

# METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION



**SAGIS**  
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**CORE**  
COASTAL REGION MPO

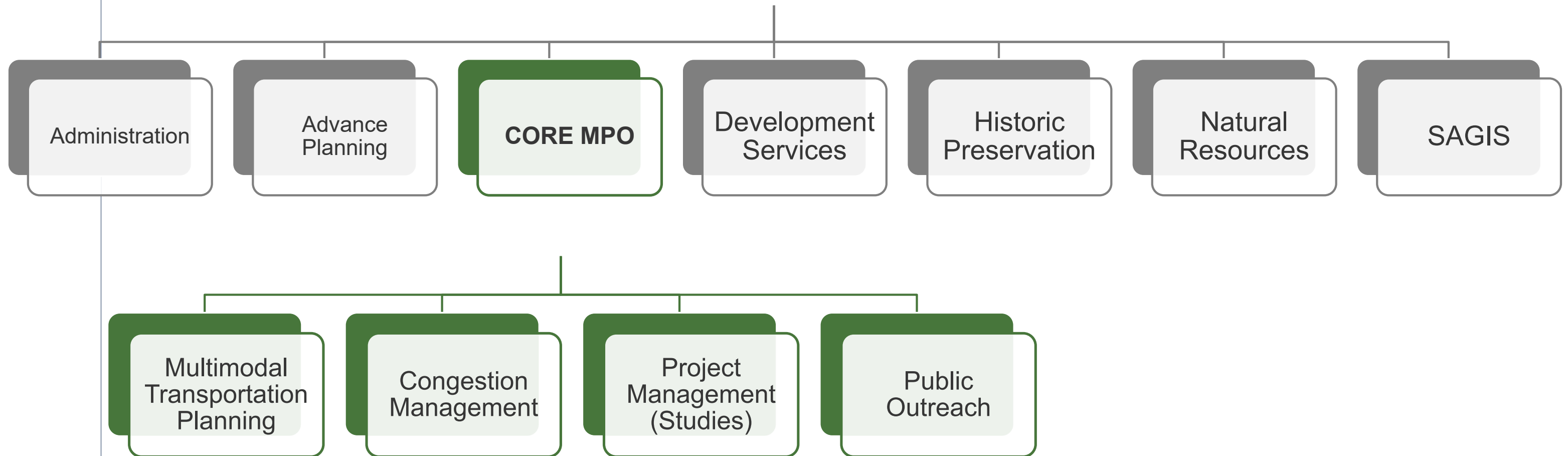


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# METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION





## **CORE MPO stands for the Coastal Region (CORE) Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)**

CORE MPO, managed by the Executive Director, is comprised of a policy board known as the CORE MPO Board, a technical committee known as the Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC), an Advisory Committee on Accessible Transportation (ACAT), a Citizen’s Advisory Committee (CAC), and an Economic Development & Advisory Committee (EDFAC). (being revised as a part of bylaws update)

Under oversight of the MPC Executive Director, CORE MPO is staffed by the MPC Transportation Planning Department, which performs the day-to-day Metropolitan Transportation Planning activities for the MPO. The Transportation Planning Department consists of the Director of Transportation Administration, Transportation Planners, and Administrative Assistant. Other MPC staff support the MPO’s planning efforts as needed.



# WHAT IS AN MPO?

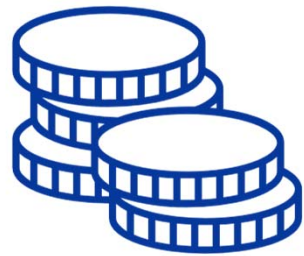




- Required for urban areas with population more than **50,000**.
- There are over **400** MPOs in the US.
- Federal spending on transportation occurs through a **comprehensive, continuing, and cooperative (3-C) process**.
- There are a variety of **organizational arrangements** – “hosted” by another agency; stand-alone; existing agency designated as an MPO.

An MPO is a transportation **policy-making and planning body** with representatives of local, state, and federal government and transportation authorities.

# Why an MPO?



Transportation investment means allocating scarce transportation funding resources appropriately.



Planning needs to reflect the region's shared vision for the future.



Requires a comprehensive examination of the region's future and investment alternatives.



