

# **West Alabama Rural Planning Organization Work Program**

Fiscal Year 2016  
October 1, 2015 through September 30, 2016



Developed by the West Alabama Regional Commission  
in cooperation with the Alabama Department of Transportation

Adopted August 14, 2015

# **West Alabama Rural Planning Organization (RPO)**

## ***Work Program Fiscal Year 2016***

This document is posted at  
<http://warc.info/transportation-planning/west-alabama-rpo/documents>

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This work program was prepared as a cooperative effort of the U. S. Department of Transportation (USDOT), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Transit Administration (FTA), Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT), and local governments as a requirement of 23 USC 134 and 135 (amended by MAP-21, Sections 1201 and 1202, July 2012), and task 1.2 of the RPO FY 2015 Work Program. The contents of this document do not necessarily reflect the official views or policies of the U.S. Department of Transportation.

# West Alabama Rural Planning Organization (RPO) Members

## Policy Committee

### Voting

Ricky Hubbard, Bibb County Commission Representative  
Joe D. Acker, Fayette County Commission Representative  
Greene County Commission Representative  
Arthur Crawford, Hale County Commission Representative  
Mike Roney, Lamar County Commission Representative  
Fredrick Kennedy, Pickens County Commission Representative  
James D. Brown, West Central Region Engineer, Alabama Department of Transportation  
Robert B. Lake, Executive Director, West Alabama Regional Commission  
Dennis Stripling, Bibb County Mayors Representative  
Ray Nelson, Fayette County Mayors Representative  
Hattie Edwards, Greene County Mayors Representative  
Tony Lester, Hale County Mayors Representative  
Icie Wriley, Lamar County Mayors Representative  
Craig Patterson, Pickens County Mayors Representative

### Non-Voting

Mark D. Bartlett, Federal Highway Administration  
Robert J. Jilla, Transportation Planning Engineer, ALDOT  
Daniel Hallman, Technical Coordinating Committee Chairman  
Al Elbert, Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee Chairman  
Bobby Herndon, Tuscaloosa Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Chairman

## Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC)

### Voting

Jeff McKinney, Bibb County Engineer  
Bobby McCraw, Fayette County Engineer  
Willie Branch, Greene County Engineer  
Danny Miles, Hale County Engineer  
Jim Smith, Lamar County Engineer  
Daniel Hallman, Pickens County Engineer  
Brad Darden, ALDOT West Central Region Pre-Construction Engineer  
Emmanuel Oranika, PhD, ALDOT Bureau of Transportation Planning  
Debbie Handley, Fayette and Lamar County Transit Provider  
Bobby Armstead, Greene and Hale County Transit Provider  
Ben Curry, Pickens County Transit Provider  
Airport Representative  
Representative, Federal Highway Administration  
James Garner, Railroad Representative  
George Newman, Trucking Representative  
Representative, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Representative  
Representative, West Alabama Regional Commission

### Non-Voting

Representative from each municipality in the study area  
Bobby Hagler, Tuscaloosa County Engineer  
Dewayne Roby, Fayette City Engineer  
Russell Lawrence, Tuscaloosa County Parking and Transit Authority  
Brian Latham, District 51 (Fayette/Lamar) Engineer, ALDOT West Central Region  
Jonathan Anderson, District 53 (Pickens/Greene) Engineer, ALDOT West Central Region  
Ken Couch, District 54 (Bibb/Chilton) Engineer, ALDOT West Central Region  
Jamie Autery, District 55 (Hale/Perry) Engineer, ALDOT West Central Region

# West Alabama Rural Planning Organization (RPO) Members (Continued)

## Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC)

### **Bibb County**

#### County Appointments

Joanne Craighead

John Downs

#### Municipal Appointments

Jerry C. Pow

Freddie Shoults

### **Fayette County**

#### County Appointments

Allen Dunavant

Faye Meharg

#### Municipal Appointments

Robert Avant

Bobbie Kemp-Driver

### **Greene County**

#### County Appointments

Thiea Bankhead

\*\* Vacant \*\*

#### Municipal Appointments

Thom Smith

\*\* Vacant \*\*

### **Hale County**

#### County Appointments

Tarlee Brown

\*\* Vacant \*\*

#### Municipal Appointments

Jerry Elkins

David Tidmore

### **Lamar County**

#### County Appointments

Wayne Baines

Al Elbert

#### Municipal Appointments

Wayne Christian

Lane Gilliam

### **Pickens County**

#### County Appointments

Joe Lancaster

Terry Windham

#### Municipal Appointments

Jerome Hickman

\*\* Vacant \*\*

Prepared by the  
West Alabama Regional Commission (WARC)  
*Staff to the RPO*

**West Alabama Rural Planning Organization (RPO)**

**Resolution RPO 15-1**

**Adopting the  
West Alabama Rural Planning Organization  
Work Program - Fiscal Year 2016**


WHEREAS, the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) requires the West Alabama Rural Planning Organization, in carrying out the transportation planning responsibilities of the nonmetropolitan cooperation process as established in 23 USC 134 and 135 (amended by MAP-21, Sections 1201 and 1202, July 2012) to maintain an annual Work Program that outlines the planning activities to be conducted by the Organization; and

WHEREAS, the Work Program is the instrument by which the West Alabama Regional Commission staff, on behalf of the West Alabama RPO, describes to ALDOT how it plans to carry out the cooperative process for rural transportation planning, consistent with the provisions of 23 CFR 450.210(b), including funding sources and funding levels; and

WHEREAS, the West Alabama Regional Commission has prepared a fiscal year 2016 Work Program for the West Alabama Rural Planning Organization that delineates transportation planning activities, funding levels, and funding sources for fiscal year 2016; and

WHEREAS, the Technical Coordinating Committee and the Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee of the West Alabama Rural Planning Organization have recommended that the Policy Committee adopt the fiscal year 2016 Work Program; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, this **14<sup>th</sup> day of August 2015**, that the West Alabama Rural Planning Organization Policy Committee does hereby adopt the West Alabama Rural Planning Organization Work Program - Fiscal Year 2016.

  
Chairman

Attest:

  
Process Coordinator

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## **Introduction**

### **Purpose**

The purpose of this document is to describe the work that will be performed by the West Alabama Rural Planning Organization (WARPO) in fiscal year 2016. The West Alabama Rural Planning Organization was organized to conduct a rural transportation planning process in six west Alabama counties (Bibb, Fayette, Greene, Hale, Lamar, and Pickens). The WARPO serves as the nonmetropolitan local-official cooperation process for the Alabama Department of Transportation in west Alabama.

