

# Moving Forward Together 2050

## Public Involvement Process

Public involvement is one of the most important elements of the 2050 Moving Forward Together Plan. CORE MPO has a long-standing history of incorporating citizen and stakeholder input into the planning process. The MPO created numerous opportunities for input throughout the development of this plan. This included in-person events, virtual presentations, surveys, and community pop-ups to name a few. Meetings were planned and held at critical project milestones to ensure public input was present at all stages of the plan. Meeting locations were selected based on their accessibility by all populations, with close proximity to transit and underserved communities.

During the plan development, CORE MPO coordinated with multiple local jurisdictions and planning partners within the region. For example, MPO staff facilitated or attended meetings at city halls within Bryan, Chatham, and Effingham counties to ensure that local government actors understood the 2050 MTP planning process and could share input based on the needs of their respective communities. Staff also presented MTP information at neighborhood meetings throughout the region to help community members understand the role of an MPO and the impact of the 2050 MTP. Furthermore, CORE MPO collaborated with organizations such as GDOT, Chatham Area Transit, Bike/Walk Savannah, Healthy Savannah, and the CORE MPO advisory committees. Working with diverse groups created a well-rounded public involvement process that considered all forms of transportation.

The CORE MPO also works closely and coordinates with its regional partners. The MPO has a close working relationship with its neighboring MPOs which include the Hinesville Area MPO in Liberty County and the Lowcountry Area Transportation Study (LATS) MPO in South Carolina. Staff from both neighboring MPOs have a standing invitation to participate in the MPO Policy Committee meetings and CORE MPO staff regularly attend the Hinesville Policy Committee and LATS meetings. Coordination on specific planning efforts that may have more wide-ranging impacts, such as a freight assessment, also regularly occurs.

The following information will describe current and future public outreach activities, as the 2050 Moving Forward Together Plan is being updated.

## 2050 Public Involvement

### Public Involvement Process under Public Participation Plan

Under the guidance of federal legislation, CORE MPO has developed, maintained, and updated a Public Participation Plan which outlines the following public involvement strategies for MTP update that meet or exceed the federal requirements:

- The Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) will facilitate the participation process during the development of the MTP.
- The MPO will host at least one public meeting on the MTP early in the development process at a centralized, accessible location.
- A legal notice will be published in the Savannah Morning News at least 10 days prior to any public meeting.

- In addition to the Savannah Morning News, all other local media and the neighborhood associations as identified in Appendix H of the Public Participation Plan, and the consultation agencies as identified in Appendix I of the Public Participation Plan, will be notified of all public meetings. The meeting notice will also be posted on the MPO website.
- Upon completion of a draft MTP, the MPO will hold a 30-day public review and comment period.
- A legal notice will be published in the Savannah Morning News on the Sunday prior to the beginning of the public review and comment period. All the other contacts listed above will be notified as well.
- During the public review and comment period, copies of the draft MTP will be made available for review at the public agencies identified in Appendix J of the Public Participation Plan and will be posted on the MPO website.
- The MPO will host at least one public meeting during the public review and comment period at a centralized, accessible location. The public meeting will be in advance of or in conjunction with the anticipated MPO meeting when the MTP will be adopted.
- Public comments on the draft MTP must be provided in writing and will be included as an appendix to the final MTP.
- Public comments shall be accepted no later than three working days after the public review and comment period ends.
- At the close of the public review and comment period, the MPO staff will review comments and identify any significant comments.
- Significant comments will be reviewed by the MPO Committees at their meetings and incorporated into the final MTP.
- If the final MTP differs significantly from the version that was made available for public comment by the MPO and raises new material issues which interested parties could not reasonably have foreseen from the public involvement efforts, the MPO will re-start a 30-day public review period, whether during or after the initial 30-day public review period.
- A legal notice will be published in the Savannah Morning News on the Sunday prior to the beginning of the public review and comment period. All the other contacts listed above will be notified as well.

### **Public Involvement Opportunities**

Besides following the public involvement process outlined in the Public Participation Plan, the 2050 MTP update process was organized around three (3) rounds of public meetings and/or open houses to facilitate public involvement at critical stages – 1) plan kick off, 2) plan progress report (including progress and recommendations from Freight Plan, Non-Motorized Transportation Plan, Urban Flooding Model, CMP), and 3) final plan presentation. Meetings were commonly held outside of business hours (evenings and weekends) to give people a better opportunity to attend. Virtual presentations were made available to accommodate people who could not travel to event locations.

The bi-monthly CORE MPO Board and advisory committees are all open to the public. CORE MPO fully utilized these meetings to collect input from the committee members and the general public on various components of the 2050 MTP.

While public meetings and committee meetings will be held by the MPO during the plan update process, they are only one part of a broader outreach effort that will include print media, social media, the internet, surveys, and collaborating with local neighborhood associations.

Since the 2050 MTP is multi-modal and there are several ongoing planning efforts that have contributed to the 2050 MTP development, CORE MPO coordinated with other planning partners and neighborhoods in hosting joint meetings to collect input.

| Meetings   | Venue     | Date and Time             | Location  |
|--|-----------|---------------------------|---|
| <b>1st Round</b>                                   |           |                           |   |
| First African Baptist Church                       | In-Person | Sept. 12, 2022 at 6 pm    | First African Baptist Church, 23 Montgomery St, Savannah, GA 31401                  |
| Virtual Meeting                                    | Zoom      | Sept. 13, 2022 at 11 am   | Online  |
| Virtual Meeting                                    | Zoom      | Sept. 19, 2022 at 6 pm    | Online  |
| Effingham County Administrative Complex            | In-Person | Sept. 20, 2022 at 5 pm    | Effingham County Ga Administrative Complex, 804 S. Laurel St, Springfield, GA 31329 |
| Richmond Hill City Hall                            | In-Person | Sept. 20, 2022 at 5:30 pm | Richmond Hill City Hall, CC Chambers, 40 Richard Davis Dr, Richmond Hill, GA 31324  |
| Edgemere Sackville Neighborhood Meeting            | In-Person | Sept. 21, 2022 at 6:30 pm | Online  |
| Liberty City Community Center Neighborhood Meeting | In-Person | Oct. 3, 2022 at 6 pm      | 1401 Mills B Lane Blvd, Savannah, GA  |
| CGIC/Coastal Georgia Indicators Coalition          | Zoom      | Oct. 5, 2022 at 8:30 am   | Online  |
| Woodville Community Center Meeting                 | In-Person | Oct. 12, 2022 at 6 pm     | Woodville Community Center, 127 Darling St, Savannah, GA                            |
| First Presbyterian Church                          | In-Person | Oct. 13, 2022 at 1:30 pm  | First Presbyterian Church, 520 Washington Ave, Savannah, GA 31405                   |
| Garden City City Hall                              | In-Person | Oct. 17, 2022 at 6 pm     | 100 Central Ave, Garden City, GA  |
| Savannah Arts Academy                              | In-Person | Oct. 19, 2022 at 2:45 pm  | 500 Washington Ave, Savannah, GA 31405  |

