conference agenda

Monday, October 4

1:00 PM – 3:00 PM
Pre-Conference Mobile Tour
Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community
The Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community (SRPMIC) is a sovereign nation located in the metropolitan Phoenix area and is bounded by the cities of Scottsdale, Tempe, Mesa, Fountain Hills, and the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation. The Community encompasses 52,600 acres, with 19,000 held as a natural preserve. A decision by SRPMIC allowed a critical regional freeway, the Loop 101, to cross their lands and enable a robust economic development agenda. This mobile tour will cover how the Salt River Community works with the region, a tour of Salt River Fields at Talking Stick, spring training home to the Arizona Diamondbacks and Colorado Rockies, as well as efforts in the areas of tourism and commercial development that help to sustain the people of SRPMIC. Registration required.

4:00 PM – 6:00 PM
Paloma
AMPO Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday, October 5

9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Silverman Foyer
Registration
Exhibits

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Pre-Conference Mobile Tour
Tempe Streetcar Tour
Introducing Tempe Streetcar as the first modern streetcar line in the Valley! As an extension of the Valley Metro multi-modal regional transit system, Tempe
Streetcar will serve one of the highest transit ridership centers in the region and connect riders to neighborhoods, major business centers, and regional events and destinations. This tour will begin at the Valley Metro Operations and Maintenance Center for a presentation on the Tempe Streetcar project and an up-close look at a streetcar vehicle. Afterward, participants will take a driving tour along the streetcar alignment in downtown Tempe, home to Arizona State University and historic downtown Mill Avenue. Registration required.

8:00 AM – 10:00 AM  
*Kiva I-III*  
Pre-Conference Transportation Research Board COVID-19 Workshop  
Planning for a New Normal: How Can We Work Together?  
PRESENTER:  
▪ Neil Pedersen, Transportation Research Board

The COVID-19 pandemic brought tremendous changes to mobility during the past two years: record levels of telework and home delivery, dramatic shifts in transit and air travel, and surges in active transportation. The rapid evolution of emerging technologies, growing frequency and severity of extreme weather and climate impacts, and heightened emphasis on equity impacts of transportation decisions are further transforming how we think about mobility across the nation. Which of these changes are permanent? What new approaches to mobility will arise? What will the new normal look like? How do we implement and update long-range plans – and meaningfully engage the public in long-range planning – with so much uncertainty?

This workshop will consider changing mobility trends and opportunities; identify lessons learned from the past two years; and discuss how MPOs anticipate addressing these issues through their planning processes. An emphasis will be placed on identifying opportunities for future research, collaboration, and capacity building involving AMPO, the Transportation Research Board, and other partners.

10:00 AM – 10:40 AM  
*Mohave I-III*  
Joint Policy and Technical Meeting  
*MPO Members Only*

10:45 AM – 12:00 PM  
*Kiva I-III*  
Policy Committee Meeting  
*MPO Members Only*

*Mohave I-III*  
Technical Committee Meeting  
*MPO Members Only*

12:00 PM – 1:30 PM  
*Paloma & Hacienda*  
Opening Lunch and Welcome  
*Sponsored by Nexar*

▪ Ron Chicka, AMPO Board President  
▪ Eric Anderson, Executive Director, Maricopa Association of Governments  
▪ Mayor David Ortega, Mayor of Scottsdale
Please join AMPO Board President Ron Chicka and the Mayor of Scottsdale David Ortega for the opening welcome of the 2021 AMPO Annual Conference. They will be joined by our host MPO, Maricopa Association of Governments Executive Director Eric Anderson and the Arizona MPO directors, who will share their perspectives on issues facing the state and regions. Topic areas will include challenges unique to Arizona, innovative partnerships, creative funding solutions, and an opportunity for questions to the panel.

