

STRATEGIC PLANNING ACTIVITY CENTER

Statewide Transportation Planning Program in Area Development Districts and Highway Districts - The regional transportation planning program is administered through the 15 area development districts and the 12 highway districts. One full time transportation planner is funded in each area development district (ADD) to implement this program along with the Hwy District Planning Staff. The ADD and the Hwy District Planners meet bimonthly for updates, presentations and discussions of timely and informational subjects. The ADDs and Hwy Districts administer the Unscheduled Projects Process on the local and regional levels. A major portion of the public involvement for the statewide planning process is accomplished through Kentucky's 15 area development districts' transportation committees. Each ADD maintains a transportation advisory committee with representatives of local government, transportation interests, other special interests, and the general public.

Development and Maintenance of Unscheduled Projects List Database - This team is responsible for the development and maintenance of the Unscheduled Projects Database which contains all unscheduled highway, pedway, bicycle and Intelligent Transportation System projects in the Commonwealth which have not advanced to the Six-Year Highway Plan. Maintenance of the UPL includes updating all information, as it becomes available through various planning, scoping or small urban studies, revised project costs, and updating the database with new projects and new segments on a continuing basis.

Identification/Analysis/Prioritization of Highway, Pedway, Bikeway and ITS Projects for recommendation for inclusion in Six-Year Highway Plan (6YP) – This team is responsible for administering the Identification/Prioritization Process through the ADDs, Local Governments and Hwy Districts every two years for input to the Six-Year Highway Plan. This is an extensive process-requiring meeting with local involvement groups, regional committees and the review of each project with the District Hwy Office staff for input. A great amount of data is collected and updated on a continuing basis for each project. The Hwy District is responsible for reviewing all information on the Project Identification Form for accuracy and for providing updated and thorough cost estimates for each project.

Preparation of Long-Range Statewide Transportation Plan - The *2006 Long-Range Statewide Transportation Plan (STP)* is the third, multimodal, long-range plan produced by the Cabinet. The first plan was developed in 1995 and the first update was prepared in 1999. The STP is a long-range 25-year plan for all modes of transportation: highways, air, bikeways and pedestrian, public transportation, rail, and waterways. The plan includes a summary of existing conditions, the funding scenario, and statement of needs over the next 25 years for each mod. Beginning in 2006, this Plan is a policy only document and does not include specific projects. The Kentucky Long-Range Statewide Transportation Plan is updated every four-six years as needed and is available on the Cabinet's website or on CD or in hard copy from the Division of Planning.

Respond to Inquiries regarding projects in current Six-Year Plan / Statewide Transportation Plan / Proposed Highway Projects or Studies – This team responds to numerous inquiries regarding adding/deleting highway projects to the Unscheduled Projects List Database and is also responsible for developing the guidelines and instructions for the Project Identification Form and for the UPL Prioritization Process. A constant review of the Six-Year Plan and the Statewide Transportation Plan is on-going to maintain a working knowledge of the status of all projects and respond to various inquiries. Staff also reviews various proposals such

as School Site Proposals and Surplus Property Proposals to determine if projects effecting the site are programmed in the Six- Year Plan or are being implemented in any phase.

Statewide Needs Analyses – This team is responsible for not only maintaining the UPL of needs for the state, but for evaluating the data on a continuing basis, both in central office and through the ADDs, MPOs, and Highway District Offices to identify critical needs not previously addressed. As the data changes, or the availability of data changes, specific tasks are developed to identify critical needs throughout the state. For tasks that may be performed by the ADDS or Highway District Offices, specific work elements are prepared and guidelines developed to provide direction for these tasks. The team also maps the UPL, the 6YP and oftentimes critical needs based on Adequacy Ratings or other data to identify any undocumented needs which should be recommended as projects.

Statewide Transportation Planning Meetings – Staff, in cooperation with the MPO Team, plans and coordinates the Statewide Transportation Planning Meetings which are held five times a year with the ADD, MPO and Highway District Planners. These meetings are the primary method of providing direction, training and communication for the total program. The meetings include presentations on topics of interests to the group as well as small group discussions on topics such as work program elements, public involvement methods, or committee membership and meeting issues.

MPO Backup Staff – This team serves as backup staff for two MPOs also. This role is intended to provide more depth for the MPO program, so that if the designated MPO staff cannot attend the MPO meetings, then staff on the Statewide Planning Team can attend in their absence to allow the Cabinet to continue its presences at these meetings.