|  |                               |                          |   |
|--|-------------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| CORE MPO Economic Development and Freight Advisory Committee (EDFAC) Meeting | Hybrid (In-Person and Zoom)   | Oct. 20, 2022 at 10 am   | 112 E State St, Savannah, GA and online         |
| CORE MPO Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) Meeting                      | Hybrid (In-Person and Zoom)   | Oct. 20, 2022 at 2 pm    | 112 E State St, Savannah, GA and online         |
| CORE MPO Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting                           | Hybrid (In-Person and Zoom)   | Oct 20, 2022 at 10 pm    | 112 E State St, Savannah, GA and online         |
| Habersham Fall Festival at Hull Park   | In-Person                     | Oct. 22, 2022 at 3 pm    | 55th Atlantic Ave, Savannah, GA 31405           |
| Living Independence for Everyone, INC  | Zoom                          | Oct. 28, 2022 at 9:30 am | Online  |
| 100% Savannah Event  | In-Person                     | Oct. 29, 2022 at 10 am   | Fellwood Park, 50 Kenny Anderson Collection Dr. |
| <b>2nd Round</b>   |                               |                          |   |
| Power of You Conference  | In Person                     | April 28, 2023 at 10 am  | 14 W Anderson St, Savannah, GA 31401            |
| Coastal Georgia Indicators Coalition   | Virtual                       | Nov 14, 2023 at 3pm      | Online  |
| CORE MPO Board and Committee Meetings  | Hybrid (Zoom and In-Person)   | 2023                     | 112 E State St, Savannah, GA and online         |
| Coastal Georgia Indicators Coalition   | Zoom                          | Jan 3, 2024 at 9 am      | Online  |
| Girls Engineer It Day  | In-Person                     | Feb 10, 2024 at 1 pm     | 151 Coach Joe Turner St, Garden City, GA 31408  |
| Harambee House   | Hybrid (In-Person and Online) | March 2024               | 112 E State St, Savannah, GA and online         |
| Earth Day  | In-Person                     | April 19, 2024 at 4pm    | 1401 E Victory Dr, Savannah, GA 31404           |
| <b>3rd Round</b>   |                               |                          |   |
| Effingham Transportation Advisory Board                                      | Hybrid (In-Person and Online) | July 16, 2024 at 9:30am  |   |
| Chatham Area Transit   | In-Person                     | July 23, 2024 at 11 am   | 900 E Gwinnett St, Savannah, GA 31401           |
| Virtual CORE MPO meeting   | Virtual                       | July 23, 2024 at 2pm     | Online  |
| CORE MPO meeting   | Hybrid (In-Person and Online) | July 25, 2024 at 6pm     | 112 E State St, Savannah, GA                    |

|   |                               |                        |   |
|---|-------------------------------|------------------------|---|
| Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee                       | Hybrid (In-Person and Online) | TBA                    | 112 E State St, Savannah, GA and online |
| Transportation Equity and Public Involvement Advisory Committee | Hybrid (In-Person and Online) | TBA                    | 112 E State St, Savannah, GA and online |
| Technical Coordinating Committee                                | Hybrid (In-Person and Online) | August 1, 2024 at 2pm  | 112 E State St, Savannah, GA and online |
| CORE MPO Board  | Hybrid (In-Person and Online) | August 7, 2024 at 10am | 112 E State St, Savannah, GA and online |

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## **Outreach Methods**

### **Media Contacts**

All local newspapers, radio and television stations will be provided with notification of all public meetings on 2050 MTP. In addition, legal notices will be published in the Savannah Morning News in accordance with the Public Participation Plan.

### **Brochures**

Brochures highlighting the activities of the plan update and the public participation process were developed for distribution at public meetings, in various churches, agencies, organizations, neighborhood associations, information booths as well as online. The brochure included a QR code linking to the MTP 2050 website, where the public could access surveys and planning information. The brochures were especially helpful for people who did not have social media or lacked experience with technology. Chatham Area Transit provided stacks of the brochures on their buses, giving riders the opportunity to learn more about the 2050 Moving Forward Together Plan.

### **Publications**

The MPC newsletter will be used to disseminate 2050 MTP information. In addition, the publications of planning partners (the Chatham Connection, CAT publication, etc.) will be utilized as well.

### **Open comment period**

Although a formal comment period will be established for the draft plan in June-August 2024, the MPO will accept comments at any time during the plan update.

### **Internet**

The MPC website includes a section for the CORE MPO. This section was used to disseminate up-to-date information on 2050 MTP. A webpage will be dedicated to the 2050 MTP where notices, flyers, brochures, and draft plan documents will be available for review. A comment map was available on the CORE MPO website to provide the opportunity to submit comments about the problems or opportunities occurring throughout the community. The public could access information about the plan on multiple webpages on the MPC website. The MPC homepage provided a link to the Moving Forward Together 2050 survey and registration links for CORE MPO meetings. The "Get Involved" webpage provided a master list of survey links, event schedules, and contributing plans, such as the Public Participation Plan and the Regional Freight Transportation Plan. Lastly, the Moving Forward Together webpage provided an introduction to the plan, links to CORE MPO social media pages, links to surveys, and a list of public meetings. Using the CORE MPO website, the public could access massive amounts of information related to the plan.

### **Social Media**

Dedicated social media accounts for the 2050 MTP were established via Facebook and Instagram by CORE MPO staff. They were used to disseminate 2050 MTP information concurrently with the dedicated website. The use of social media helped to increase engagement among younger people. It also made sharing CORE MPO information among partners simpler. The social media posts were formatted to be eye-catching and provide basic information while linking to the CORE MPO website. This was to ensure the posts were engaging while also providing a pathway to more detailed MPO information.