**1:45 PM – 3:00 PM**

*Mohave I-III*

**Data Sharing**

**MODERATOR:**
- **Dave Wessel,** MetroPlan Flagstaff

**PRESENTERS:**
- **Justin Mondok,** Eastgate Regional Council of Governments
- **Jeffrey Gollner,** Eastgate Regional Council of Governments
- **Thomas Bamonte,** North Central Texas Council of Governments
- **Drew Messer,** Urban SDK

Collecting data and sharing data have become two critical functions of a MPO. Join us to hear how NCTCOG is leveraging crowdsourcing, among other innovative approaches, to gather data. The Eastgate Regional Council of Governments will share how they are bringing together their stakeholders around a shared, transparent data tool. UrbanSKD will share how a regional data exchange can improve coordination with partners.

**Kiva I-III**

**Law & Ethics**

**PRESENTER:**
- **Fred Wagner,** Venable

Developments in Environmental Justice/Equity: Tracking Important Policy and Legal Issues for MPOs.

**Encanto/Fiesta**

**The Future of Transportation**

**MODERATOR:**
- **Peter Koeppel,** Farmington MPO

**PRESENTERS:**
- **Greg Stuart,** Broward MPO
- **Bill Ball,** Tindale Oliver
- **James Stack,** Genesee Transportation Council
- **Lori Maher,** Genesee Transportation Council

This session will share Broward’s Vision 2100, where you will learn how to better engage with policy makers and communicate future needs followed by how COVID-19 caused the Genesee Transportation Council to completely reconsider how to conduct public engagement for the Long Range Transportation Plan in 2020.

**3:00 PM – 3:30 PM**

*Silverman Foyer*

Afternoon Coffee Break

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TUESDAY
3:30 PM – 5:00 PM
*Paloma & Hacienda*
AZ DOT/US DOT Roundtable
Coordination & Collaboration

Join representatives from the Arizona Department of Transportation, the Federal Highway Administration, and the Federal Transit Administration to hear about coordination and collaboration efforts throughout Arizona and around the country. The discussion will include updates from our federal partners regarding important forthcoming programs and resources.

**MODERATOR:**
- Eric Anderson, *Maricopa Association of Governments*

**PANELISTS:**
- Dallas Hammit, *ADOT*

5:15 PM – 6:45 PM
*Transportation Garden*
Trivia Night
*Sponsored by PublicInput*

**HOST:**
- Chris Evilia, *Lexington Area MPO*

Come with friends or meet new ones! It will take place outside in the Paloma Garden so join us for fun and prizes! *Registration required.*

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**Wednesday, October 6**

6:00 AM – 8:00 AM
*Azul*
Hot Breakfast Buffet provided in the Azul restaurant

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM
*Silverman Foyer*
Registration
Exhibits

8:00 AM – 9:10 AM
*Hacienda I-Paloma III*

Planning for a New Normal: What Have We Learned and What's Next?

**MODERATOR:**
- Ron Chicka, *AMPO Board President*

**PRESENTERS:**
- Neil Pedersen, *Transportation Research Board*
- Ashby Johnson, *CAMPO (TX)*
- Erin Aleman, *Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning*
- John Orr, *Atlanta Regional Commission*

Following up on Tuesday’s pre-conference workshop, hear from Neil Pedersen,
Executive Director of the Transportation Research Board. Mr. Pedersen will offer a presentation discussing the impacts of COVID-19 on transportation and key considerations for the future. Following Mr. Pedersen’s presentation, a distinguished panel will discuss their MPO’s response and activities related to the pandemic.

**9:15 AM – 10:30 AM**  
*Mohave I-III*  
Public Involvement  
MODERATOR:  
- Bill Austin, Morgantown Monongalia MPO

**PRESENTERS:**  
- Tricia Thomas, PublicInput  
- Lori Maher, Genesee Transportation Council  
- LaKesha Stewart, MetroPlan, Little Rock  
- Ashley Moran, Arcadiana Metropolitan Planning Organization

Small team? This session is for you. Hear how the Genesee Transportation Council, MetroPlan, and the Arcadiana MPO were able to engage with their communities while using limited resources.

