MPO Policy Committee Meeting

Friday, October 31, 2025 – 8:30 am
Region 1 Planning Council
127 N. Wyman St., Ste 100, Rockford, IL 61101

Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Public Comment
4. Discussion
    a. Call for Projects and Priority Project List
5. Action Items
    a. Approval of the Meeting Minutes of August 22, 2025
    b. Amendment to the FY 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (Resolution 2025-18)
    c. Approval of the Additional MPO Technical Committee Voting Member (Resolution 2025-19)
    d. Approval of the 2026 Meeting Schedule
6. Directors' Reports
7. Other Business
8. Adjournment

Opportunities for public comment will be afforded on all agenda items.

Persons who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act or persons who require translation services (free of charge) should contact R1 Planning at 815-319-4180 at least two working days before the need for such services or accommodations.

MPO-Attributable Federal Funding

Notice is hereby given that the Region 1 Planning Council (R1), the federally-designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Rockford Urban and Metropolitan Area, is seeking eligible projects for the programming of Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG), Transportation Alternative Program (TAP), and Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) funds.

This Call for Projects is from October 30, 2025, through December 1, 2025. Completed applications must be submitted no later than 4:30pm on Monday, December 1, 2025. At this time the MPO intends to review applications for FY 2027-2028 apportionments allocated to the Rockford Urbanized Area.

Annual Allocations

Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG): $4,754,287

Transportation Alternative Program (TAP): $635,533

Carbon Reduction Program (CRP): $645,279

Application Materials

- Application Form
- Eligible Roadways (STBG)
- 2025 Project Solicitation Schedule
- Policies & Procedures for the Distribution of Federal Transportation Funds (Guidelines)

About the MPO-Attributable Federal Funding

Surface Transportation Block Grant

The Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) provides flexible funding for a wide variety of projects, including highways and transit. Surface Transportation Block Grant funds are the most versatile and may be used for any project that is recommended in or consistent with the R1 Metropolitan Transportation Plan.

Funds can be used on any federal-aid roadway classified above a local road or a rural minor collector and bridge projects on any public road.

Eligible projects can include highway projects and bridge improvements (construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, resurfacing, restoration, and operational), transportation system management, public transit capital improvement projects, commuter rail, carpool projects, bus terminals and facilities, bikeways, and pedestrian facilities.

Transportation Alternative Program

The goal of the Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) is to allocate resources to well-planned smaller scale, but critically important projects that provide and support connected alternate modes of transportation that are safe for all users, enhance the transportation system through preservation of visual and cultural resources, and improve the quality of life for members of the communities impacted.

Projects must enhance the transportation system be serving a transportation need or providing a transportation linkage, use, or benefit. Each project or activity must demonstrate a relationship to surface transportation. Project categories include: Pedestrian/bicycle facilities (on-road and off -road), sidewalks; Conversion of abandoned railroad corridors to trails; Streetscapes (stand-alone landscape projects are ineligible); Historic preservation and rehabilitation of historic transportation facilities; Vegetation management in transportation rights-of-way; Archaeological activities relating to impacts from implementation of a transportation project; Storm water management, control and water pollution prevention or abatement related to highway construction or due to highway runoff ; Reduce vehicle-caused wildlife mortality or restore and maintain connectivity among terrestrial or aquatic habitats; and construction of turnouts, overlooks, and viewing areas.

Carbon Reduction Program

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) establishes the Carbon Reduction Program (CRP), which provides funding to projects and programs that reduce transportation emissions. Funding can be used for a wide range of projects that support this goal, including: Operational projects that improve traffic flow, such as the construction of roundabouts, left-turn lanes or other managed lanes; Intelligent Transportation Systems; Certain traffic control measures, such as traffic signal coordination, intersection improvements, and incident management; Construction of bicycle and pedestrian facilities; Promotion of alternative travel modes, including ridesharing; Acquisition, installation, or operation of publicly accessible electric vehicle charging infrastructure or hydrogen, natural gas, or propane vehicle fueling infrastructure; Construction of a bus rapid transit corridor or dedicated bus lanes; and Purchase of new public transportation facilities and equipment.