CORE MPO coordinated with partner agencies and organizations (CAT, Chatham County, City of Savannah, Bike Walk Savannah, etc.) to use their social media accounts to distribute 2050 MTP development information.

Staff also used WeChat to distribute 2050 MTP development information to the Chinese community in the Savannah region.

### **Survey**

In an effort to reach a wider audience, CORE MPO staff will develop a survey to capture the regions' thoughts on transportation. The survey was developed with input from the various CORE MPO committees and partners. The questions were multi-modal, and included topics such as highway development, resilience, equity, bike and pedestrian needs, and transit needs. The survey included closed ended multiple choice responses and open-ended responses. It was translated into four languages – English, Spanish, Chinese and Vietnamese. The Savannah area is diverse, in which many residents may speak a language other than English. The survey was translated into languages based on guidance from the Language Assistance Plan. Within the CORE MPO area, Chinese, Spanish, and Vietnamese, meets the threshold of needing language assistance according to the American Community Survey. The results of the survey helped staff refine the goals and objectives of the 2050 MT and facilitate project selection and prioritization. The survey will be available in four languages – English, Spanish, Chinese and Vietnamese. Paper copies of the survey were available at public events for people who do not have access to the internet.

A map survey was also created. This allowed respondents to drop a pin on a map and leave a comment about that area. This survey format allowed for the possibility to provide specific details, pinpointed to a specific area. Combined with the broad, high-level responses from the 2050 MTP text survey, the map survey filled in gaps by providing specific, ground level responses.

The survey will be distributed via email distribution lists, social media, the CORE MPO website, and a press release to major media outlets. The survey will run for the duration of the plan. The survey results that were submitted up September 30, 2022, were used to update the goals and objectives. The survey remained open to give the community a longer period of time to give input, which was used to understand the community's viewpoint of the transportation system.

The survey will be distributed to a variety of groups (see below).

### **2050 MTP Survey Distribution**

The Moving Forward Together 2050 survey was shared to multiple partners through multiple methods. This includes sending emails, sharing social media posts, and sending website links. Partnering organizations could then take those resources and share them. The following groups were involved in the process of sharing and promoting the survey through emailing, sharing on social media, and posting links to the 2050 survey to their websites:

- MPC Members and Staff
- TCC
- ACAT
- CAC
- EDFAC

- CORE MPO Board
- Healthy Savannah
- Bike/Walk Savannah
- Savannah Morning News
- CGIC/Coastal Georgia Indicators Coalition
- Chatham County
- City of Savannah
- Garden City
- City of Pooler
- City of Port Wentworth
- City of Bloomingdale
- City of Thunderbolt
- City of Tybee Island
- Effingham County
- Chatham Area Transit
- Living Independence for Everyone Inc.
- Coastal Empire Resilience Network

**Examples:**

Survey link posted to the City of Savannah Website:

**TOP STORIES**

**CORE**  
COASTAL REGION MPO

**Moving Forward Together 2050**

**Help CORE MPO update the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan**

The 2050 MTP Survey is a chance for the public to share thoughts and feedback about future transportation improvements for the three-county Savannah region. The survey takes 10 minutes to complete and all responses will remain anonymous. The

**Savannah invests in public safety wage increases**

The City of Savannah implemented substantial investments in public safety, including pay increases, retention bonuses, referral bonuses and a lateral entry program. The pay increases mean a \$50,000 starting salary for Savannah police officers and a

Survey link posted to the Chatham County Website:



## News and Public Notices

— News Updates and Required Public Notices



### 2022 CORE MPO's 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update and Survey

The Coastal Region Metropolitan Planning Organization (CORE MPO) has just launched a public survey to update the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan for Savannah Metropolitan Region. The 2050 MTP, called Moving Forward Together: 2050, is the comprehensive "blueprint" for the Savannah region's transportation improvements aimed at meeting mobility needs through the next 20+ years. Survey open until October 31, 2022.

[More Info](#)



### 2022 Subscribe to our newsletter

Sign up to receive monthly updates on Chatham County directly to your email.

[More Info](#)



### 2022 Fire Service Fee for property owners in the unincorporated County.

If you live in unincorporated Chatham County and were previously billed by Chatham Emergency Services for a fire subscription fee, you will no longer receive a bill from them and instead be billed a Fire Services Fee by Chatham County.

[More Info](#)



### 2021 American Rescue Plan Act

How will the American Rescue Plan Act funds be invested in Chatham County?

[More Info](#)

Chatham County and Port Wentworth shared the 2050 MTP survey link on social media:



## Bi-monthly CORE MPO Meetings

The bi-monthly CORE MPO Board and advisory committee meetings provide an opportunity for the public to learn about the progress of the 2050 MTP update. These meetings are held in even-numbered months (February, April, June, August, October, and December). The registration links to the meetings are available on the CORE MPO website, and staff extended invitations to attend the meetings at public outreach events.

### **Coordinated meetings with planning partners and neighborhoods**

MPO staff sought additional meetings outside of the MPO to provide briefings on the plan update.

Chatham Area Transit for example, developed its Master Transit Plan. The plan fed into the 2050 MTP. Specifically, the portions of the document related to housing will feed into the housing and transportation section within this document. CAT's plans also impacted the transit set-aside amount within the financial plan. MPO staff coordinated with CAT, attending meeting together and sharing information.

There are several ongoing studies that include data and recommendations that will be incorporated into the 2050 Moving Forward Together Plan. These studies include:

- CAT Smart Grant Program (Microtransit program)
- US 80 Corridor Study within Pooler
- US 17 Corridor Study
- SR 21 Overpass at CSX Railroad Study
- President's Street Railroad Crossing Elimination Study
- City of Savannah Vision Zero Plan

### **Public Outreach and Equity Planning**

CORE MPO ensured the public input process reached the entirety of the community. Equity was at the forefront of the outreach process. Using data, historical context, and input from advisory committees, CORE MPO formulated outreach methods to meet the unique needs of the area. For example, staff ensured that meetings took place in West Savannah, an area that has been historically marginalized and underserved. This occurred by giving presentations at neighborhood meetings at West Savannah community centers. Making outreach accessible to those with disabilities was also highly important, as events, online surveys, and social media posts may not be accessible to individuals with mobility, sight, or hearing disabilities. To provide opportunities for public input, staff gave presentations at organizations such as Living Independence for Everyone Inc and Chatham Area Transit. This ensured that the meetings were easily accessible without a car, and people with disabilities had a forum to give input.