**Kiva I-III**  
Advancing Projects  
**PRESENTERS:**  
- Peter Gies, Broward MPO  
- Christopher Restrepo, Broward MPO  
- William Cross, Broward MPO

This session will expand on how Broward has been working to streamline the process of moving projects from the MTP to the TIP, building consensus along the way. It will also highlight how your MPO can be a catalyst to deliver small, federally funded projects.

**Encanto/Fiesta**  
Transit Planning and Travel Behavior  
**MODERATOR:**  
- Lethal Coe, Whatcom Council of Governments

**PRESENTERS:**  
- Aileen Bouclé, Miami-Dade TPO  
- Daniel Fazekas, Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada  
- Andrew Kjellman, Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada  
- Nicholas Ramfos, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments

This session will provide an update on the implementation of Miami-Dade TPO’s Strategic Miami Area Rapid Transit (SMART) Plan, the Regional Transportation Commission’s On Board Mobility Plan process and provide practical tips and tools on how to communicate and nudge commuters to review their commute as the recovery from the pandemic continues.

**10:45 AM – 12:00 PM**  
*Mohave I-III*  
Data-Informed Decision Making  
**MODERATOR:**  
- Daniel Doenges, RTC of Washoe County, Reno
This session will summarize MPO best practices for coordinated, data-driven, federally compliant, and effective project evaluation and selection methods, and describe a user friendly toolbox of criteria for evaluating projects that meet Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) goals.

**Kiva I-III**

Transit

**PRESENTERS:**
- **Justin Dennis,** *Urban SDK*
- **Dan Andersen,** *Cambridge Systematics*
- **Brian Rubin,** *Maricopa Association of Governments*

This session will dive into how one MPO is attempting to better understand commute mode choice to better support transit ridership while another shares how they are advancing aspirational transit projects.

**Encanto/Fiesta**

Core Products

**MODERATOR:**
- **Corey Hull,** *Southern Georgia Regional Commission*

**PRESENTERS:**
- **Jasmine Champion,** *Memphis MPO*

- **Ethan Greene,** *Memphis MPO*
- **Aileen Bouclé,** *Miami-Dade Transportation Planning Organization*

This session will focus on how your MPO can enhance core products. The Memphis MPO will present how they have been using analytical methods for tracking outreach, how they were able to pivot in response to COVID-19, and what that means for the future of their public participation. The Miami-Dade TPO will present how they have streamlined their UPWP and discuss the respective cost and time-saving benefits.

**12:00 PM – 1:30 PM**

**Hacienda I-Paloma III**

Lunch

**General Membership Meeting**

*Sponsored by Aurigo*

**MASTERWORKS CLOUD**

- **Bill Keyrouze,** *Executive Director, AMPO*
- **Ron Chicka,** *Board President, AMPO*
- **Levon Boyagian,** *Policy Advisor, AMPO*

Join AMPO Executive Director Bill Keyrouze, for the AMPO General Membership Meeting. He will be joined by AMPO Board President Ron Chicka, who will provide the board election results and the winners of the 2021 AMPO Awards, and AMPO policy advisor, Levon Boyagian, who will provide a policy update.
1:45 PM – 3:00 PM
Mohave I-III
NCHRP Project Update
MODERATOR:
- Matt Johns, Rapides Area Planning Commission

PRESENTERS:
- Anna Batista, High Street Consulting
- J Scott Lane, Metro Analytics
- Wade Carroll, Metro Analytics

NCHRP 08-122 identified, refined, and offers strategies to address some of the major issues confronting MPOs across the country, ranging from staff retention to technology integration to curb space utilization, in a way that meets the needs of both small and large MPOs. NCHRP 02-27 is about helping transportation agencies breathe new life into performance management by gathering and using feedback to begin closing the gap between actual performance and targets. This project captures the most effective practices for agencies to employ to make their performance targets truly matter.