MPOs facilitate collaborations of governments, interested parties, and residents.

# Federal Finances & Required Functions for MPOs

## MPOs Receive Federal Funds

- Highway
- Transit

20% local match requirement to the Federal funds

Establish a setting for effective decision-making

Identify & evaluate transportation improvements

Prepare & maintain a Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)

Develop a Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Identify performance targets & monitor achievements of targets  
*New per MAP-21, FAST Act & IIJA*

Involve the public – Participation Plan

Develop a Congestion Management Process (CMP)  
*Only required for TMAs*

# Transportation Planning

**CORE MPO coordinates transportation:**

- **Policies**
- **Plans**
- **Studies**
- **Programs**

**Through this coordination, CORE MPO addresses issues such as**

- **Congestion**
- **Safety**
- **Funding Resources**
- **Planning, Project Prioritization and Programming**
- **Freight**
- **Transit**
- **Bicycle & Pedestrian**



# CORE MPO follows the federally required 3-C transportation planning process...

## Comprehensive

- Efficient system management and operations
- Connectivity
- Accessibility and mobility options
- Safety and security of transportation system
- Environmental protection

## Continuing

- Establish long and short-term plans and programs
- Update plans and programs on a regular cycle
- Create policies and strategies to support CORE MPO vision

## Cooperative

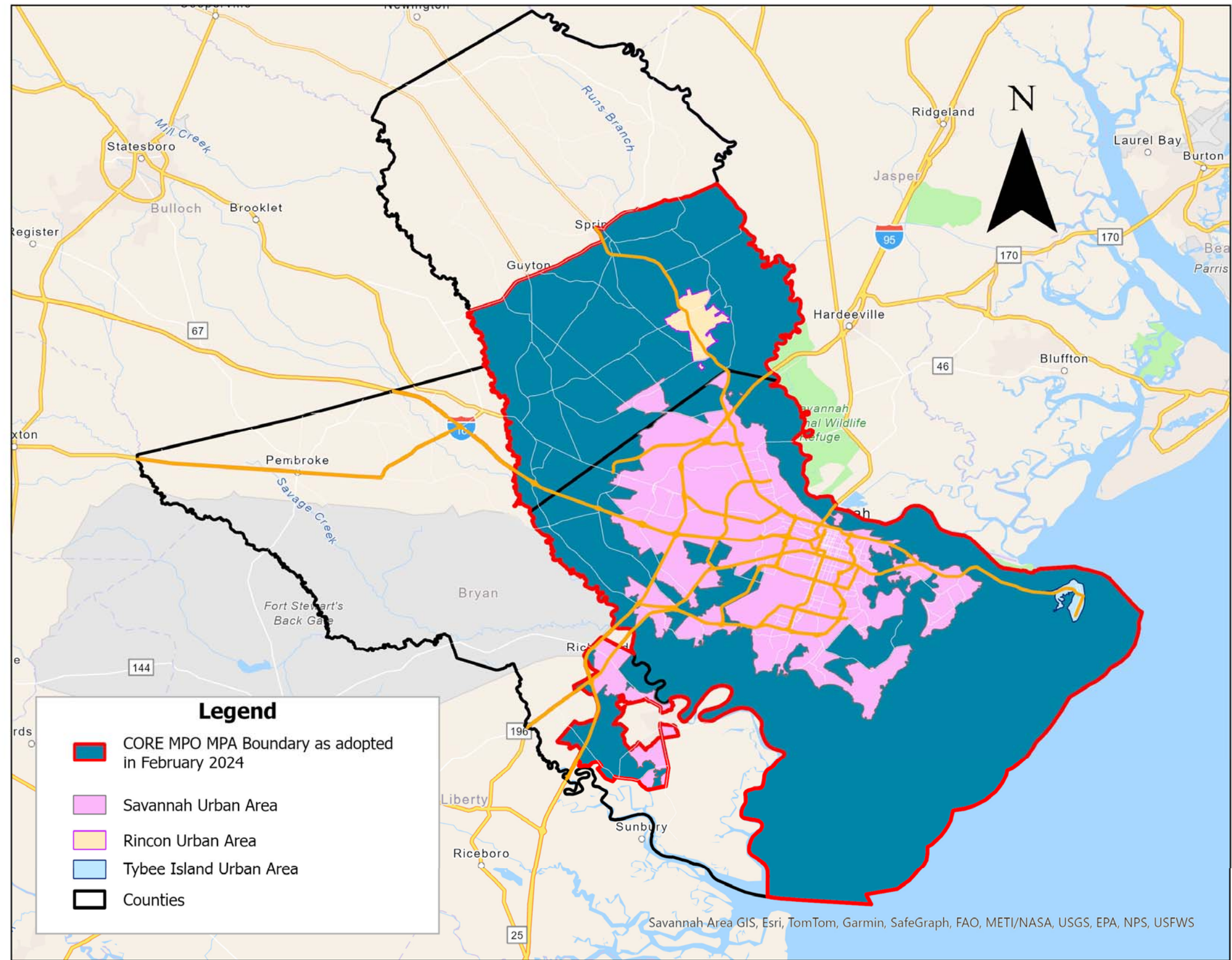
- Collaborate and coordinate with the State DOTs, local transit agencies and modal representatives
- Establish a forum to gather input from stakeholders, boards, and committees
- Pro-active public involvement