Age was also a consideration in this process, as residents who are young and residents who are elderly were less likely to give input on the 2050 MTP survey. Staff employed multiple strategies to increase engagement with these age groups, such as:

- Providing physical copies of the survey for those who cannot or do not use cellphones or computers
- Giving presentations at schools and events for students
- Keeping the survey open to provide more time to submit responses
- Increasing social media presence
- Creating coloring pages to give out at events
- Providing QR codes linking directly to the survey

Reaching low-income communities was also important within this process. Staff set up information booths at events within low-wealth communities, providing brochures, surveys, and links to the CORE MPO website.

A major takeaway from this process is the role of presence in communication. Often times, before discussing the 2050 MTP, most people wanted to understand what a Metropolitan Planning Organization is and how it functions. For many people, these outreach events were the first time they knew that an MPO existed. Future public outreach should include a quick briefing on the role of an MPO in addition to introducing the Metropolitan Transportation Plan.

## Example Files

### Brochure

#### Front

### Who we are

A Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) provides a forum for local decision-making regarding federal transportation funds provided or allocated to the urbanized area. The Coastal Region MPO (CORE MPO) is the MPO for the Savannah region and is staffed by MPC.

Melanie Wilson is the Executive Director  
Wykoda Wang is the Director of Transportation Administration

#### CORE MPO Board Composition

- Chairman, Chatham County Commission
- Commissioner or designee, Chatham County Commission
- Commissioner or designee, Chatham County Commission
- Chairman or designee, Effingham County Commission
- Mayor, City of Savannah
- Councilman or designee, City of Savannah
- Councilman or designee, City of Savannah
- Mayor or designee, City of Bloomingdale
- Mayor or designee, City of Garden City
- Mayor or designee, City of Port Wentworth
- Mayor or designee, City of Pooler
- Mayor or designee, City of Richmond Hill
- Mayor or designee, City of Tybee Island
- Mayor or designee, Town of Thunderbolt
- Mayor or designee, Town of Vernonburg
- Commissioner or designee, Georgia Department of Transportation
- Chairman, Metropolitan Planning Commission
- CEO, Chatham Area Transit Authority
- Chairman or designee, Chatham Area Transit Authority
- Executive Director or designee, Savannah Airport Commission
- Chairman, COREMPO Economic Development and Freight Advisory Committee
- Chairman, COREMPO Citizens Advisory Committee
- Chairman, COREMPO Advisory Committee on Accessible Transportation

November Edition




### 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update

The Coastal Region Metropolitan Planning Organization (CORE MPO) is in the process of developing the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) called "Moving Forward Together 2050" for the Savannah metropolitan region. The 2050 MTP is a comprehensive blueprint for the Savannah region's transportation improvements aimed at meeting mobility needs through the next 20+ years.

CORE MPO needs your input on updating the MTP for the Savannah metropolitan region. You know best what your community needs! Your input provides recommendations that reflect real world solutions to improve the overall quality of life for you and other residents in the coastal region.





Scan Me



## Get Involved

Public involvement is crucial in the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update! You are the transportation system users and all the decisions made will affect your everyday life. Web Link Below:

[www.thempc.org/Core/Mtp2050](http://www.thempc.org/Core/Mtp2050)

### Ways to Get Involved!

- Attend one or more of the public meetings.
- Take the 2050 MTP Survey to provide your feedback on transportation investment priorities.
- Take the 2050 MTP Map Survey to report your travel problems and suggest solutions in specific locations.
- Visit the 2050 MTP website to get updates on the plan development process and provide comments.
- Join our social media to get updates.
- Scan the QR Code for providing feedback.



Scan Me

### Contact Us

Phone: 912.651.1466

Email: [wangw@thempc.org](mailto:wangw@thempc.org)

Instagram: [@coastalregionmpo](https://www.instagram.com/coastalregionmpo)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100084940521503>

## CORE MPO



### Purpose

The CORE MPO Board sets regional and long-term transportation policies; prioritizes projects; and approves the long-range plan, short-range Transportation Improvement Program, and other required documents.

### Background

Since the 1960s, the federal government has tied the availability of transportation funding to the requirement of urbanized areas of 50,000 or more population to have a "Comprehensive, Cooperative, Continuing" (3C) planning process. In the 1970s, legislation further prescribed that the process would be handled by a policy board (an MPO) in each area.

### Products of an MPO

The MPO adopts a long-range Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), a short-range Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), a Participation Plan, and a Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), among other documents.





METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

October 2022

### Public Notice for 2050 MTP Update

The Coastal Region Metropolitan Planning Organization (CORE MPO), the transportation planning agency for the Savannah urbanized area, is updating the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (2050 MTP), called **Moving Forward Together 2050**. The 2050 MTP is a comprehensive “blueprint” for the region’s transportation improvements aimed at meeting mobility needs through the next 20+ years. CORE MPO is requesting the public input on the plan update.

The public is encouraged to take the 2050 MTP Update survey to provide feedback on transportation investment priorities and the map survey to report travel problems of different modes and suggest solutions in specific locations. The surveys are available on the CORE MPO website at <https://www.thempc.org/Core/Mtp2050>.

CORE MPO will host one open house and give presentations at Neighborhood and Council Meetings in October to gather public input on the 2050 MTP Update. CORE MPO will also host public advisory committee and MPO Board meetings in October and November to provide an update on the 2050 MTP development and collect further input. Meeting times and locations are listed below.

#### CORE MPO Open House and Public Meetings as well as Neighborhood and Council Meetings for 2050 MTP Development:

##### October 3rd, 2022 at 6:00 pm

- Neighborhood meeting: Liberty City Community Center
- Address: 1401 Mills B Lane Blvd. Savannah, GA 31405

##### October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 8:30 am

- Coastal Georgia Indicators Coalition stakeholders and community members meeting
- Virtual Meeting link:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83637562666?pwd=OXc5ZUhhNyZkdDdmdzdzdDdT0Q5ZFcyUT09>

##### October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 4:00 pm

- Chatham Area Transit Planning Committee Meeting
- Address: CAT Central, 900 East Gwinnett Street, Savannah, GA 31401

##### October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 6:00 pm

- Neighborhood meeting: Woodville Community Center
- Address: 127 Darling Street Savannah, GA 31408

##### October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 1:30 pm

- CORE MPO Public Open House: First Presbyterian Church
- Address: 520 Washington Avenue, Savannah, GA 31405

##### October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 6:00 pm

- Garden City, City Council [meeting](#)
- Address: 100 Central Avenue Garden City, GA 31405

##### October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 2:45 pm

- Location: Savannah Arts Academy Green Club

## Website



### Moving Forward Together 2050



The Coastal Region Metropolitan Planning Organization (CORE MPO) is in the process of developing the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) for the Savannah metropolitan region. The 2050 MTP, called Moving Forward Together 2050, is a comprehensive "blueprint" for the Savannah region's transportation improvements aimed at meeting mobility needs through the next 20+ years.

