smith, to apply for a Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) Implementation Grant.
- NWARPC filed applications for the USDOT Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) and Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant (MPDG) for *Highway 112: Complete Streets. Connecting Communities* (\$25 million); and for the MPDG for Highway 612 from I-49 to Highway 265 (\$160 million).
- The RPC/Policy Committee approved Resolution #2023-20 in October 2023 supporting the Arkansas Department of Transportation (ARDOT) and the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) Established 2024 Performance Targets for Safety (PM1).
- *The NWARPC 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)* development process began in Fall 2023. The planning items incorporated in the MTP will include: the Travel Demand Model, which will include a more robust growth scenario analysis and Transit Alternatives Study; the 2020 *Connect NWA-10-year Transit Development Plan (TDP)*; the 2022 *Congestion Management Process (CMP)*; the 2023 *Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Architecture Plan*; the 2023 *Transportation Systems Management and Operations (TSMO) Plan*; the 2023 *Regional Comprehensive Safety Action Plan (CSAP)*; the (forthcoming) 2024 *NWA Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan*; the (forthcoming) 2025 *NWA Energy and Environment Innovation (EEI) Comprehensive Action Plan*; and the (forthcoming) *NWA Strategic Communications Plan for Mobility*.
- NWARPC’s Active Transportation Committee (ACT) continued to develop the NWA Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan Update, which is anticipated to be completed in 2024.
- NWARPC tracked and coordinated project design and cost items for existing projects and the RPC/Policy Committee awarded the FFY 2024 STBGP-A, TAP, and CRP projects on August 23, 2023.

- NWARPC maintained the FFY 2023-2025 NARTS Transportation Improvement Program (TIP); the TIP was reconciled with the STIPs through Amendments #2-6, approved by the RPC/Policy Committee.
- NWARPC published the 2023 Annual Listing of Projects (ALOP) and Program of Projects (POP).
- NWARPC completed the review process for the Subrecipient Oversight for FTA Section 5339 and final FY 2023 Compliance Review Report for UA Razorback Transit.
- NWARPC continued to collect, develop, and update data for the Transportation Analysis Zones (TAZ) utilized by the Northwest Arkansas Travel Demand Model, and continues to review and improve the model as more information becomes available from the 2020 Census or from local sources.
- NWARPC continued to follow requirements for public participation developed in the NWARPC Public Participation Plan (PPP); staff began the process to update the PPP as part of the regular update cycle for the MTP.
- NWARPC continued to work with ARDOT on the Highway 59 and Highway 72 Corridor Study; Highway 412 PEL Study; Highway 612 Bypass; XNA Airport Access Road; and Highway 112 Improvements from Fayetteville to Bentonville.
- NWARPC continued to work with MoDOT and its planning partners to provide coordinated transportation planning for the entire metropolitan area. NWARPC also continues to work with Pineville, Jane, and McDonald County, Missouri regarding alternative transportation planning efforts.
- NWARPC continued to assist member jurisdictions with mapping and other planning activities and aid in the public dissemination of reports and maps relevant to transportation planning.
- NWARPC continued to collaborate with Northwest Arkansas planning partners to establish the tools, capacity, and public support to address housing, infrastructure, and transportation mode choices to reduce transportation costs and commute times to work and improve access to public transportation, shopping and services, neighborhood schools, and community amenities.

