



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Department of Administration
STATE PLANNING COUNCIL
Division of Statewide Planning
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STATE PLANNING COUNCIL
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
PUBLIC NOTICE

Rhode Island Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Public Participation Plan (PPP) 2024 Limited Update

The State Planning Council’s Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) is accepting comments on the draft Public Participation Plan 2024 Limited Update.

The State Planning Council (SPC) as the MPO and its staff, the Department of Administration’s Division of Statewide Planning, is the agency responsible for meeting the federal public participation requirements for transportation projects funded by the U.S. Department of Transportation. This Plan reinforces the SPC and Statewide Planning’s commitment to transparent communications and engagement with the public regardless of race, color, national origin, age, income, or ability, and with public and private agencies to support the statewide transportation planning process. This Plan outlines the Division of Statewide Planning and SPC’s responsibilities, goals, and strategies for engaging the public in its planning work. It may be used for the SPC’s planning process for transportation planning including the development of the State’s Long-Range Transportation Plan and State Transportation Improvement Program. The Plan may also be used for the development of the SPC’s non-transportation planning areas including land use planning documents.

This 2024 Limited Update to the PPP reinforces two recommendations provided by FHWA during the 2022 MPO Recertification. The first recommendation was to evaluate the effectiveness of the PPP on a regular basis and transparently coordinate with stakeholders; the second recommendation encouraged RIDSP to take a multi-faceted approach to public engagement that integrated opportunities to enhance early outreach and education, processes for incorporation of comments received, and the evaluation of additional public and stakeholder outreach and engagement. Furthermore, in light of COVID-19, this ‘limited update’ integrates a multi-faceted approach, along with virtual public engagement and implementation into the Information Dissemination, Targeted Consultation, and General Participation Strategies adopted in the 2019 Public Participation Plan.

A public comment period of 45 calendar days is provided and concludes on February 5, 2024. The draft Plan is available for review at www.planning.ri.gov or at the R.I. Division of Statewide Planning’s Office between 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. A copy (including plain-text document requests) may also be obtained by calling (401) 222-7901.

The TAC will conduct a public hearing to accept comments on the proposed Public Participation Plan.
Please note that the public hearing scheduled for January 22, 2024 is being rescheduled to:

Tuesday, January 30, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.
Warwick Public Library
600 Sandy Lane – Idea Studio
Warwick RI 02889

In addition, two virtual listening sessions will be held on Tuesday, January 23, 2024, via Zoom at 12:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. The links to the Zoom sessions are provided below:

Listening Session #1 January 23, 2024 – 12:00 p.m. https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85166464172 Meeting ID: 851 6646 4172 Dial-in: 1 (646) 558-8656	Listening Session #2 January 23, 2024 – 6:00 p.m. https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82751658145 Meeting ID: 827 5165 8145 Dial-in: 1 (646) 558-8656
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Comments must be submitted via the Online Public Comment Form accessible here: <https://planning.ri.commentinput.com/?id=MNAcsqkfa> . All comments on the Public Participation Plan 2024 Limited Update must be received by 4:00 p.m. on February 5, 2024. The TAC will not accept oral public comments during the meeting related to the Limited Update

The public meeting location is (ADA) accessible to individuals with disabilities. Any individual requiring a reasonable accommodation to participate in this meeting should contact Thomas Mannock, Ph.D. at 401-222-6377 (voice) as soon as possible. Individuals requesting foreign language translation services should contact Mr. Benny Bergantino at (401) 222-1755 at least five (5) business days prior to the scheduled start of a meeting. Public transit schedule information for the workshops is available from RIPTA at (401) 781-9400 or www.ripta.com

Mason Perrone
Secretary, Transportation Advisory Committee
December 21, 2023