### Get Involved

Public involvement is crucial in the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan update! You are the transportation system users and all the decisions made will affect your everyday life. We need your input on updating the 2050 MTP. Your input will provide recommendations that reflect real world solutions to improve the overall quality of life for you and other residents in the region. Please use the following methods to let us know what you think of our transportation system and what kind of improvements you would like to see.

- Take the **2050 MTP Survey** to provide your feedback on transportation investment priorities


ENGLISH VERSION

VERSIÓN EN ESPAÑOL

中文问卷

PHIÊN BẢN VIỆT NAM

## Instagram



**What is CORE MPO?**

Meetings are held every 4th Wednesday at 10:00 am.

All meetings are open to the public!

**CORE MPO**  
COASTAL REGION MPO

The CORE MPO Board consists of elected officials as well as state and local managers that oversee the CORE MPO.

The CORE MPO Board meets on the fourth Wednesday of even-numbered months (i.e. February, April, etc.), at 10:00 a.m. in the **MPC Arthur A. Mendosa Hearing Room, 112 E. State St., Savannah, Georgia**. The meetings are open to the public. Those with business to conduct with the CORE MPO Board, please note the meeting cutoff dates on the calendar of meetings below. Cutoff time is the close of business (typically 5:00 p.m.).

**Links to Meeting Agendas, Minutes, and Audio**  
<https://www.thempc.org/Board/Board>

**coastalregionmpo**  
Savannah, Georgia

**coastalregionmpo** The Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), staffed by the MPC, provides a forum for local decision-making regarding federal transportation funds for urbanized areas.

The Coastal Region (CORE) MPO Board sets regional, long-term transportation policy; prioritizes projects; and approves the long-range plan, short-range TIP, and other required documents.

@cityofsavannah @chathamareatransit @chathamcountyga @visitgardencityga


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Liked by **savtakeout** and 3 others  
September 22, 2022

Add a comment... Post

## Facebook





**CORE MPO**  
18 likes • 25 followers

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Survey Results

DRAFT

**CORE MPO 2050 MTP: FHWA COMMENTS**

| Section  | Comment   | Response   |
|--|---|--|
| System Performance Report                          | The goals and objectives in Section 2 closely align with the performance measures. However, this MTP must include a System Performance Report that evaluates the MPO's progress toward the performance targets. Please add a standalone System Performance Report with quantified investments.      | The summary of the System Performance Report correlating the 2050 MTP investments with the performance measures is included in Section 6 of the plan. The stand alone System Performance Report with more details will be one of the final appendices of the 2050 MTP.   |
| Project Pages                                      | This MTP should include individual project pages, similar to how the 2045 MTP does. Project pages help streamline TIP programming and provide stakeholders with valuable project scope information.   | The project pages document has been developed similar to the 2045 MTP. Additional information added includes the relationship between the projects and the performance measures as well as more concept information for longer range projects. This will be one of the appendices.   |
| Appendices   | Please ensure the Financial Plan, Project Prioritization Process, Project Prioritization Matrix, and any other key documentation are added to the final MTP.  | Various appendices with detailed information are being compiled and finalized from the working products. At least the following appendices are being worked on - 1) Performance Based Planning and Programming Documents (System Performance Report); 2) Contributing Studies and Plans; 3) Financial Plan Development; 4) Public Outreach; 5) Vision Plan Project List; 6) Travel Demand Model Technical Analysis; 7) Resiliency Planning; 8) Comparison of the CORE MPO 2045 MTP and 2050 MTP - Project Selection and Prioritization; and 9) 2050 MTP Project Pages. We will make sure that these mentioned by FHWA are included in the various reports. |
| Section 1. Overview                                | The MPA is determined by agreement by the MPO and the Governor. FHWA and GDOT do not approve the MPA.   | The language has been updated to the following - <a href="#">The CORE MPO Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA) boundary as shown in Figure 1, was adopted by the CORE MPO Board in February 2024 and approved by the Governor of Georgia in the Spring of 2024.</a>  |
| Section 1. Overview                                | Title 23 U.S.C. is statute and 23 CFR 450 is regulation. The first page had it right.   | The language has been updated to the following - <a href="#">The Moving Forward Together 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan was prepared in accordance with federal law and regulations (23 USC 134, CFR 450) which require that each MPO have an MTP to identify proposed major transportation investments over the minimum of a 20-year horizon period and that it must be updated every five years.</a>  |
| Section 1. Overview                                | Not sure if Assessments sentence one makes sense. FHWA does not assess the MPO's progress towards meeting targets during the Certification Review, but rather how the MPO incorporates performance-based planning in the planning process.  | The language has been updated to the following - <a href="#">FHWA and FTA will not directly evaluate the CORE MPO progress towards meeting targets for required performance measures. However, FHWA and FTA will evaluate how the MPO incorporates performance-based planning in the transportation planning process.</a>  |
| Section 1. Overview                                | This MPO has done excellent work to ensure an equitable process. Either in this section or another, please mention specific activities to highlight the MPO's commitment to equity. For example, using the USDOT ETC Explorer tool.   | The following sentence has been added to this section - <a href="#">Transportation Equity is a major focus area for the 2050 MTP which is incorporated in various aspects of the plan update – goals and objectives development and refinements, transportation system evaluation, public involvement, project selection and prioritization, revenue allocation, as well as impact analysis and mitigation. Transportation Equity is further elaborated in other sections.</a>   |
| Section 1. Overview                                | Please use more recent ACS data for Figure 5 and Table 3.   | The Travel to Work chart and table have been updated with the latest <a href="#">2022 5-Year ACS Estimates (S0801) data</a> (Mode of Travel).  |
| Section 1. Overview                                | Consider quantifying the demographics trend within the region (2050).   | This section is a summary of the general trend. We will do more research on the specific and quantifiable impacts of various population on the transportation system. Additional analysis (if available) will be incorporated into the final plan.   |
| Section 2. Regional Goals and Performance Measures | A case could be made that one or more of these MTP Goals and Objectives support the Transformation and Organizational Excellence National Goals. Example, the Actions under the Access & Connectivity section aligns well with Organizational Excellence.   | The table was re-evaluated and found that the following goals support Transformation and Organizational Excellence: <a href="#">Access &amp; Connectivity; Stewardship; System &amp; Environmental Preservation.</a>   |
| Section 2. Regional Goals and Performance Measures | There are 10 planning factors. Please revise accordingly.   | All 10 planning factors have been added to the table.  |
| Section 2. Regional Goals and Performance Measures | BIL/IIJA is the current Transportation Authorization. Please revise to show that this requirement has been carried forward by the subsequent legislation.   | The language has been updated to the following: <a href="#">Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST ACT) requires states and MPOs to adopt System Performance Targets focused on reducing traffic congestion, improving efficiency of the system, and freight movement and protecting the environment. These requirements have been carried forward into the current legislation – the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), also called the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL).</a>   |
| Section 3. Regional Transportation Network         | General comment: Section 3 provides a strong overview of the multimodal transportation network. Consider providing more descriptive analysis of the specific gaps/needs in the network following the data points/maps. This will help demonstrate the need for the investments in the project list. | This section intends to provide an inventory of the transportation network assets in the CORE MPO region. There are some descriptive language between the maps and tables. Additional language will be provided to correlate the needs and the network in the final plan.  |
| Section 3. Regional Transportation Network         | While it's good this section exists, the Functional Classification (FC) mileage numbers are now dated due to projects and FC changes since the 2045 MTP. The map of FC and UAB are also now dated. Please revise accordingly.   | Both the Functional Classification map and the associated statistics have been updated based on the Federal Highway Administration, HPMS, 2020 data.   |
| Section 3. Regional Transportation Network         | Consider mentioning the GDOT Savannah River Crossing Feasibility Study.   | Information on the projects near the port has been identified. The following sentence has been added - <a href="#">There are several projects that are in the pipeline in the GPA area - OCEAN TERMINAL @ CS 2356/LOUISVILLE RD &amp; @ SR 25/US 17 RAMP, SR 404 SPUR/US 17 @ SAVANNAH RIVER CROSSING, Port of Savannah Renewable Fuel Project, etc.</a>   |