NARTS FY 2025 UPWP

FY 2025 UPWP MULTIPLE SOURCE FINANCIAL SUMMARY

2025 UPWP Multiple Source Financial Summary				
	Federal	Local Match	Total	Percent
PL Funds (Arkansas)	\$1,136,318	\$ 284,080	\$ 1,420,398	47.58%
USDOT SS4A Funds awarded to NWARPC - Comprehensive Safety Action Plan	\$ 200,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 250,000	8.37%
EPA CPRG - Energy & Environment Innovation (EEI) Plan <i>(for informational purposes only)</i>	\$ 300,000	\$ -	\$ 300,000	10.05%
FTA AoPP Grant - Enhancing Equitable Transit Connections in NWA Project and Plans	\$ 180,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 200,000	6.70%
FTA 5307	\$ 400,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 500,000	16.75%
PL Funds (Missouri)	\$ 11,000	\$ 2,750	\$ 13,750	0.46%
WFF Grant - Bus Stop Enhancement Plan - Razorback Transit	\$ -	\$ 136,000	\$ 136,000	4.56%
WFF Grant - Mobility Communications Grant	\$ -	\$ 165,000	\$ 165,000	5.53%
Total	\$2,227,318	\$ 757,830	\$ 2,985,148	100.00%
2025 UPWP Financial Summary (PL-AR)				
	Federal	Local Match	Total	Percent
44.21-Program Support and Administration	\$ 227,264	\$ 56,816	\$ 284,080	20.00%
44.22-General Development and Comprehensive Planning	\$ 284,080	\$ 71,020	\$ 355,100	25.00%
44.23-Long Range Transportation Planning	\$ 306,806	\$ 76,701	\$ 383,507	27.00%
44.24-Short-Range Transportation Planning	\$ 227,264	\$ 56,816	\$ 284,080	20.00%
44.25-Transportation Improvement Program	\$ 90,905	\$ 22,726	\$ 113,631	8.00%
Total	\$1,136,318	\$284,080	\$1,420,398	100.00%
2025 UPWP Financial Summary (PL-MO)				
	Federal	Local Match	Total	Percent
44.21-Program Support and Administration	\$ 2,000	\$ 500	\$ 2,500	18.18%
44.22-General Development and Comprehensive Planning	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
44.23-Long Range Transportation Planning	\$ 4,500	\$ 1,125	\$ 5,625	40.91%
44.24-Short-Range Transportation Planning	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
44.25-Transportation Improvement Program	\$ 4,500	\$ 1,125	\$ 5,625	40.91%
Total	\$ 11,000	\$ 2,750	\$ 13,750	100%
2025 UPWP SS4A Grant Funds (USDOT, FHWA) CSAP Ph. II				
	Federal	Match*	Total	Percent
44.21-Program Support and Administration	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
44.22-General Development and Comprehensive Planning	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
44.23-Long Range Transportation Planning (SS4A Grant w/ WFF grant funding match)	\$ 200,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 250,000	100.00%
44.24-Short-Range Transportation Planning	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
44.25-Transportation Improvement Program	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
Total	\$ 200,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 250,000	100%
2025 UPWP FTA 5307 Program Element AR				
	Federal	Local Match	Total	Percent
44.21-Program Support and Administration	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
44.22-General Development and Comprehensive Planning	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
44.23-Long Range Transportation Planning	\$ 400,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 500,000	100.00%
44.24-Short-Range Transportation Planning	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
44.25-Transportation Improvement Program	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
Total	\$ 400,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 500,000	100%
2025 UPWP FTA AoPP Grant - Enhancing Equitable Transit Connections in NWA				
	Federal	Local Match*	Total	Percent
44.21-Program Support and Administration	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
44.22-General Development and Comprehensive Planning	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
44.23-Long Range Transportation Planning	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
44.24-Short-Range Transportation Planning	\$ 180,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 200,000	100.00%
44.25-Transportation Improvement Program	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
Total	\$ 180,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 200,000	100%

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2025 UPWP WFF Grant - Bus Stop Enhancement Plan - Razorback Transit	Federal	Local Match	Total	Percent
44.21-Program Support and Administration	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
44.22-General Development and Comprehensive Planning	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
44.23-Long Range Transportation Planning	\$ -	\$ 136,000	\$ 136,000	100.00%
44.24-Short-Range Transportation Planning	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
44.25-Transportation Improvement Program	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
Total	\$ -	\$ 136,000	\$ 136,000	100%
2025 UPWP WFF Grant - Mobility Communications Plan	Federal	Local Match	Total	Percent
44.21-Program Support and Administration	\$ -	\$ 165,000	\$ 165,000	100.00%
44.22-General Development and Comprehensive Planning	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
44.23-Long Range Transportation Planning	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
44.24-Short-Range Transportation Planning	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
44.25-Transportation Improvement Program	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
Total	\$ -	\$ 165,000	\$ 165,000	100%
2025 UPWP Total by Elements (EPA Funding not shown in total)	Federal	Local Match	Total	Percent
44.21-Program Support and Administration	\$ 229,264	\$ 222,316	\$ 451,580	17%
44.22-General Development and Comprehensive Planning	\$ 284,080	\$ 71,020	\$ 355,100	13%
44.23-Long Range Transportation Planning (Includes USDOT-FHWA SS4A Grant Funding)	\$ 911,306	\$ 363,826	\$ 1,275,132	48%
44.24-Short-Range Transportation Planning (Includes AOPP FTA Grant Funding)	\$ 407,264	\$ 76,816	\$ 484,080	18%
44.25-Transportation Improvement Program	\$ 95,405	\$ 23,851	\$ 119,256	4%
Total	\$ 1,927,318	\$ 757,830	\$ 2,685,148	100%
* Match is proposed to be provided from local and state sources				

ADOPTION:

This Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) was prepared as a part of the Northwest Arkansas Regional Transportation Study (NARTS).

- The TAC reviewed the Draft FY 2025 UPWP on March 21, 2024, and voted to send the Draft to a two-week public comment period.
- Public Notice of a two-week public comment period and the TAC meeting to review the Draft FY 2025 UPWP will be published:
 - Friday, April 5, 2024, on the NWARPC website.
 - Sunday, April 7, 2024, in the Democrat Gazette newspaper.
 - Thursday, April 11, 2024, in the McDonald County Press newspapers.
 - Wednesday, April 17, 2024, in the La Prensa Libre.
- A two-week public comment period will be held Monday, April 8, 2024 through Monday, April 22, 2024.
- The TAC will consider the Draft FY 2025 UPWP on April 18, 2024.
- The NWARPC/Policy Committee will consider **Resolution #2024-XX** Approving the FY 2025 UPWP on April 24, 2024.