The laws requiring Departments of Transportation to develop nonmetropolitan cooperation processes are found in Title 23, U.S. Code (USC) 135 and 505, as amended by the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Act (MAP-21). Sections 1202 and 52005 describe Statewide and Nonmetropolitan Transportation Planning and Programing and the related funding features, respectively. The actions are duplicated for public transit in Title 49, U.S. Code Sections 5303-5306 and the formula funding features are in Section 5323. The rules regarding the nonmetropolitan process are published in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFRs) as Title 23 Part 450.

### **Agency Participation**

This Work Program was developed by the West Alabama Rural Planning Organization. A description of the Rural Planning Organization (RPO) can be found in Appendix A of this document. The RPO is a cooperative effort of the West Alabama Regional Commission, Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT), Federal Transit Administration (FTA), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the six rural counties of west Alabama and the 30 municipalities in these counties. Each of these entities has representation on the various RPO committees. The staff of the RPO is housed at the West Alabama Regional Commission (WARC).

### **Development Process**

With input from ALDOT, the staff of the RPO developed a draft Work Program during the winter of 2015. The draft was presented to the RPO committees for their review in April and May 2015. The RPO Policy Committee adopted the draft Work Program on May 8, 2015. At this point, the draft was presented to ALDOT (reviewing agency) and was placed on the WARC website for public review. No comments or requests for changes were received from the public. The draft Work Program was reviewed again by the RPO committees in July and August 2015. The Policy Committee adopted the final Work Program on August 14, 2015.

### **Public Involvement**

The public had an opportunity to provide input in the development of the Work Program during the April/May and July/August 2014 RPO committee meetings. The public is encouraged to participate in discussions held at the committee meetings. News releases providing the meeting details and agenda are distributed at least two weeks prior to the committee meetings. The news releases are sent to the local media, special

interest groups, and interested individuals. The meeting schedule and agenda are also posted on the WARC website.

### **Title VI Activities**

The RPO operates its programs and services without regard to race, color, and national origin in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act. Any person who believes she or he has been aggrieved by any unlawful discriminatory practice under Title VI may file a complaint with the RPO. More information on the RPO Title VI program can be found on the RPO website (<http://warc.info/transportation-planning/west-alabama-rpo>). Task 4.2 of this work program describes the Title VI activities the RPO will conduct.

The RPO makes every effort to provide an inclusive planning process and adheres to and complies with all Title VI programs, processes, and procedures, that includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- *Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA)*
- Section 504 of the *Rehabilitation Act of 1973*
- *Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 USC 2000d*
- Title 23 U.S.C. Section 324 (Prohibition of discrimination on the basis of sex)
- Executive Order 12898 *Federal Actions To Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations*, 1994
- Title 42 U.S.C. Section 6101-6107 *Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (Older American Act)*
- Title 49 U.S.C. Section 5332 Nondiscrimination
- 49 C.F.R. 26 Disadvantaged Business Enterprise
- 23 C.F.R. 230 Equal Employment Opportunity

The RPO adopted public involvement plan includes ADA, Title VI, and limited English proficiency elements. The transportation planning process complies with the *FTA Title VI Circular 4702.1B* (October, 2012). Anyone with disabilities or limited English capabilities may request special assistance to participate in the transportation planning process.

### **Scope of the Planning Process (Special Planning Considerations)**

In developing the Work Program, the RPO was required to consider the current surface transportation authorizing legislation, the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21). Under MAP-21, RPOs must consider 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 nonmotorized users;
- C. increase the security of the transportation system for motorized and nonmotorized 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.

The RPO prepared the Work Program based on these factors, which are considered in every document and program produced by the RPO.

**Overview of RPO Planning Activities**

The RPO produces two main documents; a Work Program and a long-range transportation plan (LRTP). The Work Program is produced annually and the LRTP is produced every five years. Other documents developed as part of the transportation planning process include the public involvement plan and the coordinated public transit plan. The table below lists the current and projected adoption dates for the RPO documents.

<b>RPO Documents</b>	<b>Update Cycle (Years)</b>	<b>Current Adoption Date</b>	<b>Projected Adoption Date</b>
Work Program	1	August 14, 2015	Summer 2016
Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)	5	August 12, 2011	Summer 2016
Public Involvement Plan (PIP)	5	May 8, 2015	Spring 2020
Coordinated Public Transit Plan	2	August 14, 2015	Summer 2017

**Format**

The Work Program is divided into four major tasks, each with multiple subtasks. The tasks and subtasks outline the transportation planning work performed by the RPO staff at the West Alabama Regional Commission and the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT). The description of each task includes a purpose, an objective, goals, previous work, proposed work, products, staffing, schedule, and financial responsibility. Appendix A describes the RPO organization, Appendix B summarizes the Work Program budget, and Appendix C includes a transportation planning acronym and terms list.

# Tasks

## 1.0 General Administration

### 1.1 Rural Planning Organization (RPO) Administration

#### Purpose, Goal, and Objectives

The purpose of this task is to manage the transportation planning process. The goal is to have an effective and efficient transportation planning process. The objectives of this task are to:

1. Complete the administrative requirements of the RPO
2. Complete the financial management requirements of the RPO
3. Prepare and update required documentation to meet State and Federal requirements
4. Conduct Rural Planning Organization Policy Committee and Technical Coordinating Committee meetings
5. Provide the general public, businesses, organizations, and the RPO committees with transportation planning related information and technical assistance

#### Proposed Work

1. WARC Board Meetings - The RPO staff will attend WARC Board of Directors Meetings (1/2016, 3/2016, 5/2016, 7/2016, 9/2016). The RPO staff will attend the WARC Board of Directors Annual Meeting (11/2015).
2. WARC Staff Meetings - The RPO staff will attend WARC Staff Meetings.
3. RPO Staff Meetings - The RPO staff will conduct monthly staff meetings on the first or second working day of each month.
4. RPO Staff Assignment Schedule - The RPO staff will update the staff assignment schedule.
5. Employee Evaluations - The Transportation Planning Director will prepare annual employee evaluations.
6. Monthly Reports - The RPO staff will prepare monthly RPO progress reports.
7. Semi-Annual Reports - The RPO staff will prepare semi-annual progress reports for ALDOT in October 2015 and in April 2016.
8. Summary Document Update - The RPO staff will update the RPO *Summary Document* in February 2016.
9. Invoicing - The RPO staff will prepare and submit monthly invoices to ALDOT.
10. Monthly Financial Review - The RPO staff will review the WARC monthly financial statement.
11. Annual Audit Assistance and Review - The RPO staff will provide information to the WARC auditors and review the draft and final audit report.
12. Policy Committee and TCC Administration - The RPO staff will conduct four RPO Policy Committee meetings (11/2015, 2/2016, 5/2016, 8/2016). The RPO staff will conduct four TCC meetings (11/2015, 2/2016, 5/2016, 8/2016). The RPO staff will prepare the agendas, notices, and minutes for these meetings. The RPO staff will prepare Policy Committee resolutions. The RPO staff will prepare

TCC recommendation lists. The RPO staff will prepare four TCC project status reports.