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| Section 3. Regional Transportation Network                    | The NMTP will be completed before this MTP is adopted. This statement infers the projects identified in the NMTP will not be in this MTP. Please revise so it's clear that the NMTP informs this MTP.  | The Non-Motorized Transportation Plan (NMTP) will be adopted after the 2050 MTP adoption. To provide clarification, the language has been updated to the following - <a href="#">It should be noted that the CORE MPO staff are working on conducting a comprehensive inventory of bikeways and sidewalks in the region to document the locations and conditions of the sidewalks. Identified improvement projects will be included in the CORE MPO's Non-Motorized Transportation Plan (NMTP). The CORE MPO's Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) will work with the state and local governments to implement the priority bike/ped projects from this plan. More than 400 bike/ped/trail projects have been identified in the NMTP. The MPO staff and BPAC are working on prioritizing and ranking these projects. The NMTP will be the source for bike/ped improvements in the 2050 MTP which has a set aside (3% of total Project Revenue) dedicated to bike/ped/trail projects.</a> |
| Section 4. Public Involvement                                 | General comment: within the final MTP, please document specific public input received. For example, a summary of results from the Map Survey. Showing how input received from the public informed decisions made with this MTP would demonstrate an inclusive planning process and help incentivize future public input. | The 2050 MTP survey response results and a wordcloud of the map responses have been added to this section of the plan. More detailed information will be included in the appendix for the 2050 MTP Public Involvement Plan.   |
| Section 4. Public Involvement                                 | Please add language about the MPO's plans for updating the Participation Plan following the adoption of this MTP.  | The following language has been added: <a href="#">In addition to gathering public opinion for the 2050 MTP, CORE MPO staff analyzed the effectiveness of each approach. This update process has illuminated the most and least effective public outreach strategies, which will be used to inform an update of the CORE MPO's Participation Plan. For example, regarding survey distribution, collaborating with local non-profits lead to a surge in survey submissions. Additionally, through this update, it was found out that social media was not necessarily the best engagement tool but was a good tool for keeping record of public events. This is useful for being able to easily see public events throughout the timeline of the plan, especially since this same information is archived on the CORE MPO website to ensure the most relevant information is at the forefront. This new information will directly tie into the Participation Plan update.</a>                          |
| Section 6. MTP Financial Plan Development                     | General comment: please keep discretionary grant funds separate from the constrained revenues. Within this MTP, add a Discretionary Grants table with all grant project information such as description, funding, costs, source, recipient, location, and reference to existing associated projects.                     | The three projects receiving discretionary grant funds have been separated from the rest of the highway projects in the financial plan. Clarification has been added - <a href="#">It should be noted that the funds can only be used for these specific projects identified in the grant awards, nothing else, so they will be shown separately in the financial table.</a>  |
| Section 6. MTP Financial Plan Development                     | NEVI is a formula program, not a grant program. Please revise accordingly.   | The 2050 MTP report has been updated to reflect NEVI as a new formula program.  |
| <b>CORE MPO 2050 MTP: GDOT COMMENTS</b>                       |  |   |
| <b>Section</b>  | <b>Comment</b>   | <b>Response</b>   |
| Section 2. Regional Goals and Performance Measures            | <b>Page 2:</b> Please revise the "Table X: Moving Forward Together 2050 Alignment with National Goals and Planning Factors" with 10 Planning Factors.  | This table has been updated to include 10 planning factors.   |
| Section 2. Regional Goals and Performance Measures            | <b>Page 12 (first paragraph):</b> Please use the BIL/IIJA as the current Transportation Authorization to update the first paragraph and throughout the document where applicable.  | The 2050 MTP report has been updated to reflect that the BIL/IIJA is the current Transportation Legislation.  |
| Section 6. MTP Financial Plan Development                     | If a project has a PI#, please use the GeoPi description to match project name if funded with Federal/State Funds, for consistency and facilitate funds authorization.   | In many instances, the projects with PI#s are included in the FY 2024 - 2027 TIP. The project descriptions for the TIP projects come from the GDOT TPRO database (GeoPi). We will double check and make sure the 2050 MTP project descriptions are consistent with GeoPi where PI#s are available.  |
| Section 6. MTP Financial Plan Development                     | <b>Page 2:</b> NEVI is not a grant program and it's a formula funding program. Please revise the verbiage for the NEVI project accordingly.  | The 2050 MTP report has been updated to reflect NEVI as a new formula program.  |
| Section 6. MTP Financial Plan Development                     | <b>Page 12:</b> Please make sure to add the project location maps right after the "2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan – Cost Feasible Project List", and "Vision Plan Project List"— that will help the readers a lot for visualizing project location.   | The map for the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan – Cost Feasible Project List has been added to the Financial Plan Development section. We will work on the map for the Vision Plan as the project lists are being finalized. There are more than 500 projects in the Vision Plan project lists, so it's a huge effort.  |
| Appendix – 2050 MTP Financial Plan Development                | <b>Page 19:</b> NEVI is not a grant program and it's a formula funding program. Please revise the verbiage for the NEVI project accordingly.   | The information in the Financial Plan Development appendix will be updated to reflect NEVI as a formula program.  |
| 2050 MTP – Cost Feasible Project List – Draft as of 6/24/2024 | Please revisit the cost estimates to double check the projects' costs if time permits.   | We have double checked the projects' cost estimates during the 30-day public comment period. The sources of the original cost estimates are documented in the Comment field of the financial plan table.  |
| 2051 MTP – Cost Feasible Project List – Draft as of 6/24/2024 | Would you please check and confirm the SR 307 Grade Separation project termini? It mentioned "At Norfolk Southern Crossing #8555067U", but our system is addressing the correct Norfolk Southern Railroad Crossing # is 635909H based on the project location map.   | The two SR 307 Grade Separation projects come from the top-ranked recommendations of the SR 307 Corridor Study. The study report is available here - <a href="https://www.thempc.org/docs/lit/corempo/studies/sr307/2022/FinalReport.pdf">https://www.thempc.org/docs/lit/corempo/studies/sr307/2022/FinalReport.pdf</a> . The recommendations are on Page 123. The project is "At Norfolk Southern Crossing #8555067U".  |