I hereby certify the adoption of this UPWP for State Fiscal Year 2024 by the NWARPC/Policy Committee on this **24th day of APRIL 2024** by **Resolution #2024-XX**.

Judge Barry Moehring, Chair
Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission/Policy Committee

AMENDMENTS

Future amendments to be listed here, as applicable

NARTS FY 2025 UPWP

ESTIMATED TIMELINE FOR NWARPC WORK PRODUCTS

Calendar Year		2024				2025				2026				2027				2028				2029				2030				2031				2032				2033			
Qrt		1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Work Products	MTP																																								
	TDM																																								
	PPP																																								
	Title VI																																								
	Title VI Empl.Training																																								
	Annual Report																																								
Programmatic Work	LPA																																								
	STIP/TIP																																								
	Awards																																								
	Obligation																																								
	ALOP																																								
	POP																																								
	UPWP																																								
	APER																																								
	PM Targets																																								
	GHG (HOLD)																																								
Sub-Area Plans/Studies	TDP																																								
	Bike-Ped																																								
	TSMO																																								
	ITS																																								
	CMP																																								
	TAS																																								
	Comm Plan+SPOS																																								
	CSAP/CSG																																								
Stormwater																																									
Reviews	Sec. 5339 Monit.																																								
	FTA Tri. Review																																								
	FHWA Cert. Rev.																																								
Agreements	FY Funding Auth+NTP																																								
	3C Agreement																																								
	PM Agreement																																								
	Data Sharing																																								
	Grant Assist																																								

NARTS FY 2025 UPWP

WORK PRODUCT NOTES:	Update Cycle	Last Completed	Next Due
Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)	5 years	Mar-2021	Mar-2026
Travel Demand Model (TDM)	5 years	May-2020	Dec-2025
Public Participation Plan (PPP)	5 years	Mar-2021	Dec-2024
Title VI Program (Title VI)	3 years	Feb-2024	Feb-2027
Annual Report	Annual	May	May
PROGRAMATIC WORK NOTES:	Update Cycle	Last Completed	Next Due
Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)	At least, 4 years	Dec-2022	Oct-2024
Local Public Agency (LPA) Awards & Obligation	Annual	Aug/Sept	May/Sept
Annual Listing of Projects (ALOP)	Annual	December	December
Program of Projects (POP)	Annual	May	May
Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)	Annual	May	May
Annual Performance and Expenditure Report (APER)	Annual	September	August
Performance Measure Targets			
Safety (PM1)	Annual	October	February
Pavement/Bridge (PM2) & System Performance (PM3)	2 years	Feb-2023	Mar-2025
Transit Asset Management (TAM)	4 years	Sep-2022	Sep-2026
Transit Safety (PTASP)	0	Dec-2020	Mar-2026
Greenhouse Gas (GHG) - HOLD	-	N/A	-
SUB-AREA PLAN/STUDIES NOTES:	Update Cycle	Last Completed	Next Due
Transit Development Plan (TDP)	5-10 years	2020	2030
Bicycle & Pedestrian Master Plan (Bike-Ped)	5-10 years	2015	2024
Strategic Communications Plan and Scientific Public Opinion Survey (Comm Plan+POS)	TBD	N/A	Dec-2024
Transportation Systems Management and Operations (TSMO)	5-10 years	2023	2030
Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS)	5-10 years	2023	2030
Congestion Management Plan (CMP)	5-10 years	2022	2029
Transit Alternatives Study (TAS)	5-10 years	Sep-2014	2025
Comprehensive Safety Action Plan (CSAP) and Complete Streets Guide (CSG)	TBD	2023	Dec-2024
NWA Energy & Environment Innovation (EEI) Comprehensive Action Plan	TBD	N/A	Mar-2025
NWA Regional Assessment of Stormwater Management (Stormwater)	TBD	N/A	TBD
REVIEW NOTES:	Review Cycle	Last Completed	Next Due
FTA Section 5339 Subrecipient Monitoring	Annual	Oct-2022	Oct-2024
FTA Triennial Review	3 years	Oct-2021	May-2024
FHWA Review + Certification	4 years	Jun-2022	Jun-2026
AGREEMENT NOTES:	Review Cycle	Last Completed	Next Due
Consolidated Planning Grant Agreement (MoDOT) & STBGP GT 200K Letter of Agreement (ARDOT)	Annual	Jun-2023	Jun-2024
3C Planning Process Agreement (NWARPC, ARDOT, MoDOT, ORT, and Razorback Transit)	5-10 years	Jun-2018	Jun-2028
Transportation Performance Management (PM) Planning Agreements (NWARPC, ARDOT, ORT, and Razorback Transit) and (NWARPC and MoDOT)	5-10 years	May-2018	May-2028
Data Sharing Agreement (NARTS and ARDOT)	5-10 years	Nov-2017	Nov-2027
Public Transportation Grant Assistance Agreement (NARTS and ARDOT)	5-10 years	Oct-2017	Oct-2027