13. Meeting Schedule - The RPO staff will prepare the RPO committees meeting schedule for fiscal year 2017.
14. Transportation Related Meeting Attendance/Participation - The RPO staff will attend meetings with interested groups. The RPO staff will make transportation planning presentations by request.
15. Information and Technical Assistance - The RPO staff will provide transportation planning information and technical assistance to individuals, businesses, organizations, and RPO committee members.

**Products**

1. RPO Staff Assignment Schedule - October 2015
2. Employee Evaluations - Spring 2016
3. Monthly Progress Reports - First week of every month
4. Semi-Annual Reports - October 2015 and April 2016
5. RPO Summary Document - February 2016
6. Monthly Invoices - First week of every month
7. Annual Audit - Summer 2016
8. Policy Committee Agendas, Notices, Resolutions, and Minutes - November 2015, February 2016, May 2016, and August 2016
9. TCC Agendas, Notices, Recommendation Lists, Project Status Reports, Minutes - November 2015, February 2016, May 2016, and August 2016
10. RPO Committee Meeting Schedule for 2017 - Summer 2016
11. Technical Assistance - As needed

**Staffing**

West Alabama Regional Commission (RPO Staff)

**Schedule**

Not applicable

**Financial Responsibility**

<b>Total</b>	<b>\$35,000</b>
State Planning and Research (SPR) - Federal Funds	\$28,000
West Alabama Regional Commission (WARC) - Local Match	\$7,000

## 1.2 Work Program

### Purpose, Goal, and Objectives

The purpose of this task is to prepare the Fiscal Year 2017 Work Program and, if necessary, amend the Fiscal Year 2016 Work Program. The goal is to have a reasonable guide and budget for the transportation planning program for the upcoming year and the current year. The objectives are to:

1. Effectively consult with the appropriate agencies regarding transportation planning efforts
2. Determine reasonable financial requirements and limitations for the transportation planning process
3. Provide adequate opportunities for public involvement in the development of the Work Program
4. Keep the current transportation planning process budget in balance

### Proposed Work

1. Consultation - The RPO staff will consult with the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) and the local governments regarding transportation planning efforts.
2. Budget - The RPO staff will prepare a budget for the Fiscal Year 2017 Work Program based on input from ALDOT and the local governments.
3. Public Participation - The RPO staff will post the draft Work Program on the WARC website. The RPO staff will distribute paper and digital copies of the draft Work Program upon request.
4. Fiscal Year 2017 Work Program - The RPO staff will prepare the Fiscal Year 2017 Work Program. The draft will be distributed for review in April and May 2016. The final Work Program will be adopted in August 2016.
5. Fiscal Year 2016 Work Program Budget - The RPO staff will monitor the Fiscal Year 2015 Work Program budget and amend, if necessary.

### Products

1. Fiscal Year 2017 Work Program - May 2016 (Draft), August 2016 (Final)
2. Amended Fiscal Year 2016 Work Program Budget - As needed.

### Staffing

West Alabama Regional Commission (RPO Staff)

### Schedule

The preparation of the Fiscal Year 2017 Work Program is expected to begin in March 2016 and end in August 2016. A draft document is expected to be complete by May 2016 and the final document is expected to be complete by August 2016.

**Financial Responsibility**

<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,000</b>
State Planning and Research (SPR) - Federal Funds	\$1,600
West Alabama Regional Commission (WARC) - Local Match	\$400

## 1.3 Education and Training

### Purpose, Goal, and Objectives

The purpose of this task is to develop and maintain the technical proficiency of the RPO staff. The goal is to have a knowledgeable RPO staff that can provide appropriate guidance to the planning process. The objectives are to:

1. Provide the RPO staff time to learn new techniques, learn new software, and maintain understanding of the laws and regulations governing the RPO
2. Provide the tools necessary for the RPO staff to develop technical proficiency
3. Provide the opportunity and means to travel to useful workshops and conferences
4. Reimburse the RPO staff for travel expenses

### Proposed Work

1. Read/Study Appropriate Publications - The RPO staff will read transportation planning related publications on a monthly basis. The RPO staff will review/study federal regulations and circulars.
2. Study GIS Software Programs - The RPO staff will study ArcInfo and MapInfo programs.
3. Attended Workshops, Conferences and Webinars - The RPO staff will participate in ALDOT-approved workshops, conferences, and webinars as needed.
4. Travel Vouchers - The RPO staff will complete travel vouchers for travel reimbursement. Out-of-state travel will be approved by ALDOT.

### Products

- Workshops and Conferences - The RPO staff will attend workshops, conferences, and webinars over the course of the year. However, these are generally not scheduled far enough in advance to list the programs or dates at this time.

### Staffing

West Alabama Regional Commission (RPO Staff)

### Schedule

Not applicable

### Financial Responsibility

<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,100</b>
State Planning and Research (SPR) - Federal Funds	\$1,680
West Alabama Regional Commission (WARC) - Local Match	\$420

## 1.4 Capital and Operating Purchases

### Purpose, Goal, and Objectives

The purpose of this task is to purchase, repair, and upgrade equipment, supplies, computer hardware, software, and furnishings necessary to manage the transportation planning process. The goal is for the staff and committees to have everything needed to conduct the process in an efficient manner. The objectives are to:

1. Determine appropriate needs and make appropriate purchases
2. Obtain the best price on purchases, repairs, and upgrades
3. Manage/maintain current equipment, supplies, computer hardware, software, and furnishings to minimize expenditures

### Proposed Work

1. Purchase, Repair, or Replace Equipment and Supplies - The RPO staff will purchase necessary supplies that cannot be charged to the WARC indirect fund. These purchases will be processed as needed.