Encanto/Fiesta
Activity Based Modeling
MODERATOR:
- Todd Lang, Baltimore Metropolitan Council

PRESENTERS:
- Petya Maneva, Maricopa Association of Governments
- Dave Wessel, MetroPlan Flagstaff
- Joe Castiglione, AMPO Research Foundation, ActivitySim

This session will explore how MAG has been conducting sensitivity tests to their ABM, the AMPO’s ActivitySim consortium model and the project progress to date, and the tweaking MetroPlan Flagstaff has done to their four-step model to better meet the needs of their region.

3:00 PM – 3:30 PM
Silverman Foyer
Afternoon Coffee Break

3:30 PM – 4:30 PM
Mohave I-III
Partnerships
MODERATOR:
- Regina Aris, Baltimore Metropolitan Council

PRESENTERS:
- Corey Hull, Southern Georgia Regional Commission
- Wang Zhang, Maricopa Association of Governments

This session will explore how to better prepare for CAV deployment, from using AMPO’s Framework for CAVs to identify action steps that need to be taken over the coming years to applying a connected vehicle dataset to a bottleneck study, an arterial intersection and corridor study and transportation modeling.
This session will provide lessons learned from partnering with educational institutions as well as an example of how one MPO partnered with over 100 stakeholders to create a collaborative platform for regional transportation providers and customers.

3:30 PM – 5:00 PM
*Kiva I-III*
**Complete Streets**
**MODERATOR:**
- **Amanda Wilson, North Central Texas COG**

**PRESENTERS:**
- **Daniel Fazekas, RTC of Southern Nevada**
- **Andrew Kjellman, RTC of Southern Nevada**
- **Ricardo Gutierrez, Broward MPO**
- **Stephanie Garcia, Broward MPO**
- **Fazal Qureshi, Memphis MPO**
- **Zylavian Hines, Memphis MPO**
- **Mavrick Fitzgerald, Memphis MPO**
- **Jordan Smith, Memphis MPO**

This session will review the Boulder Highway Multimodal Transportation Investment Study’s collaborative process and final proposed design concepts that revamped a highway to a multimodal corridor. Continuing the theme of multimodal transformations, Broward will share how they’ve been working to prioritize complete streets improvements in their region. The Memphis MPO will show how their Walk & Roll Regional Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan is an active transportation strategy that identifies key projects, policies, and programs that support safer walking, biking, and access to transit.

**Encanto/Fiesta**
**Advanced Air Mobility and the MPO**
**MODERATOR:**
- **Greg Stuart, Broward MPO**

**PRESENTERS:**
- **Lisa Peterson, Airspace Link**
- **Scott Gore, FAA**
- **Adam Cohen, UC Berkeley**
- **Todd Petersen, Ellis & Associates**
- **Yolanka Wulff, Community Air Mobility Initiative**
- **Pavan Yedavalli, Wisk**
- **Paul Waddell, UrbanSim**

This session will explore Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) and how to best plan and prepare for emergent technologies like drones. It will also explore the many barriers to AAM and the role MPOs can play in integrating this into the regional transportation system.

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
**Paloma Garden Reception**
Thursday, October 7

6:00 AM – 8:00 AM

Azul
Hot Breakfast Buffet provided in the Azul restaurant

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Mohave Foyer
Registration
Exhibits

8:00 AM – 9:00 AM

Hacienda I-Paloma III
Member-led Workshop
Join your MPO colleagues for conversation and crowdsourcing. We will breakout into small, medium, and large size MPOs to discuss what’s important and what’s ahead. This workshop will provide an excellent forum to meet peer MPOs.

9:15 AM – 10:30 AM

Mohave I-III
Freight
MODERATOR:
- Ashby Johnson, CAMPO (TX)

PRESENTERS:
- Beth Beltran, Martin MPO
- Jeffrey Weidner, Marlin Engineering
- Clay Barnett, Sherman-Denison MPO
- Lizzie Welch, Cambridge Systematics
- Caroline Mays, Texas DOT
- Jason Beloso, