

**READING AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY COORDINATING COMMITTEE
(READING MPO)**

**SELF CERTIFICATION OF THE METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION
PLANNING and PROGRAMMING PROCESS**

WHEREAS, the US DOT Metropolitan Transportation Planning and Programming Regulations (23 CFR Part 450 Subpart C and 49 CFR Part 613 Subpart A) which implement the planning provisions of 23 USC Sec.134 and 49 USC Sec.5303, requires the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to certify that its transportation planning and programming process is in conformance with all applicable regulations; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Planning and Programming Regulations require the MPO to carry out a continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive performance-based multimodal transportation planning and programming process; and

WHEREAS, the requirements of Sections 174 and 176(c) and (d) of the Clean Air Act as amended (42 USC Sec 7504 and 7506 (c) and (d) and 40 CFR part 93), which require an air quality implementation plan that will bring the Metropolitan Area into conformance with requirements of the Clean Air Act; and require that the MPO not approve any project, program, or plan which does not conform to the implementation plan, have been met; and

WHEREAS, private citizens, affected public agencies, representatives of transportation agency employees, other affected employee representatives, private providers of transportation, and other interested parties were provided with reasonable opportunity to comment on the proposed Transportation Improvement Program, Long Range Plan and planning process; and

WHEREAS, the TIP has been financially constrained as required by 23 CFR 450.324(h) of the Planning Regulations and includes a financial plan that demonstrates how the TIP can be implemented, indicates resources from both public and private sources that are reasonably expected to be available, and is supportive of innovative financing techniques; and

WHEREAS, the Congestion Management Process (CMP) requirements of 23 CFR 450.322 for non-attainment Transportation Management Areas has been met; and

WHEREAS, 23 U.S.C 150, 23 CFR Part 450, and 49 CFR part 613 require MPO's to establish and use a performance-based approach to transportation decision making. The Reading MPO continues to work with its partners to plan for the integration of performance measures and targets into the development of the Long Range Plan, the TIP, the CMP, and other appropriate regional planning documents in accordance with federal and state statutes and guidance; and

WHEREAS, the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act of 2015 added two new planning factors to the scope of the metropolitan planning process that MPOs shall consider: Section 450.306 (b)(9) – improve resiliency and reliability of the transportation system and reduce or mitigate storm water impacts of surface transportation; and Section 450.306 (b)(10) – enhance travel and tourism. The Reading MPO will work with its partners to consider these new factors in the planning process; and,

WHEREAS, the provision of 49 CFR part 20 regarding restrictions on influencing certain activities has been met; and

WHEREAS, the requirements of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Title VI assurance executed by each state under 23 USC Sec.324 and under 49 USC Sec.794 have been met and the requirements of Executive Order # 12898 (Federal Order to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations) are being addressed; and,

WHEREAS, the requirements of 49 USC 5332, prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, sex, or age in employment have been met; and

WHEREAS, the requirements of 23 CFR and 49 CFR and Section 1101(b) of the FAST Act regarding the involvement of disadvantaged or minority business enterprises in Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funded planning projects have been met; and

WHEREAS, the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act (Public Law 101-336, 104 Statute 327, as amended), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 USC 794), and US DOT regulations entitled “Transportation for Individuals with Disabilities” (49 CFR, Parts 27, 37 and 38) have been met; and,

WHEREAS, the provisions of the Older Americans Act, as amended (42 USC 6101) prohibiting discrimination on the basis of age in programs or activities receiving federal financial assistance have been met; and

WHEREAS, the provisions of Section 324 of Title 23 USC regarding the prohibition of discrimination based on gender have been met; and

WHEREAS, provisions of 23 CFR Part 450.310 (d) (1) (ii) and 49 CFR Part 613.100, require MPOs policy boards to include officials of public agencies that provide public transportation; and,

WHEREAS, the Reading MPO recognizes the federal standards that are in place, but strives to exceed those standards, whenever possible, to ensure the health of the region’s citizens and the sustainability of Berks County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Reading Area Transportation Study Coordinating Committee, the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Reading metropolitan area (Berks County), certifies that the metropolitan transportation planning and programming process is being carried out in conformance with all applicable federal requirements and certifies that the local process to enhance the participation of the general public, including the transportation disadvantaged, has been followed in developing all plans and programs, including the FFY 2025-2028 TIP.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation for inclusion with the State certification that the planning process complies with FHWA/FTA joint regulations on Metropolitan Transportation Planning and Programming.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing resolution was adopted, in accordance with the By-Laws, by the Reading Area Transportation Study Coordinating Committee (Reading MPO) at a meeting duly called and held on the 16th day of May, 2024, and that said resolution is now in full force and effect.

ATTEST:

Alan D. Piper
Reading MPO Secretary

By: _____
Chris Kufro
Reading MPO Chairman