### Products

1. New, Repaired, or Replaced Equipment and Supplies - As needed

### Staffing

West Alabama Regional Commission (RPO Staff)

### Schedule

Not applicable

### Financial Responsibility

<b>Total</b>	<b>\$600</b>
State Planning and Research (SPR) - Federal Funds	\$480
West Alabama Regional Commission (WARC) - Local Match	\$120

## 2.0 Data Collection and Analysis

### 2.1 Socioeconomic Data Collection and Maintenance

#### Purpose, Goal, and Objectives

The purpose of this task is to collect and maintain socioeconomic data used for the RPO transportation planning activities. The goal is to have accurate and up-to-date data necessary to revise the long-range transportation plan and conduct the transportation planning process. The objectives of the task are to:

1. Have accurate and current socioeconomic data
2. Maintain data in digital formats, including GIS files
3. Ensure that the RPO committee and staff have the necessary socioeconomic data to make informed decisions

#### Proposed Work

1. Census Data - Census data will be collected, summarized, and distributed by the RPO staff.
2. Business/Employment - Business and Employment information will be gathered and maintained by the RPO staff.
3. Traffic Counts - Traffic counts, provided by ALDOT, will be transferred by the RPO staff into digital files, including GIS files. Six traffic count brochures will be prepared by the RPO staff.

#### Products

1. Census Data Files - Updated as data becomes available
2. Business and Employment Files - Updated as data becomes available
3. Traffic Count Files - Summer 2016
4. Traffic Count Brochure - Summer 2016

#### Staffing

West Alabama Regional Commission (RPO Staff)

#### Schedule

Not applicable

#### Financial Responsibility

<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>
State Planning and Research (SPR) - Federal Funds	\$4,000
West Alabama Regional Commission (WARC) - Local Match	\$1,000



## 2.2 Environmental Data Collection and Maintenance

### Purpose, Goal, and Objectives

The purpose of this task is to collect and maintain data used by the RPO staff and committees to monitor current natural and manmade environmental conditions in the planning area. The goal is to have accurate and current data so the RPO staff and committees make informed transportation decisions. The objectives of this task are to:

1. Have accurate and current environmental data
2. Maintain data in digital formats, including GIS files
3. Ensure that the RPO committee and staff have the necessary environmental data to make informed decisions

### Proposed Work

1. Collect Data - The RPO staff will collect natural and manmade environmental data (land use, accident locations, bridges, cemeteries, churches, major employers, government facilities, historic sites, archeological areas, parks, schools, shopping centers, medical facilities, strip mines, methane wells, hazardous waste sites, underground storage tanks, landfills).
2. Maintain Files/Databases - The RPO staff will update digital files, including GIS files.
3. Produce Maps - The RPO staff will produce maps of various social and environmental files.

### Products

1. Natural and Manmade Environmental Data Files - As data becomes available
2. Natural and Manmade Environmental Data Maps - As needed

### Staffing

West Alabama Regional Commission (RPO Staff)

### Schedule

Not applicable

### Financial Responsibility

<b>Total</b>	<b>\$11,500</b>
State Planning and Research (SPR) - Federal Funds	\$9,200
West Alabama Regional Commission (WARC) - Local Match	\$2,300

## 3.0 Transportation System

### 3.1 Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)

#### Purpose, Goal, and Objectives

The purpose of this task is to prepare and maintain a long-range transportation plan. The goal is to develop and maintain a long-range transportation plan that addresses the needs of the community. The objectives of the task are to:

1. Monitor transportation needs
2. Develop reasonable strategies to address transportation needs
3. Prepare an easily understood plan
4. Amend the plan based on current transportation needs

#### Proposed Work

1. Prioritized Project List - The RPO will prioritize identified projects as part of the development of the Long-Range Transportation Plan.
2. Long-Range Transportation Plan 2016 - The RPO staff will develop the Long-Range Transportation Plan 2016.
3. Plan Amendments - The RPO staff will amend the 2011 plan with RPO adopted amendments based on identified transportation needs.

#### Products

1. Prioritized Project List - November 2015
2. Long-Range Transportation Plan 2016 - February 2016 (Draft ), May 2016 (Final)
3. An Up-To-Date Long-Range Transportation Plan - The plan will be amended, as necessary.

#### Staffing

West Alabama Regional Commission (RPO Staff)

#### Schedule

The draft Long-Range Transportation Plan 2016 is expected to be complete by February 2016 and the final document is expected to be complete by May 2016.

#### Financial Responsibility

<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,000</b>
State Planning and Research (SPR) - Federal Funds	\$4,800
West Alabama Regional Commission (WARC) - Local Match	\$1,200

Note: ALDOT is not required to adopt, fund, or implement projects resulting from the rural cooperation process. Projects in an RPO LRTP or TIP are advisory to ALDOT only.

## 3.2 RPO Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP)

### Purpose, Goal, and Objectives

The purpose of this task is to develop and revise the RPO Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP). The goal is to develop a realistic, financially constrained, multi-year program of transportation projects taken from the long-range transportation plan. The objectives of this task are to:

1. Develop reasonable financial forecasts and cost estimates for the RTIP
2. Monitor the progress of the RTIP projects
3. Maintain an accurate database of RTIP projects
4. Coordinate the RTIP development with ALDOT and the RPO members
5. Give the general public a reasonable opportunity to be involved in the RTIP process
6. Produce an easily understood RTIP

### Proposed Work

1. RTIP TELUS Database of Projects - The RPO staff will modify project descriptions in the TELUS system, as needed.
2. Fiscal Years 2016 through 2019 RTIP - The RPO staff will amend the FY 2016-2019 RTIP, as needed.

### Products

1. Updated TELUS Database - As needed
2. Amended Fiscal Years 2016 through 2019 RTIP - As needed

### Staffing

West Alabama Regional Commission (RPO Staff)

### Schedule

The draft Fiscal Years 2020 through 2023 RTIP should be adopted by the end of May 2019. The final FY20-23 RTIP should be adopted by the end of August 2019.