# MPO's Major Planning Priorities & Products

	Planning Priorities & Product	Content	Update Cycle	Current Adoption/ Completion Date
Required	Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)	MPO staff work program and budget.	Annually	February 2024
	<b>Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)</b>	<b>Defines the areas long range (20+ year) vision for transportation. Addresses goals, strategies, and projects.</b>	<b>5 Years</b>	<b>August 2024</b>
	Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)	Identifies specific projects the MPO is investing in for short term (four years) implementation.	3-4 Years	November 2023
	<b>Congestion Management Process (CMP)</b>	<b>Evaluates existing roadway conditions, recommends strategies to improve the performance and reliability of the transportation system.</b>	<b>As Needed*</b>	<b>June 2024</b>
	<b>Non-Motorized Transportation Plan</b>	<b>Part of the LRTP, identifies improvements and funding for non-motorized modes.</b>	<b>As Needed*</b>	<b>June 2024</b>
	Language Assistance Plan (formerly LEP)	Addresses Executive Order on improving access to service for persons with limited English proficiency.	3 Years	February 2021
	Participation Plan (PPP)	Establishes the public processes and procedures under which the CORE MPO conducts the 3-C planning process.	5 Years	February 2021
	Title VI Plan	Addresses CORE MPO's compliance with Title VI of The Civil Rights Act and the Executive order on Environmental Justice.	3 Years	February 2021
Non-Required	Freight Plan	Policy and infrastructure recommendations.	As Needed*	October 2023
	Special Studies	Conducted on an as-needed basis in response to the needs of CORE MPO and its members.	N/A	N/A