Region 1 Planning Council
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COLLABORATIVE PLANNING FOR NORTHERN ILLINOIS

For information contact:
Director of Planning Tim Verbeke
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815-319-4185

October 30, 2026

Region 1 Planning Council
Call for Infrastructure Projects

Region 1 Planning Council, as the federally-designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Rockford Region, invites agencies within the urbanized area of Winnebago, Boone and Ogle Counties (see map below) to submit infrastructure projects to be considered for R1's annual Surface Transportation Block Grant, Transportation Alternative Program, and Carbon Reduction Program awards.

Separately, R1 is inviting local governments in Winnebago, Boone, Ogle and Stephenson Counties to submit infrastructure projects to be included in the Northern Illinois Council of Governments (NorthCOG) annual Infrastructure Priorities booklet, which is distributed to state and federal lawmakers so that they understand the region's infrastructure greatest needs and can steer available funding to worthy projects in their legislative districts.

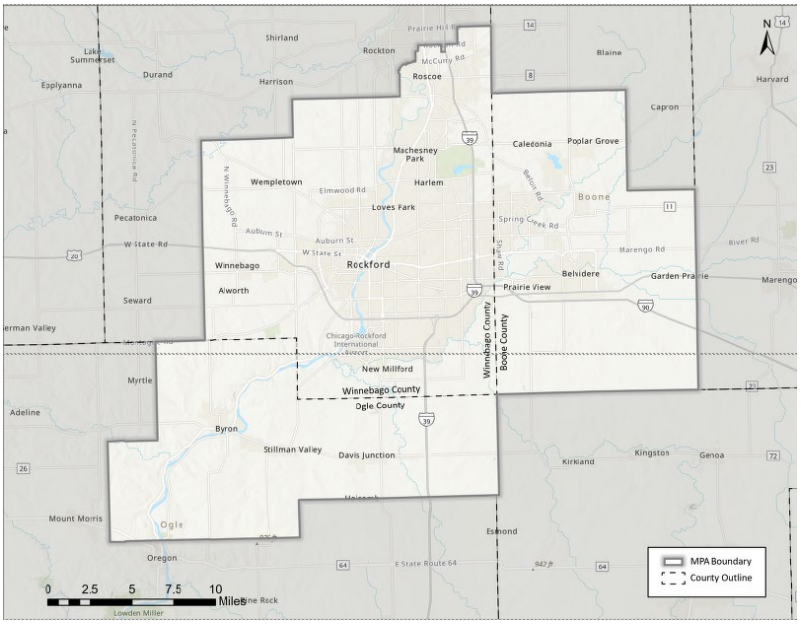
Finally, local governments in Winnebago, Boone and McHenry Counties are invited to submit infrastructure projects that require state or federal support and will catalyze private sector investment and job creation. These projects will be included in the annual update to the R1 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). These are projects that require state or federal investment, and any project submissions will be scored and ranked according to funding priorities set by Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity and the US Economic Development Administration.

It's possible that your agency has identified individual projects that are suitable for consideration in more than one of these project categories. The project submission form attached to this document allows you to indicate which funding category or categories your project should be included for consideration. The following guidance is provided to help you complete the project submission form.

- What types of projects are suitable for Surface Transportation Block Grant Funding (STBG), Transportation Alternative Program (TAP), and Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) funding, and and how will R1 staff prioritize these project submissions for funding?
  - Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG): Eligible projects can include highway projects and bridge improvements (construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, resurfacing, restoration, and operational), transportation system management, public transit capital improvement projects, commuter rail, carpool projects, bus terminals and facilities, bikeways, and pedestrian facilities.
  - Transportation Alternative Program (TAP): Projects that provide and support connected alternate modes of transportation that are safe for all users, enhance the transportation system through preservation of visual and cultural resources, and improve the quality of life for members of the communities impacted.
  - Carbon Reduction Program (CRP): Projects and programs that reduce transportation emissions. Funding can be used for a wide range of projects, including: Operational projects that improve traffic flow, such

as the construction of roundabouts, left-turn lanes or other managed lanes; and Intelligent Transportation Systems.