### Financial Responsibility

<b>Total</b>	<b>\$500</b>
State Planning and Research (SPR) - Federal Funds	\$400
West Alabama Regional Commission (WARC) - Local Match	\$100

Note: ALDOT is not required to adopt, fund, or implement projects resulting from the rural cooperation process. Projects in an RPO LRTP or TIP are advisory to ALDOT only.

### 3.3 Public Transit Planning

#### Purpose, Goal, and Objectives

The purpose of this task is to help the transit providers in west Alabama plan effective transit systems and to provide technical assistance to the transit providers. The goal is to have well-planned and effective transit systems that serve the entire region. The objectives of this task are to:

1. Coordinate transit service when feasible
2. Improve transit service for the elderly, person with disabilities, and low-income individuals
3. Address transit service gaps when feasible
4. Amend/update the Coordinated Public Transit Plan based on identified transportation needs

#### Proposed Work

1. Transit Coordination Committee - The RPO staff will conduct Transit Coordination Committee meetings, as needed. The RPO staff will record minutes at the meetings.
2. Coordinated Public Transit Plan - The RPO staff will amend/update the current plan based on transportation needs and regulatory requirements.
3. Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Grant Application Review - The RPO staff will review Section 5310, 5311, 5316, and 5317 grant applications and provide certification related to the federally required transit coordination plan.

#### Products

1. Transit Coordination Committee Meeting Minutes - As needed
2. An Up-To-Date Coordinated Public Transit Plan - A coordinated transit plan that reflects the current transportation needs. The plan will be amended or updated, as necessary.
3. FTA Grant Application Reviews - Spring/Summer 2016

#### Staffing

1. West Alabama Regional Commission (RPO Staff)

#### Schedule

West Alabama Coordinated Public Transit Plan (2017) - The draft transit plan should be adopted by the end of May 2017. The final plan should be adopted by the end of August 2017.

#### Financial Responsibility

<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,000</b>
State Planning and Research (SPR) - Federal Funds	\$1,600
West Alabama Regional Commission (WARC) - Local Match	\$400

### 3.4 Transportation Safety Planning

#### Purpose, Goal, and Objectives

The purpose of this task is to incorporate transportation safety into the planning process. The goal is to improve transportation safety in the community. The objectives of this task are to:

1. Provide accurate and useful transportation safety data to the RPO committees
2. Provide an opportunity for transportation safety issues to be discussed at all RPO committee meetings

#### Proposed Work

1. Crash Report - The RPO staff will prepare a report of high traffic crash locations for the RPO committees in April 2016.
2. Safety Observation Report - The RPO staff will prepare a report composed of safety observations from the RPO committees. The report will be updated after every set of RPO committee meetings (November 2015, February 2016, May 2016, and August 2016). The reports will be provided to the appropriate state and local offices.
3. Annual Safety Observation Summary Report - The RPO staff will prepare a summary of the safety observations compiled over the course of the fiscal year in September 2016.

#### Products

1. Crash Report - April 2016
2. Safety Observation Report - November 2015, February 2016, May 2016, and August 2016
3. Annual Safety Observation Summary Report - September 2016

#### Staffing

West Alabama Regional Commission (RPO Staff)

#### Schedule

Not applicable

#### Financial Responsibility

<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>
State Planning and Research (SPR) - Federal Funds	\$800
West Alabama Regional Commission (WARC) - Local Match	\$200

## 4.0 Public Involvement

### 4.1 Public Involvement Process

#### Purpose, Goal, and Objectives

The purpose of this task is to develop and manage the public involvement process. The goal is to have an open transportation planning process that considers the needs of all segments of the local population. The objectives of this task are to:

1. Have a proactive public involvement process
2. Provide timely and adequate public notice of RPO activities
3. Provide full public access to key decisions in the RPO planning process
4. Provide early and continuing public involvement in the RPO planning process
5. Provide reasonable public access to technical and policy input used to develop plans and programs
6. Ensure that everyone, including low-income individuals, minorities, persons with disabilities, and senior citizens have an opportunity to participate in the transportation planning process
7. Conduct Rural Planning Organization Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC) meetings
8. Maintain a viable Public Involvement Plan (PIP)
9. Maintain a Record of Public Involvement (RPI)

#### Proposed Work

1. Public Notification - The RPO staff will provide news releases regarding RPO meetings and events to media contacts, interested public agencies, and groups that work with low-income people, minorities, persons with disabilities, and senior citizens. The news releases will be provided by postal mail and electronic mail. In addition, the news releases will be posted on the WARC website and the WARC Meeting Bulletin Board. The news releases will be distributed no later than two weeks prior to meeting dates.
2. Public Presentations - The RPO staff will speak at public and civic groups during fiscal year 2016, upon request.
3. Mailing Lists Maintenance - The RPO staff will maintain mailing lists of media contacts, interested public agencies, and groups that deal with low-income people, minorities, persons with disabilities, and senior citizens. The RPO staff will maintain two lists, a postal mail list and an electronic mail list.
4. Document Distribution - The RPO staff will distribute RPO documents to committee members, government agencies, and the general public. The RPO staff will post the RPO documents on the WARC website.
5. PIP Annual Performance Review - The RPO staff will calculate the performance measures of the PIP for fiscal year 2015 in October 2015.
6. CTAC Administration - The RPO staff will conduct four sets of CTAC meetings (November 2015, January 2016, April 2016, and July 2016). The staff will prepare the agendas, notices, and minutes for these meetings. The RPO staff will prepare CTAC recommendation lists.

7. RPO Response - The RPO staff will provide written responses to inquiries into the transportation planning process or an RPO document in fiscal year 2016, as needed.
8. Record of Public Involvement (RPI) - The RPO staff will prepare the final RPI for fiscal year 2015 in October 2015. The RPO staff will compile the initial RPI for fiscal year 2016 over the course of the year.

**Products**

1. News Releases (RPO Committee Meetings) - October 2015, January 2016, April 2016, and July 2016
2. Public Presentations - As requested
3. Mailing Lists - Updated as needed
4. CTAC Meetings - November 2015, January 2016, April 2016, and July 2016
5. CTAC Recommendation List - November 2015, February 2016, May 2016, and August 2016
6. RPO Written Responses - As required
7. Record of Public Involvement - October 2015

**Staffing**

West Alabama Regional Commission (RPO Staff)

**Schedule**

Public Involvement Plan (PIP) 2020 - The draft PIP should be adopted by November 2019. The final PIP should be adopted by the end of February 2020.