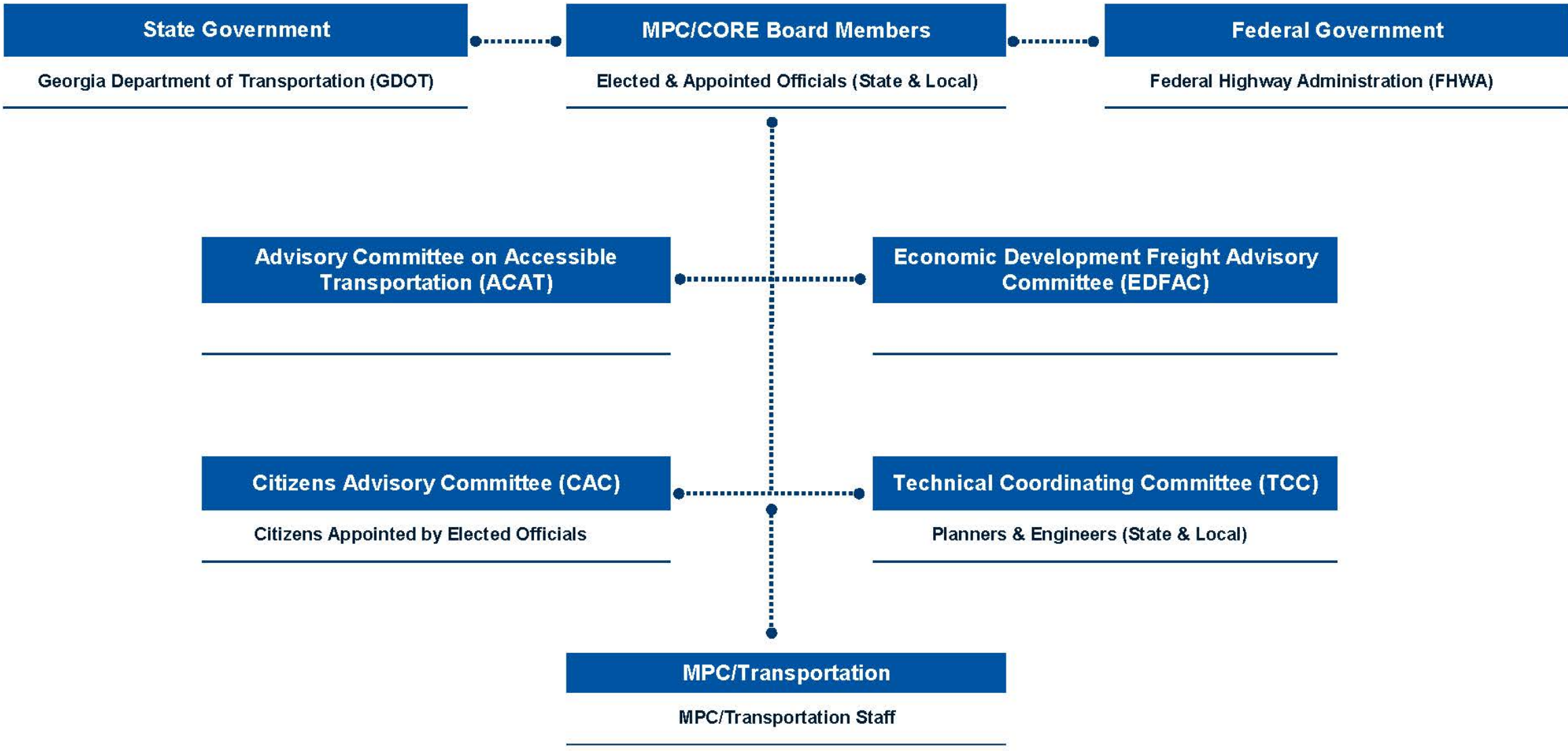
# The Current CORE MPO Planning Area Boundary.

Adopted by the CORE  
MPO Board on 2/28/2024  
and approved by the  
Governor of Georgia.



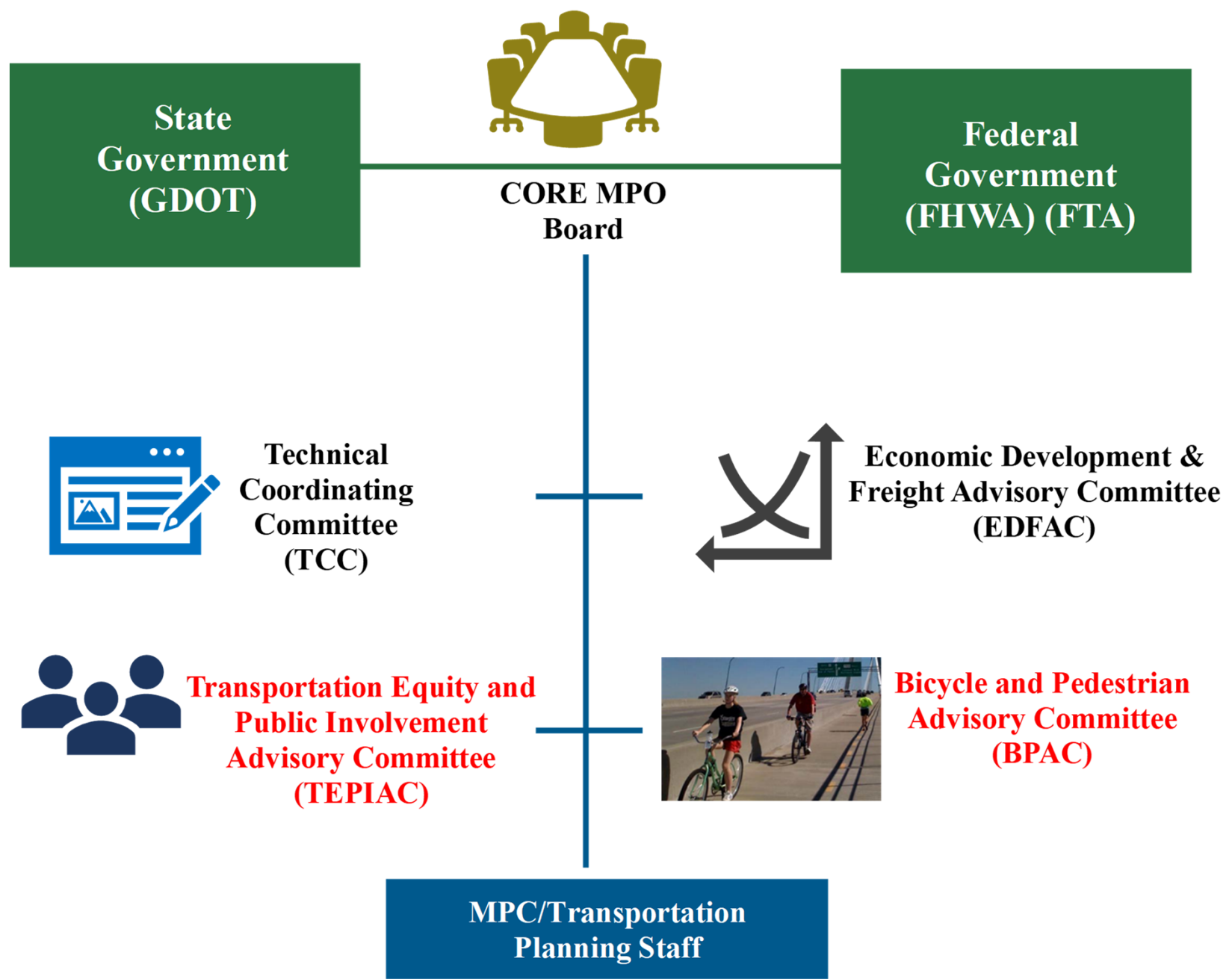
# CORE MPO'S CURRENT STRUCTURE

## FUNCTIONAL ORGANIZATION CHART



# CORE MPO'S PROPOSED STRUCTURE

(EXPECTED ADOPTION IN JUNE 2024)



# Composition & Duties of the Boards & Committees (current and proposed)

## **CORE MPO Board**

Comprised of elected and appointed officials from all the member jurisdictions, as well as executives from the local and state agencies. It reviews and approves all the MPO plans, programs, and studies.

## **Advisory Committee on Accessible Transportation (ACAT) – Proposed to be consolidated into the Transportation Equity and Public Involvement Advisory Committee (TEPIAC)**

ACAT acts as a liaison between the transportation planning process and the traditional underserved communities in the area (i.e., communities with high concentrations of minority, low income, disabled, and elderly populations). TEPIAC will maintain the ACAT functions but will expand on equity planning.

## **Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) - Proposed to be consolidated into the Transportation Equity and Public Involvement Advisory Committee (TEPIAC)**

CAC is comprised of appointed local citizens and functions and informs the MPO of the community's perspective while providing information to the community about transportation planning policies and issues. It reviews MPO plans, programs, and studies and provides recommendations to the MPO Board. TEPIAC will maintain the CAC functions but will provide more effective public involvement.

## **Economic Development and Freight Advisory Committee (EDFAC)**

Composed of key staff members of freight stakeholders and economic development agencies in the Savannah region. It informs the MPO Board on freight and economic development issues and makes freight improvement recommendations to the MPO Board.

## **Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC)**

Composed of key staff members of participating governmental jurisdictions and modal transportation representatives. It reviews MPO plans, programs, and studies and provides technical guidance. It makes recommendations to the MPO Board on all MPO plans and programs.