- STBG, TAP, and CRP project submissions must be located within the Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA) shown in this map:



- What types of projects are suitable for the 2026 NorthCOG Infrastructure Priorities booklet?
  This category is limited to public infrastructure projects in Winnebago, Boone, Ogle and Stephenson Counties. Click on this link: 2025 NorthCOG Infrastructure Priorities to read through the previous Infrastructure Priorities booklet to understand what types of projects are eligible and how R1 prioritizes project submissions in this category in alignment with Illinois DCEO and US EDA investment priorities.

- What types of infrastructure projects are best suited for inclusion in R1's CEDS, and how does R1 staff prioritize these project submissions?
  The CEDS is a five-year economic development roadmap for Winnebago, Boone and McHenry Counties, and the purpose of this plan is to drive private sector investment in the three-county region by creating more shovel-ready sites for business attraction and expansion. Thus, the CEDS is updated annually to include a list of key infrastructure projects – water, sewer, roads, bridges and broadband – necessary to establish more shovel-ready sites in the three-county region. Project submissions in this category are limited to Boone, Winnebago and McHenry Counties.

  Readiness is a key consideration for project submissions to this category. For example, projects for which design and engineering is completed or an initial phase of construction is underway or finished will rank higher than projects for which no design or engineering has begun. This is because state and federal support for these projects is meant to provide the final piece of capital to complete the project. Additionally, any public infrastructure project that's submitted must demonstrate that one or more private-sector beneficiaries of the proposed project will create jobs or make a private capital investment to advance economic development.

2026 Call for Projects Schedule

The following table demonstrates the typical annual competitive application process for MPO-attributable transportation funding, including the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG), Carbon Reduction Program (CRP), and the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

October 30, 2025	Solicitation for funding applications announced.
November 20, 2025	R1 hosts Applicant Workshop from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
December 1, 2025	Applications must be submitted by 4:30 p.m.
December 5, 2025	Review for application completeness.
December 12, 2025	Supplemental application materials due.
December 2025	Staff applies scoring criteria to the applications for new funding commitments to develop a preliminary ranking of applications.
January 22, 2026	The MPO Technical Committee meets to review R1 staff's preliminary scoring and ranking of the applications.
January 26, 2026	Preliminary project recommendations will be announced and released for a 45-day public comment period.
February 26, 2026	Preliminary project recommendations presented to the Community Advisory Forum.
February/March	R1 staff drafts the FY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program.
March 12, 2026	Public comment period for preliminary project recommendations closes.
March 19, 2026	MPO Technical Committee convenes to review public comments received and discuss changes to the preliminary project recommendations. They approve the final project recommendations to the MPO Policy Committee.
March 27, 2026	MPO Policy Committee reviews and awards MPO-Attributable Transportation funding.
May 4, 2026	Draft FY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program released for a 30-day public comment period.
June 4, 2026	Public comment period for FY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program closes.
June 18, 2026	Draft FY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program presented to MPO Technical Committee for recommendation.
June 26, 2026	Draft FY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program presented to MPO Policy Committee for adoption.

MPO Policy Committee

Meeting Minutes

Friday, August 22, 2025

127 N. Wyman St. Suite 100, Rockford, IL 61101

a. **Call to Order**

With a quorum present, the meeting was called to order by Chairman Chiarelli at 8:03 am.

b. **Roll Call**

Members Present: Chairman Chiarelli, Winnebago County; Mayor Greg Jury, City of Loves Park; Mayor Thomas McNamara, City of Rockford; Chairman Karl Johnson, Boone County; Faith Duncan, IDOT District 2; President Steve Johnson, Village of Machesney Park; Mayor Clint Morris, City of Belvidere;

