MARC Committee Process & Structure Assessment



Current Committee Structure

- Policy Committee.
 - Total Transportation Policy Committee (TTPC) provides policy level input to MARC's Board.
- Planning Modal Committees.
 - Planning/Technical support on focus area for committee.
 - Long range planning.
 - Forum for broader engagement in MARC transportation work.
- Programming Committees.
 - Mainly provide guidance on award of federal funds to projects.





Benefits and disadvantages of current structure

- Pros
 - Opportunity for networking amongst community peers.
 - Open, transparent, community-driven (bottom up) decision-making.
 - Focused attention on areas of interest for diversity of committee.
- Cons
 - Complex and time-intensive process, requires extensive staff resources to support and participate.
 - Dispersal of programming responsibilities adds complexity to programming timelines.
 - Low participation and engagement for some planning modal committees.



Issues to address:

- Committee processes can be overly complex and burdensome.
- Committee processes requires significant staff time for member agencies to track, attend and participate.
- Membership overlap between various committees, which leads to a series of duplicative presentations to committee members.
- Committee membership/voting may not closely correlate with regional population distribution.
- Attendance at committee meetings can be low.
- Hybrid-nature of meetings leads to decreased participation (virtual attendees).
- Difficult to provide substantive workplans for some planning committees.



Peer MPO review

- Generally, peer MPOs are organized and rely on support of fewer number of committees.
- Many peer MPOs are organized with combination of single planning advisory/ technical/programming committees.
- In many instances, programming recommendations are generated by MPO staff and vetted by a policy board (TTPC-equivalent).



Peer MPO committee process & structure review

MPO	Metropolitan Area, State	Lead Transportation Policy Committee	# of Policy Committees	# of planning advisory committees	# of programming committees	# of Transportation committees
Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG)	Phoenix, AZ	Transportation Policy Committee	3	4	13	20
MARC	Kansas City, Mo / KS	ТТРС	4	7	5	16
Metro Council	Minneapolis, MN, WI	Committee of the Whole	3	10	2	15
DVRPC	Philadelphia, PA / NJ	DVRPC Board	1	8	2	11
SACOG	Sacramento, CA	Transportation Committee	6	4	N/A	10
Atlanta Regional Commission	Atlanta, GA	ARC Board	2	6	1	9
Southeast Michigan COG	Detroit, MI	General Assembly	2	5	2	9
East West Gateway COG	St. Louis, MO / IL	Executive Advisory Committee	1	6	2	9
Wasatch Front	Salt Lake City, UT	Transportation Coordinating Committee (Trans Com)	4	2	N/A	6



Discussion & next steps

- MARC will facilitate conversations with regional leadership to discuss:
 - Is simplification of committee structure desired?
 - Is there interest in more predictable, substantive, full body of work for various committees?
- Recommendations anticipated by summer of 2025.