**CORE MPO 2050 MTP: PUBLIC COMMENTS**

| Section                 | Comment  | Response   |
|-------------------------|--|--|
| Forsyth Market Comments | 1. One resident wants high-speed rail from Savannah to Atlanta   | GDOT is currently conducting a study on high-speed rail between Savannah and Atlanta. As of now, it's not feasible to include any rail project in the 2050 MTP.  |
|                         | 2. A resident wants the project on I-16 to be completed  | GDOT provides a status report to CORE MPO every two months. The reports are available for review to the general public on the MPC website - <a href="https://www.thempc.org/Board/Board#gsc.tab=0">https://www.thempc.org/Board/Board#gsc.tab=0</a> (attached to the agendas). According to the most up-to-date GDOT report, the I-16 Widening is 77% complete. It should be done in the next couple of years. |
|                         | 3. On Henry Street, there are dips and potholes at intersections and stoplights from Waters to MLK   | We will forward the input to the City of Savannah so that Henry Street will be on their street maintenance and resurfacing list.   |
|                         | 4. At two streetlights at 52nd Street, on the bridge to Truman, the bike/walk path is dangerous  | We will take this input into consideration when we finalize the Non-Motorized Transportation Plan, which feeds into the 2050 MTP and future project implementation. Vision Zero is a safety goal that we are striving for.   |
|                         | 5. Largo Drive bike paving does not extend south   | We will double check this segment of Largo Drive and make improvement recommendations as necessary in the Non-Motorized Transportation Plan.   |
|                         | 6. Bus shelters lacking at 27 and 28 on Derenne, 14 on Abercorn, and 12 on Henry and East Victory Drive  | The Chatham Area Transit (CAT) has just completed a Bus Stop Inventory Study. The next step is to prioritize bus stops for improvements. We will forward this input to CAT for their consideration.  |
|                         | 7. The CAT Microtransit app does not work. You have to log in and out of it a lot for it to work.  | We will forward the input to CAT so that they can double check the app to make it work better.   |
|                         | 8. CAT bus stops too close to the road, unsheltered, and unsafe  | The Chatham Area Transit (CAT) has just completed a Bus Stop Inventory Study. The next step is to prioritize bus stops for improvements. We will forward this input to CAT for their consideration.  |
|                         | 9. Add speed bumps and traffic calming on Price Street. Resident is fearful for life trying to cross and has tried calling the city to file a complaint.   | The CORE MPO's newly established Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) will look into this and work with the City of Savannah to help find a solution.  |
| July 25th Meetings      | 1. Bee Road – Wheaton Street – South Bound Frontage Road – North Bound Frontage Road: the bike network is disconnected on these roads. There are too many dangerous sharrows instead of protected bike lanes. Bike lanes suddenly end. | The CORE MPO's newly established Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) will look into this. We will take this input into consideration when we develop and prioritize specific recommendations in the Non-Motorized Transportation Plan. Our goal is to promote barrier-separated bike lanes to give bicyclists protection from traffic.  |
|                         | 2. Bike lanes are interrupted in front of schools  | The CORE MPO's newly established Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) will look into this. We will take this input into consideration when we develop and prioritize specific recommendations in the Non-Motorized Transportation Plan. Safe Routes to School is a focus area.   |
|                         | 3. Liberty Street bike lane is interrupted about every block   | The CORE MPO's newly established Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) will look into this. We will take this input into consideration when we develop and prioritize specific recommendations in the Non-Motorized Transportation Plan. We will work with the City of Savannah to implement any improvements as necessary.   |
|                         | 4. Be mindful of animal habitats   | Resiliency planning is a part of the CORE MPO's planning process. Normally environmental evaluation is a part of the NEPA process. We will try our best to provide environmental impact analysis to project implementers for consideration. If we are aware of any animal habitats, we will forward that information to the project sponsor.   |
|                         | 5. Bury powerlines   | CORE MPO is a planning organization, so we have no control over powerline placement. We will forward this input to project sponsors so that they can take it into consideration when they work on utility relocation for projects.   |
|                         | 6. We're spending 200 times more money on highways and road widenings than bike and pedestrian infrastructure  | CORE MPO staff are working with our partners to create a multi-modal network. It takes time to achieve this goal. However, we are taking some steps. For example, we allocated more revenues of the 2050 MTP on bike/ped/trail and transit improvements than their regional mode shares. We hope to devote more and more resources to the non-motorized travel and public transportation in the future.        |
|                         | 7. Road widenings are not effective at reducing congestion and widenings increase danger   | For congestion mitigation, we are exploring more options than road widening. Improving transit services and bike/ped connections, developing demand response strategies, and implementing operational improvements will all help congestion relief. More strategies are documented in the CORE MPO's Congestion Management Process.  |
|                         | 8. Establish a train from Savannah to Macon or Savannah to Atlanta   | GDOT is currently conducting a study on high-speed rail between Savannah and Atlanta. As of now, it's not feasible as the population density along the route is not enough to support the rail service.  |
|                         | 9. Review the USA Plan from Amtrak   | We will follow up on this. Thanks for the input.   |
|                         | 10. Landscaping and trees are needed along roadway   | We will forward the input to the project implementers and work with our partners to ensure landscaping and trees are not neglected for transportation improvement projects.  |
|                         | 11. Address drainage issues  | This is a regional issue. CORE MPO will do our part in helping to make improvements.   |