Members Absent: Michael Stubbe, Rockford Mass Transit District – Arrived at 8:25

Other Present: Dough Delille, IDOT OOP; John Paul Diipla, FHWA; Michael Dunn, Tim Verbeke, Lauren Kleve, Brandon Rucker, Nathan Larsen, Chloe Barnes, Jackson Sitter, Region 1 Planning Council.

c. **Public Comment**

There were none present who wished to address the committee.

d. **Discussion**

a. MTP Project Update

Mr. Verbeke and Mr. Dunn provided a comprehensive overview of the projects, programs, and studies included in the 2050+ Metropolitan Transportation Plan. The purpose of this update was to inform Committee members on the progress of the objectives R1 committed to achieving during the MTP reporting period.

e. **Action Items**

a. Approval of Meeting Minutes of June 20, 2025

Chairman Chiarelli entertained for a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes of the June 20, 2025 for MPO Policy Committee. Motion by Mayor Jury, seconded by Mayor Johnson with an update to Doug Delille's name. Motion **passed** by unanimous voice vote.

b. Amendment to the FY 2025-2028 Adoption of the FY 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (Resolution 2025-17)

Mr. Verbeke explained that the Transportation Improvement Plan is a federally required document that documents infrastructure and non-infrastructure transportation projects programmed within the Rockford metropolitan planning area (MPA) for the next four years. Chairman Johnson entertained a motion to approve Resolution 2025-17. Motion made by Mayor Johnson, Village of Machesney Park, seconded by Chairman Karl Johnson, Boone County. Motion **passed** by unanimous voice vote.

f. **Director Reports**

No updates were given from R1 Staff.

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g. **Adjournment**

Chairman Johnson entertained a motion to adjourn. Motion by Michael Stubbe, Rockford Mass Transit District, second by Mayor McNamara, City of Rockford. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 am.

Meeting minutes prepared by: Tim Verbeke

Minutes approved by action of the Board: _____

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REGION 1 PLANNING COUNCIL
MPO POLICY COMMITTEE

MPO RESOLUTION 2025-18

RE: **Amendment to the Fiscal Year 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program**

WHEREAS the Federal Highway Act of 1962, as amended, and the Urban Mass Transportation Act of 1964, as amended, provide for an urban transportation planning process; and

WHEREAS the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) currently authorizes funding to improve our nation's transportation system for highways, highway safety, public transit, alternative non-motorized forms of transportation, and freight; and

WHEREAS the IIJA Act and its predecessors, require a Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) as well as a Transportation Improvement Program (TIP); and

WHEREAS the Region 1 Planning Council is the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Rockford Urban and Metropolitan Area, and the MPO Policy Committee has the specific responsibility to direct and administer the continuing urban transportation planning process: and

WHEREAS the MPO Policy Committee has adopted the June 20, 2025 version of the Fiscal Year 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and;

WHEREAS the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) have approved the FY 2026-2029 MPO TIP; and

WHEREAS the Illinois Department of Transportation District has requested the addition of nine (9) new projects currently in the Multi Year Plan, and the Illinois Department of Transportation Central Office has requested the addition of one (1) new project and the City of Rockford has requested seven (7) changes to project's funding split; and

WHEREAS the projects being amended in the adopted and approved version of the FY 2026-2029 TIP will not affect or impact the other projects listed in the FY 2026-2029 MPO TIP; and

WHEREAS the MPO Technical Committee has recommended the adoption of the TIP amendment by the MPO Policy Committee; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The MPO Policy Committee hereby amends the FY 2026-2029 MPO Transportation Improvement Program to include the projects listed in "Attachment A".

DRAFT

We hereby certify the foregoing has been approved by a majority of the MPO Policy Committee Members on this 31st day of October 2025.