## **Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) – proposed new advisory committee**

Composed of key staff members of participating governmental jurisdictions, accessibility organizations, bike and pedestrian advocacy organizations, and modal transportation representatives. It advises the MPO in the planning, project selection and implementation of bike, pedestrian and trail projects in the CORE MPO planning area.

# CORE MPO BOARD

The Board has authority and responsibility for transportation policy-making for the CORE MPO MPA.

## Duties & Responsibilities

- Review and approve appropriate CORE MPO plans, programs, and studies.
- Ensure all transportation plans and programs are current and responsive to applicable laws, rules, and regulations.
- Designate and prioritize transportation improvement projects recommended in the planning process.
- Serve as a forum for cooperative decision-making and provide the liaison between the planning process and governmental units as well as the general public.

# ... MPO BOARD CONTINUED

## Membership

- Composed of elected officials, GDOT representative, and modal representatives from Transit, Port, and Airport (see bylaws for list of voting membership by organizational position). Each member has a single vote.

## Officers

- Officers include Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and Secretary.
- In the absence of the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson will temporarily assume the responsibilities of the Chairperson.
- The Chairperson authenticates all resolutions, other official actions, and documents resulting from decisions made by the CORE MPO Board.
- The Chairperson represents the Board at hearings, conferences, and other events to conduct official business of the CORE MPO.



# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & FREIGHT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**EDFAC advises the CORE MPO Board and works with staff in freight planning activities, ensuring freight mobility and economic issues are fully addressed in the CORE MPO planning process.**

## Duties & Responsibilities

- Advise the CORE MPO Board on economic development and freight improvement decisions in terms of policies, planning, and projects.
- Provide liaison between the CORE MPO's transportation planning process with the local, regional, and state freight communities.
- Collaborate with and advise staff in the development of the MPO Freight Plan
- Promote cross-sharing of information between private and public sectors on multi-modal freight issues.

# ... EDFAC CONTINUED

## Membership

- Composed of key staff members of freight stakeholders and economic development agencies in the Savannah region (see bylaws for list of eligible stakeholders and agencies).

## Officers

- Officers include Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and Coordinating Staff.
- In the absence of the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson will temporarily assume the responsibilities of the Chairperson.
- Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson serve on one-year terms.
- A Chatham County-Savannah Metropolitan Planning Commission staff will serve as the Coordinating Staff.
- The Chairperson presides at all EDFAC meetings and represents EDFAC as a voting member on the CORE MPO Board.

# TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE

The TCC reviews and evaluates all transportation plans and studies and provides technical guidance and direction to the MPO. TCC members serve as subject matter experts and are actively involved in the development of the MTP, TIP and special studies.

## Duties & Responsibilities

- Identify transportation issues, recommended studies and projects to the CORE MPO Board to address items.
- Assist in developing the UPWP, MTP, TIP, CMP, and other MPO plans and programs.
- Review studies related to transportation within the CORE MPO MPA boundary based on technical sufficiency, accuracy, and completeness of such studies, plans, and programs.
- Review inventories of current data used as input to the CORE MPO's transportation planning process.

# ... TCC CONTINUED

## Membership

- Composed of key staff members of participating governmental jurisdictions and modal transportation representatives (see bylaws for list of eligible jurisdiction and representatives).

## Officers

- Officers include Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson.
- In the absence of the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson will temporarily assume the responsibilities of the Chairperson.
- Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson serve on one-year terms.
- A Chatham County-Savannah Metropolitan Planning Commission staff will serve as the Coordinating Staff.
- The Chairperson presides at all TCC meetings and represents the TCC at hearings, conferences, and other events.

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**CORE MPO Staff Contacts**

# MPA, MOU and Bylaws Update

## Reapportionment

- **Timeline**
  - MPA Boundary
    - MPA Adopted by CORE MPO Board – February 28, 2024
    - MPA Approved by the Governor of Georgia – April 2024
  - MOU
    - MOU Adoption by CORE MPO Board – May 3, 2024
    - MOU Adoption by each voting jurisdiction (municipalities and model representatives) – May – June 2024 □
  - Bylaws Adoption by CORE MPO Board – June 2024
  - Reapportionment Package Submittal to GDOT and Adoption by Governor – After June 2024

THANK YOU



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