**Financial Responsibility**

<b>Total</b>	<b>\$9,000</b>
State Planning and Research (SPR) - Federal Funds	\$7,200
West Alabama Regional Commission (WARC) - Local Match	\$1,800

## 4.2 Title VI Planning

### Purpose, Goal, and Objectives

The purpose of this task is to ensure plans, programs, and processes developed by the RPO consider the needs of the traditionally underserved populations (low-income, minority, disabled, and elderly) and adhere to the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The goal is to ensure federally funded transportation projects in west Alabama do not disproportionately affect the traditionally underserved populations and that these populations are not denied the benefits of the projects. The objectives of the task are to:

1. Accurately map the traditionally underserved populations
2. Involve the traditionally underserved populations in the transportation planning process
3. Make the RPO committees aware of the needs of the traditionally underserved populations

### Proposed Work

1. Map Underserved Populations - The RPO staff will update maps for low-income, minority, disabled, and elderly population as possible.
2. Public Notification - The RPO staff will provide news releases regarding RPO meetings and events to groups that work with low-income people, minorities, persons with disabilities, and elderly citizens (October 2015, January 2016, April 2016, and July 2016).
3. Technical Assistance - The RPO staff will provide technical assistance to groups that work with low-income people, minorities, persons with disabilities, and elderly citizens, as requested.
4. Title VI Compliance - The RPO staff will manage the RPO Title VI program including the language assistance provisions of the Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Plan.

### Products

1. Maps of Underserved Populations - As needed
2. News Releases (RPO Committee Meetings) - October 2015, January 2016, April 2016, July 2016
3. Technical Assistance - As requested
4. Title VI Compliance Tracking - As needed
5. Language Assistance - As needed

### Staffing

West Alabama Regional Commission (RPO Staff)

### Schedule

Not applicable



**Financial Responsibility**

<b>Total</b>	<b>\$300</b>
State Planning and Research (SPR) - Federal Funds	\$240
West Alabama Regional Commission (WARC) - Local Match	\$60



# **Appendix A**

## **RPO Description**

## **Introduction**

The following is a brief summary of the West Alabama Rural Transportation Planning Process and includes relevant background information. A Rural Planning Organization (RPO) functions somewhat like a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and provides structure for the process. An important distinction between an MPO and the RPO is that all RPO recommendations and documents are only advisory at this time. The RPO serves as a formal link between the ALDOT and local governments and provides additional opportunities for the rural areas to communicate with Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT).

### **Organization**

The West Alabama Rural Planning Organization (RPO) is composed of three committees. The Policy Committee is the official decision making body of the process. The Policy Committee is served by two advisory committees: the Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) and Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC).

### **Study Area**

The study area includes the six rural counties served by the West Alabama Regional Commission: Bibb, Fayette, Greene, Hale, Lamar, and Pickens. Tuscaloosa is not included in the study area because it is already served by a transportation planning process governed by the Tuscaloosa Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The Tuscaloosa County MPO has nonvoting representatives on the RPO Policy and TCC. Figure 1 depicts the study area.

### **Agreement**

The first step in any transportation planning process is the development of an agreement. The agreement legally delineates the concerned governmental entities, defines the duties of each entity, and outlines the organizational structure. The agreement is between the West Alabama Regional Commission and the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT).

### **Laws and Regulations**

The laws requiring Departments of Transportation to develop nonmetropolitan cooperation processes are found in Title 23, U.S. Code (USC) 135 and 505. Title 23 was amended by the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) for Statewide and Nonmetropolitan Transportation Planning and Programing in Sections 1202 and funding features in 52005 respectively. The actions are duplicated for public transit in Title 49, U.S. Code Sections 5304 and the formula funding features are in 5338.

The rules regarding the nonmetropolitan cooperation process are published in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFRs) as Title 23, Part 450. The Code was superseded or amended by the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) Sections 1202 and 20006, July 2012. These regulations require States to consider the concerns of local elected officials when carrying out statewide transportation planning, to develop a process to cooperate with nonmetropolitan local officials regarding transportation issues, and to cooperate with nonmetropolitan officials when developing the statewide transportation plan and the statewide transportation improvement program (STIP).



## **Products of the Transportation Planning Process**

### **Work Program**

The Work Program (WP) represents the budget and work tasks necessary to accomplish and maintain the transportation planning process within the study area. The WP is developed to coordinate transportation and related planning activities for a cooperative, continuing, and comprehensive planning process. The primary objective of the WP is the development of an integrated planning program that considers the planning activities of each modal group and coordinates these activities to produce a transportation plan that serves all segments of the population.

### **Safety Program**

The RPO collects a list of safety observations at the quarterly committee meetings. In general the safety observations are low cost projects that have the potential to reduce traffic accidents. The observations are forwarded to the county engineers, the ALDOT West Central Region District Engineers, the ALDOT West Central Region Engineer, and other relevant agencies. At the end of each fiscal year the quarterly safety observations are compiled into a final report. The final report will describe any action taken to address the suggestion. The report will also be provided to the appropriate departments and agencies.

### **Long-Range Transportation Plan**

The RPO adopted the original long-range transportation plan in 2006 and revised this plan in 2011. The plan established goals, strategies, and a region-wide transportation vision. The plan includes a prioritized project list for each county and a prioritized list of regional projects. The purpose of the plan is to document the long-range transportation needs of west Alabama, as identified by the elected and appointed officials in the area. The plan is intended to help local governments address and prioritize transportation needs. The plan should also help ALDOT develop the statewide plan and the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program and schedule the construction of transportation projects based on their limited budget. However, the plan is strictly advisory. No funds have been set aside to undertake any of the strategies or projects included in the plan.

### **Rural Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP)**

The Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) allows state-designated Regional Transportation Planning Organizations (RTPOs) to develop a Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP). The Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) has chosen not to re-designate the current Alabama RPOs as RTPOs. However, ALDOT has decided to allow the RPOs to develop nonbinding Rural TIPs. The West Alabama RPO anticipates developing a Rural TIP during the spring and summer of 2015.

## **Committees**

The West Alabama Rural Planning Organization (RPO) manages the West Alabama Rural Transportation Planning Process. The RPO is composed of three committees. The Policy Committee is the official decision-making body of the process. The Policy Committee is served by two advisory committees: the Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) and Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC). These committees meet four times a year; January/February, April/May, July/August and have one Combined Committee meeting in November.