Chairman Joseph V. Chiarelli MPO Chair	Chairman Karl Johnson MPO Vice-Chair

Number of members authorized to vote _____

Ayes _____ Nays _____ Abstain_____

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Fiscal Year 2026

Highway Projects

Project #	Project Location	Termini	Project Type	Phase of Work	Federal Share (000s)		State Share (000s)		Other Share (000s)		Total (000s)	Amendment Action
					Source	Amount	Source	Amount	Source	Amount		
01 - Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT)												
01-26-02	Springfield Ave	0.1 Mi W of Central Ave to Auburn St NW of Rockford	Preservation	CON	NHPP	$1,566	State	$392	-	-	$1,958	New Project
01-26-03	IL-2	Creek S of Elmwood Rd in Rockford	Preservation	CON	NHPP	$294	State	$74	-	-	$368	New Project
01-26-04	IL-251	Snow Ave in Loves Park to Whitman St in Rockford & Forest Hills Rd: Landstrom Rd to ILL 251	Preservation	CON	NHPP	$128	State	$32	-	-	$160	New Project
01-26-05	US 20	0.3 mi E of Kishwaukee River to 0.4 mi W of Wheeler Rd	Preservation	CON	NHPP	$54	State	$13	-	-	$67	New Project
01-26-06	IL-251	0.3 mi S of ILL 173 in Machesney Park to Windsor Rd in Loves Park	Preservation	CON	NHPP	$153	State	$38	-	-	$191	New Project
01-26-07	IL-70	0.1 Mi W of Safford Rd to Glenwood Ave in Rockford	Preservation	CON	STPU + STPR	$20	State	$5	-	-	$25	New Project
01-26-08	IL-70	0.1 MI N of Summerdale AVE in Rockford	Bridge	CON	STPU	$1,008	State	$252	-	-	$1,260	New Project
01-26-09	IL-173	0.4 Mi E of ILL 76 to McHenry Co Line	Preservation	CON	NHPP	$190	State	$47	-	-	$237	New Project
01-26-10	IL-2	Mill Creek at Byron WCL	Bridge	CON	NHPP	$280	State	$70	-	-	$350	New Project
03 - City of Rockford												
03-20-01	15th Avenue Bridge	15th Avenue over Rock River	Bridge	CON		$0	State	$17,043	Local	$3,898	$20,941	Change in Funding Split
03-20-09	8th Avenue Bridge	Over Keith Creek	Bridge	CON	STPU	$2,500		$0	Local	$725	$3,225	Change in Funding Split
03-20-21	9th Street 2-Way Conversion (Whitman St Interchange)	Whitman Street to East State Street	Capacity	CON	STPU	$4,242	State	$11,000	Local + TBD	$20,000	$35,242	Change in Funding Split
03-22-01	Madison Street Corridor Improvements	East State Street to Y Boulevard	Preservation	CON		$0	State	$2,000	Local	$8,500	$10,500	Change in Funding Split
03-23-15	Highcrest Multi-Use Path	Jacobi Place Path to Spring Creek Road	Bike/Ped	CON		$0	State	$3,000	Local	$1,003	$4,003	Change in Funding Split
03-23-16	Rockford Riverfront Path	Rails to Trails Bridge to Whitman Street	Bike/Ped	CON		$0	State	$275	TBD	$4,500	$4,775	Change in Funding Split
03-23-21	Corbin Street Bridge	Over Kent Creek	Bridge	CON		$0		$0	Local + TBD	$2,600	$2,600	Change in Funding Split
03-25-17	Winnebago Street Over Kent Creek, CN RR and CP RR Bridge Rehabilitation	Over Kent Creek, CN RR, and CP RR	Preservation	CON	STPU	$5,600		$0	Local	$1,715	$7,315	Change in Funding Split

REGION 1 PLANNING COUNCIL
MPO POLICY COMMITTEE

MPO RESOLUTION 2025-19

RE: **Inclusion of Additional MPO Technical Committee Voting Member**

WHEREAS the Federal Highway Act of 1962, as amended, and the Urban Mass Transportation Act of 1964, as amended, provides for an urban transportation planning process; and

