

Central Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization

2024 Certification Review

Kick-off Meeting

June 20, 2024



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Transit
Administration**



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Highway
Administration**

Why are WE here?

- The Federal government is required to *review and certify* the transportation planning practices of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) in urbanized areas with a population over 200,000
- FHWA & FTA jointly review the metropolitan transportation planning process at least once every 4 years
- Ensure compliance with federal requirements
- The last certification review decision for the Central Mass MPO was December 2020

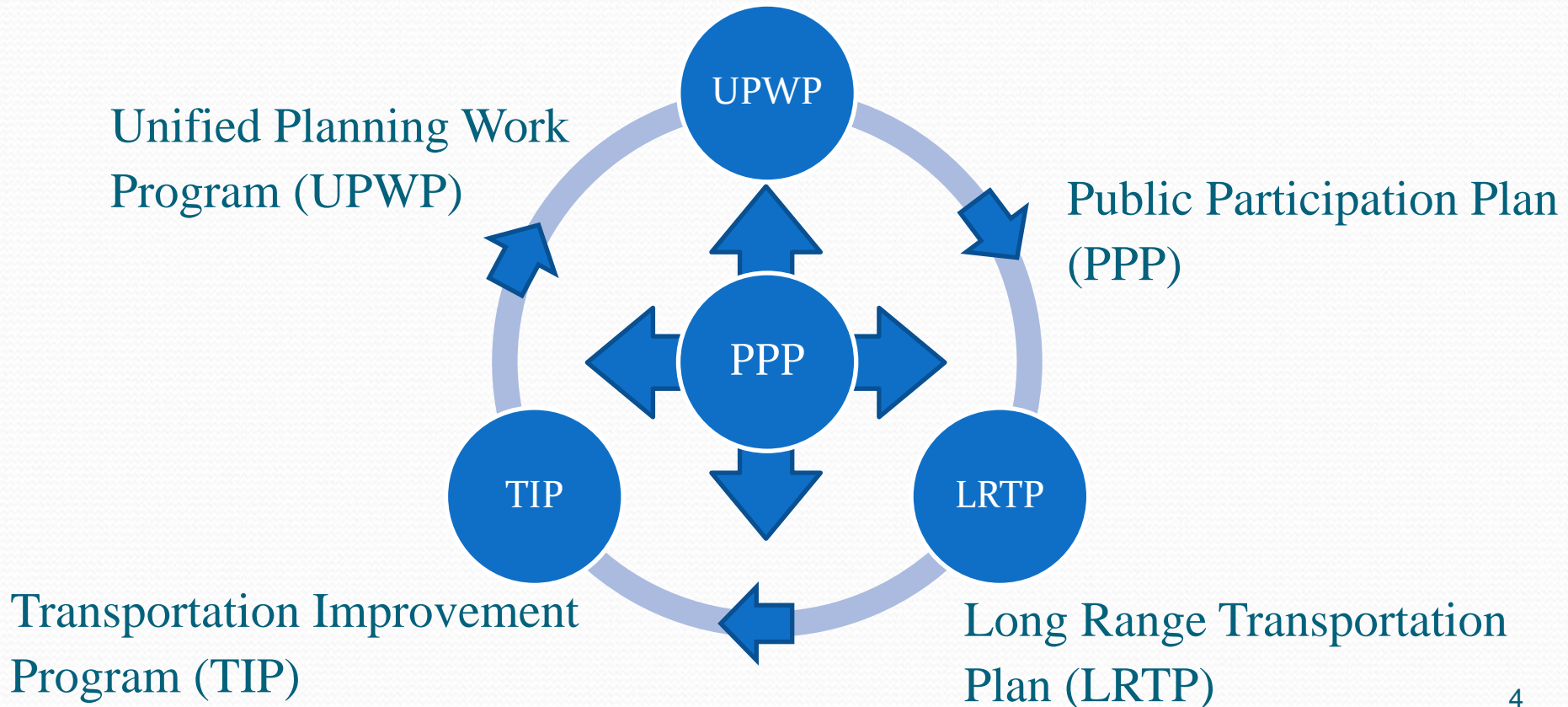
Metropolitan Transportation Planning Process

A continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive (3-C) process that informs transportation decisions, including how projects are selected and prioritized for implementation within a region.

Continuing - Cooperative - Comprehensive
Multimodal - Public Input

Metropolitan Transportation Planning Process *Continued...*

Four Key MPO Planning Documents



Metropolitan Transportation Planning Process *Continued...*

Why is it important?

- Decides how federal dollars are allocated within the region
- With limited funding, the MPO must prioritize regional needs and determine those projects that best meet performance goals and objectives and have the most public benefit
- The process lays the framework for the future transportation system

Metropolitan Transportation Planning Process *Continued...*

Who is Involved?

- Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission (CMRPC)
- Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT)
- Worcester Regional Transit Authority (WRTA)
- Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA)
- Local elected officials
- Federal Agencies (FHWA & FTA)
- Other stakeholders and public

When will the FHWA/FTA make its Certification Determination?

- A certification determination will be made approximately 90 days after this review takes place on September 10th, 2024
- Determination categories: certified, certified subject to corrective actions, or not certified
- If not certified, funding restrictions may be put in place

What do we ask of YOU?

- To provide input regarding the transportation planning and decision-making process administered by the Central Mass MPO in your role as MPO Board Members:
- Examples include:
 - Coordination among agencies (Local, State, Federal)
 - Access and opportunity to participate in the planning process
 - Effectiveness of public outreach and consideration of public input
 - Project prioritization and implementation



Questions?

Thank You for your Participation!

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