



# Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations

## MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

AMPO is the transportation advocate for metropolitan regions, committed to enhancing MPOs' abilities to improve metropolitan transportation systems. We provide a forum for our members with policy updates and advocacy support, technical expertise and committee opportunities, peer-to-peer networking events and educational development.

### **Federal Policy Updates and Advocacy**

We advocate for policy positions developed with our members in the interest of all MPOs. We educate federal lawmakers, agencies and regulators on the value of MPOs. This includes the economic and regulatory impacts these policies have on our communities. In addition, members have the opportunity to hold a seat on the AMPO Policy Committee. This committee acts as the liaison between the AMPO Board and the MPO community.

### **Technical Expertise**

AMPO is recognized as the leader in providing technical expertise and assistance to the MPO community. AMPO members have the opportunity to join the member-run Technical Committee. This committee works to define planning practices that lead to the development of key transportation proposals. AMPO currently provides support with the following working groups:

- Air Quality
- GIS
- Vehicle Connectivity and Automation
- Performance Based Planning and Programming
- Public Involvement
- Travel Modeling

In 2020, AMPO will launch two new working groups: Data and Active Transportation.

### **AMPO Annual Conference**

Every year AMPO hosts a national conference providing a robust program covering current issues including the future of transportation, data collection, legislative issues and roundtable discussions relating to MPO's from all regions. We offer the best tools and resources for MPOs seeking to gain knowledge in any facet of the metropolitan planning field. AMPO members are eligible to receive a discounted registration rate and almost every session qualifies for AICP credits. The AMPO Annual Conference is the premiere event for MPOs to learn and network.

### **Planning Tools and Technical Symposium**

AMPO also hosts the biennial Planning Tools and Training Symposium. The symposium brings together MPO staff and practitioners to share information on a variety of MPO technical issues and provides peer-to-peer training for the MPO community to discuss challenges, opportunities, and implementation strategies regarding current planning tools and applications. AMPO members are eligible to receive discounted registration fees and nearly all sessions qualify for AICP credits.

### **Leadership Opportunities**

As an AMPO member, you have the opportunity to run for the Board of Directors. The Board, including the President and Vice President, are elected by the members. As a member-led and member-focused organization, the Board is responsible for the governance of the organization. It provides strategic direction, implements policy and manages financial matters in partnership with the AMPO staff. We also invite future leaders to sit on our technical and policy committees or become project or committee chairs.

### **Bi-Weekly Newsletter and Social Media**

AMPO provides a bi-weekly electronic newsletter to its members, highlighting featured news in the transportation planning community, policy and technical updates and a calendar of industry workshops and events. As a member, you will be connected to AMPO's social networks via Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, benefiting from increased membership engagement and industry recognition.

### **Member Assistance**

AMPO staff is available to provide quick, insightful answers to your transportation planning inquiries. We support our members with useful solutions and current resources. In addition, members receive free online job postings on the AMPO Job Board, helping you gain access to a large professional community.

### **ActivitySim**

The mission of the ActivitySim project is to create and maintain advanced, open-source, activity-based travel behavior modeling software based on best software development practices for distribution at no charge to the public. This project is led by a consortium of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs), Departments of Transportation (DOTs), and other transportation planning agencies, which provides technical direction and resources to support project development. Members include: Puget Sound Regional Council, Metropolitan Transportation Commission, San Francisco Transportation Authority, San Diego Association of Governments, Atlanta Regional Council, Southeast Michigan COG, Oregon DOT, Metropolitan Council (St. Paul & Minneapolis) and AMPO.

New member agencies are welcome to join the consortium which requires an annual contribution. All member agencies help make decisions about development priorities and benefit from contributions of other agency partners. This is administered by the AMPO Research Foundation, a Federal 501(c)(3) organization.