### **Policy Committee**

The Policy Committee serves as the official decision-making body for the West Alabama Rural Transportation Planning Process. In this capacity, the Policy Committee determines the content of documents and recommendations provided to the Alabama Department of Transportation. The responsibilities of the Policy Committee include providing overall guidance to the planning process, review and approval of all process plans and programs, and appointing TCC and CTAC members.

The Policy Committee is composed of nineteen members, fourteen voting and five nonvoting. Each county commission in the six rural west Alabama counties has a voting representative on the Policy Committee. In addition, the mayors from each rural county choose a voting representative to serve on the Policy Committee. The ALDOT West Central Region Engineer and the Executive Director of the WARC are the other two voting members. The five nonvoting members are Federal Highway Administration Division Administrator, the ALDOT Transportation Planning Engineer, the chairman of the RPO TCC, the chairman of the RPO CTAC, and the chairman of the Tuscaloosa Area MPO Policy Committee.

### **Technical Coordinating Committee**

The Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) provides technical support to the Policy Committee. The TCC reviews RPO documents, studies, reports, plans, and programs and provides the Policy Committee with recommendations concerning these items. The TCC members review the planning process products from a technical perspective, making certain that all appropriate concerns are addressed, including local planning issues, engineering details, environmental questions, and future growth, among many others. The TCC also has the ability to make alternative recommendations for any of the products.

The TCC coordinates the work of the various departments and agencies involved in the transportation planning process. The local governments, the State DOT, and selected other transportation interests are represented on the TCC. The TCC members share information and data that builds and improves the planning processes and products.

### **Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee**

The Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC) is made up of twenty-four citizens from the West Alabama area. The county commission and the mayoral representatives on the Policy Committee each appoint two members to the CTAC. Each county has four representatives on the CTAC.

The CTAC was established to provide active public participation in the transportation planning process. The CTAC provides the RPO with a standing committee of citizens who have a good knowledge of the planning process and can pass on public concerns related to transportation in

a structured fashion. The CTAC reviews RPO documents, studies, reports, plans, and programs and provides the Policy Committee with recommendations concerning these items. The CTAC also informs the Policy Committee of public concerns related to transportation projects and issues.

The CTAC is scheduled to meet four times a year. The full CTAC meets once a year, usually in the first quarter of the fiscal year, in conjunction with the TCC and Policy committees. For the other three meetings, the CTAC holds six subcommittee meetings in each of the rural counties. Each subcommittee is composed of the four representatives from the respective county. This method of meeting provides local residents a better opportunity to participate in the planning process.

The CTAC is just one of the strategies included in the public involvement plan adopted by the RPO. The plan describes the RPO public participation goals and lists strategies to encourage public participation in the transportation planning process. The RPO staff reviews participation performance measures annually to judge the effectiveness of the plan.



# **Appendix B**

## **Budget Summary Table**

**West Alabama Rural Planning Organization  
Work Program Budget  
Fiscal Year 2016**

<b>Task</b>	<b>SPR Funds</b>	<b>WARC Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds</b>
<b>1.0 General Administration - Total</b>	<b>\$31,760</b>	<b>\$7,940</b>	<b>\$39,700</b>
1.1 Rural Planning Organization Administration	\$28,000	\$7,000	\$35,000
1.2 Work Program	\$1,600	\$400	\$2,000
1.3 Education and Training	\$1,680	\$420	\$2,100
1.4 Capital and Operating Purchases	\$480	\$120	\$600
<b>2.0 Data Collection and Analysis - Total</b>	<b>\$13,200</b>	<b>\$3,300</b>	<b>\$16,500</b>
2.1 Socioeconomic Data Collection and Maintenance	\$4,000	\$1,000	\$5,000
2.2 Environmental Data Collection and Maintenance	\$9,200	\$2,300	\$11,500
<b>3.0 Transportation System - Total</b>	<b>\$7,600</b>	<b>\$1,900</b>	<b>\$9,500</b>
3.1 Long-Range Transportation Plan	\$4,800	\$1,200	\$6,000
3.2 RPO Transportation Improvement Program	\$400	\$100	\$500
3.3 Public Transit Planning	\$1,600	\$400	\$2,000
3.4 Transportation Safety Planning	\$800	\$200	\$1,000
<b>4.0 Public Involvement - Total</b>	<b>\$7,440</b>	<b>\$1,860</b>	<b>\$9,300</b>
4.1 Public Involvement Process	\$7,200	\$1,800	\$9,000
4.2 Title VI Planning	\$240	\$60	\$300
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$60,000</b>	<b>\$15,000</b>	<b>\$75,000</b>

SPR = State Planning and Research Funds  
WARC = West Alabama Regional Commission

# **Appendix C**

## **Transportation Planning Acronyms and Terms**

## Transportation Planning Acronyms and Terms

5th Division - Alabama Department of Transportation 5th Division, office located in Tuscaloosa, includes nine counties in West Alabama, Replaced with West Central Region in 2014

AAA - Area Agency on Aging, West Alabama AAA

AADT - Average Annual Daily Traffic count

ACS - American Community Survey; U.S. Census Bureau product; replacement for the decennial long-form data

ADA - Americans with Disabilities Act

ADAP - Alabama Disabilities Advocacy Program

ADT - Average Daily Traffic count

ALDOT - Alabama Department of Transportation

ARC - Appalachian Regional Commission

ARC - Formerly the Association for Retarded Citizens, now known as The Arc

Bicycle / Pedestrian Scale Development - Development that consists of a mix of land uses (residential, commercial, public) in close proximity, where one could comfortably walk or ride a bicycle from their origin (e.g., residence, place of employment) to a destination (e.g., place of employment, store, government facility, park)

BPC - Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee

BR - Bridge funding program; also BRON

CA - Capital funds (transit)

CAC - Citizens Advisory Committee; now known as CTAC

Capacity Project - (Road) a project that adds through lanes to an existing road or builds a new road; (Transit) a project that adds new routes or expands demand response/para-transit fleet

CFR - Code of Federal Regulations

CN - Construction - the final phase of a transportation project, the actual building of the project

CTAC - Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee

DPI or DPIP - Innovative/Special funding program, applies to projects specifically named in federal legislation

Enhancement Funds - Under pre-MAP-21 legislation, 10% of all Surface Transportation Program funds allocated to a state are required to be spent on enhancement projects. Eligible projects include, but are not limited to, acquisition of historic sites and construction of pedestrian or bicycle facilities