WHEREAS the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) currently authorizes funding to improve our nation's transportation system for highways, highway safety, public transit, alternative non-motorized forms of transportation, and freight; and

WHEREAS the IIJA and its predecessors, require a long-range Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) as well as Transportation Improvement Program (TIP); and

WHEREAS the Region 1 Planning Council is the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Rockford Metropolitan Area, and the MPO Policy Committee has the specific responsibility to direct and administer the continuing urban transportation planning process; and

WHEREAS the MPO Policy Committee has directed that MPO shall further engage in regional planning efforts on a wider and broader scale than previously seen; and

WHEREAS the MPO Policy Committee has the authority to expanded or modify the MPO Technical Committee to include representation from transportation planning or implementing agencies with responsibility in the urban area, per the MPO Cooperative Agreement approved on August 18, 2018; and

WHEREAS it is the desire of the MPO Policy Committee to expand the MPO Technical Committee membership to include one duly authorized representative from the City of Byron;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The MPO Policy Committee hereby approves the expansion of the MPO Technical Committee for the inclusion of the City of Byron as a member of the MPO Technical Committee, effective as of January 1, 2026, as shown in Attachment A.

DRAFT

Dated this 31 day of October 2025.

Joseph Chiarelli, MPO Chairman
Winnebago County Chairman
Winnebago County

Karl Johnson, MPO Vice-Chair
Boone County Board Chairman
Boone County

Clinton Morris
Mayor
City of Belvidere

Steve Johnson
Mayor
Village of Machesney Park

Tom McNamara
Mayor
City of Rockford

Greg Jury
Mayor
City of Loves Park

Michael Stubbe
Executive Director
Rockford Mass Transit District

Illinois Department of Transportation

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Attachment A:

MPO Technical Committee	
Voting Members	
1	Belvidere Public Works Department
2	Belvidere Planning Department
3	Boone County Conservation District
4	Boone County Highway Department
5	Boone County Planning Department
6	City of Byron
7	Forest Preserves of Winnebago County
8	Greater Rockford Airport Authority
9	Illinois Department of Transportation, Region 2
10	Loves Park Public Works Department
11	Loves Park Community Development Department
12	Machesney Park Planning Department
13	Machesney Park Public Works Department
14	Winnebago County Soil and Water Conservation District
15	City of Rockford Community Development Department, Planning Division
16	Rockford Mass Transit District
17	Rockford Park District
18	City of Rockford Public Works Department
19	Village of Roscoe
20	Rock River Reclamation District
21	Winnebago County Highway Department
22	Winnebago County Planning and Economic Development Department
23	Village of Winnebago

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COLLABORATIVE PLANNING FOR NORTHERN ILLINOIS

Date: October 31, 2025

To: R1 Governing Board, North COG, MPO Policy and Technical Committees

From: Michael Dunn, Executive Director

Re: Proposed 2025 Regular Committee Meeting Schedule

In accordance with the Illinois Open Meeting Act, an annual calendar of regular meetings shall be posted. Below for your consideration is a 2026 meeting schedule for the Region 1 Planning Council governing board, executive, and policy committees.

R1 Governing Board

Governing Board is held at 8:00 am at Region 1 Planning Council, 127 N. Wyman St.

Thursday, February 5

Thursday, May 14

Thursday, September 10

Thursday, November 12

Executive Committee/MPO Policy/NorthCOG

Executive Committee is held at 7:30 am at Region 1 Planning Council, 127 N. Wyman St. MPO Policy Committee immediately follows, at 8:30 am. NorthCOG immediately follows, at 9:00 am.

Friday, January 30

Friday, March 20

Friday, May 1

Friday, June 26

Friday, August 21

Friday, October 30

MPO Technical Committee

Meetings are held at 10:00 am at Region 1 Planning Council

Thursday, January 22

Thursday, February 26

Thursday, March 19

Thursday, April 16

Thursday, May 21

Thursday, June 18

Thursday, July 17

Thursday, August 20

Thursday, September 17

Thursday, October 15