| Section   | Comment   | Response  |
|---|---|---|
| Other Public Comments                                 | The maintenance costs seem low from my understanding of the cost to repave a road at the end of its design life. Do the maintenance costs include repaving the projects after a standard design life of 20 years? If not, can repaving cost estimates be added to better represent future liabilities created by the projects?  | Please be noted that the Maintenance revenues included in the 2050 MTP are for functionally classified roadways, not for local roads. GDOT and the city/county governments have defined procedures to implement maintenance projects. For example, in 2023, Chatham County completed an inventory of the road network in order to systematically identify maintenance projects. Each road was evaluated and scored with a pavement condition index. The County is working to maintain the life of the network by performing pavement preservation on roads with a PCI of 70 or higher. They are doing pavement reconstruction on roads with a PCI less than 50. All of this information is broken down in further detail on the county web page including an interactive map showing the PCI scores throughout the county and the Pavement Management Report. GDOT has their own procedure for selecting maintenance projects. Another point to make is that the local jurisdictions are responsible for maintaining the local roads which are the majority of the roadway system. However, the primary funding sources for maintenance of local roads are the Local Maintenance Improvement Grant (LMIG) funds and local revenues. These funds are not included in the 2050 MTP. |
|   | Some instances of "maintenance" have typos are spelled "maitenance". These should be corrected for consistency and ease of finding information.   | Thank you for this input. We will double check and correct all spelling and grammatical errors when editing and finalizing the 2050 MTP report.   |
|   | Discussion of green infrastructure should mention the most effective strategy of reducing the adverse effects of infrastructure is to use it more efficiently so that less is needed. E.g. denser, mixed-use developments require fewer lane miles of roads and streets to service a greater number of residents, thereby preserving more forestry and reducing stormwater runoff more than if a larger road had been constructed from permeable materials.   | In the 2050 MTP report, there is a discussion of density and need to reduce impervious surfaces in the Green Infrastructure sub-section "Enhancing Coastal Resilience with Green Infrastructure."   |
|   | Discussion of noise mitigation should mention rolling noise is the greatest source of road noise and the only effective strategy for reducing noise at the source is to reduce design speeds.   | Definition of rolling noise is added to causes of noise on page 161 and solutions to reduce noise are listed on page 164 in the Noise Mitigation section.   |
|   | I think "streets" and "roads" should be independently defined similarly to how the non-profit Strong Towns distinguishes the two. They say that a road is a high-speed connection between places and a street is itself a place. I think it would be useful moving forward to use this language for emphasizing who are the primary users of a thoroughfare and when traffic flow should not be the first priority.   | We will double check on this when editing and finalizing the 2050 MTP to make sure that "Streets" and "Roads" are used in appropriate context.  |
|   | I was able to listen to your meeting last evening, 7/25/24. It was very informative and gave me a much better understanding of the issues facing Savannah and surrounding areas. The discussions from participants were great because they asked about issues that concern most people living here in Savannah. The answers in response to their concerns were very knowledgeable. Thank you for your time and efforts to make Savannah a better place to live. I would like to attend the next meeting in regards to the other means of transportation, other than cars. If you could send me the information on that meeting I would appreciate it. | Thank you for attending our public meeting on the 2050 MTP update. Developing a multi-modal transportation network that serves our residents is one of our goals. We have established a Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (PBAC) whose mission is to improve non-motorized transportation in our region. We also have the Transportation Equity and Public Involvement Advisory Committee (TEPIAC) to deal with accessible transportation including transit services. These committees will establish their own meeting schedules and their agendas will be posted on the MPC website at <a href="https://www.thempc.org/Core/Bac#gsc.tab=0">https://www.thempc.org/Core/Bac#gsc.tab=0</a> . All of their meetings are open to the public. Please check the website or contact the MPO staff if you would like to attend any of the scheduled meetings.   |
|   | The U.S. spends 20 billion dollars annually on subsidizing the oil industry which is literally killing our planet. Let's do better!   | CORE MPO will do our part to help promote a multi-modal transportation system that focuses on renewable energy and is resilient to the changing environment.  |
|   | Restore the Nancy Hanks from Savannah to Atlanta and back. It may need to be government subsidized, but will save us so much CO2 greenhouse gas, land acquisition, asphalt, etc. to build more roads, that it would be well worth it!   | GDOT is currently conducting a study on high-speed rail between Savannah and Atlanta. As of now, it's not feasible to include any rail project in the 2050 MTP. However, we do understand the importance of passenger rail service and its benefits to the environment. We will monitor the development.  |
|   | Work with cities/counties/GDOT and feds to plant trees on our highways. They are a must to take up rain water, especially in the low country with oceans rising. They also create habitats for many endangered plants and animals.  | Thank you for this input. Increasing green infrastructure and wildlife biodiversity are discussed in Chapter 7 of the 2050 MTP. We will also try our best to work with the project implementers to make sure trees are not neglected for roadway projects.  |
| Keep up the good work for bike and pedestrian trails! | Thank you. We will continue to work with our partners to promote and implement bike/ped/trail projects, including the Tide-to-Town projects and other priority projects included in the Non-Motorized Transportation Plan.  |   |