EPA - Environmental Protection Agency

ESWA - Easter Seals West Alabama

FHWA - Federal Highway Administration

FOCUS - Focus on Senior Citizens

FTA - Federal Transit Administration

Functional Classification System - a system to distinguish roads according to the type of service provided

GIS - Geographic Information System - a computer system that links cartographic images with databases, and allows the user to create new maps and databases through various means, including overlay and query operations

ISTEA - Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991; replaced first by TEA-21 then SAFETEA-LU, and currently by MAP-21

ITS - Intelligent Transportation System

JARC - Job Access and Reverse Commute - Federal Transit Administration Section 5316 funding program

LAP - Language Access Plan, sometimes referred to as a Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Plan

LEP - Limited English Proficiency

LEP Plan - Limited English Proficiency Plan - outlines how the MPO and RPO integrates people with Limited English Proficiency (LEP) into the transportation planning process - sometimes referred to as a Language Access Plan (LAP)

LOC - Local funding

Long-Range Transportation Plan - outlines projects that will be required to meet the needs of an area over an extended period of time usually 20 years, revised every four to five years

LRTP - Long-Range Transportation Plan

MO - Maintenance and Operation, same as federal O&M and TSMO, ALDOT preference

MO Project - Maintenance and Operation project, same as federal O&M project and TSMO project, ALDOT preference

MAP-21 - Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (P.L. 112-141)

MPO - Metropolitan Planning Organization, Tuscaloosa Area MPO

NAAQS - National Ambient Air Quality Standards

New Freedom - Federal Transit Administration Section 5317 funding program

NHS - National Highway System, a transportation funding category, only projects on designated NHS routes can use these funds; also NHSP

O&M - operations and management, same as MO and TSMO

O&M Project - a project that improves the operation and/or management of a transportation system; examples include turn lanes, traffic signal optimization, ITS center, same as MO Project and TSMO Project

OP - Operating funds (transit)

PARA - Parks and Recreation Authority

PE - Preliminary Engineering - the first phase of most transportation projects, the study and design of the project

Public Forum - designated time during RPO and MPO meetings in which the public or interested parties may address the Policy Committee or Advisory Committees

Public Hearing - hearings to formally present information and gather public input for projects and plans - The Tuscaloosa Area MPO and West Alabama RPO do not hold public hearings. The Alabama Department of Transportation and local governments conduct public hearings for specific projects.

Public Meeting - meetings held by the Tuscaloosa Area MPO and West Alabama RPO to review draft transportation planning documents - The Tuscaloosa Area MPO holds public meetings for the Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan, and the Public Involvement Plan (PIP).

Public Review - public reviews allow anyone to examine and comment on draft documents during a specified period of time - The Tuscaloosa Area MPO and West Alabama RPO holds public reviews for the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), Public Involvement Plan (PIP), and Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. During the review period, draft documents are available on the internet, the West Alabama Regional Commission, and the Transit Authority. The review period extends from the date the MPO or RPO adopts the draft document for public review until the MPO or RPO adopts the final document, generally two months.

ROW - Right of Way - a phase of transportation projects, the purchase of right of way

RPO - Rural Planning Organization, West Alabama RPO

RW - Right of Way - a phase of transportation projects, the purchase of right of way

SAFETEA-LU - Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users - (Pub. L. 109–59, August 10, 2005)

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 - protects qualified individuals from discrimination based on the disability

Section 5303 - Federal Transit Administration funding program for technical studies

Section 5307 - Federal Transit Administration funding program for urban area transit capital and operating expenses, see Section 5339

Section 5309 - Federal Transit Administration funding program for capital transit improvements

Section 5310 - Federal Transit Administration funding program for elderly and disabled transit capital assistance

Section 5311 - Federal Transit Administration funding program for rural area transit capital and operating expenses

Section 5316 - Federal Transit Administration funding program for job access and reverse commute transit, also known as JARC

Section 5317 - Federal Transit Administration funding program for new Americans with Disabilities Act transit assistance, also known as New Freedoms

Section 5339 - Federal Transit Administration funding program for bus and bus facilities; replaced Section 5309 in MAP-21, eligible to 5307 recipients

ST - State funding

STAA - Surface Transportation Any Area funding category, represents funds that may be used anywhere in the state, ALDOT has the authority to allocate these funds

STIP - State Transportation Improvement Program

STOA - Surface Transportation Other Area funding category, represents funds that are used in Urban Areas with populations less than 200,000

STP - Surface Transportation Program, a transportation funding category, Urban Areas are allocated an amount of funds annually based on a specific per capita dollar amount

TAP - Transportation Alternatives Program

TARC - Tuscaloosa Association of Retarded Citizens, also known as The ARC

TAZ - Transportation Analysis Zone - districts used for computer traffic modeling

TCC - Technical Coordinating Committee

TCPTA - Tuscaloosa County Parking and Transit Authority, also known as Tuscaloosa Metro Transit, Tuscaloosa Trolley, the Authority

TDOT - Tuscaloosa Department of Transportation

TEA-21 - Transportation Equity Act of the 21st Century

TELUS - Transportation, Economic, and Land Use System (TELUS) - web-based software used to manage and integrate the TIP and STIP processes and databases

TIP - Transportation Improvement Program - a list of funded MPO projects slated to begin over a four-year period, revised every four years

Title VI - Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Nondiscrimination in Federally Assisted Programs)

TR - Transit project

TSMO - transportation system management and operations, same as MO and O&M



TSMO Project - a project that improves the operation and/or management of a transportation system; examples include turn lanes, traffic signal optimization, ITS center, same as MO Project and O&M Project

UCP - United Cerebral Palsy

UMTA - Urban Mass Transit Administration; now known as FTA

UPWP - Unified Planning Work Program - a set of tasks that the WARC staff is committed to perform over a fiscal year, revised annually

Urban Area Boundary - boundary surrounding a Census Bureau defined urbanized area, established by the MPO with ALDOT and FHWA approval

UT - Utility Construction - a phase of transportation projects, the relocation of utilities

WAPDC - West Alabama Planning and Development Council; now known as West Alabama Regional Commission (WARC)

WARC - West Alabama Regional Commission

WARPO - West Alabama Rural Planning Organization

West Central Region - Alabama Department of Transportation Region, office located in Tuscaloosa County, includes 14 counties in West Alabama, Replaced the 5<sup>th</sup> Division in 2014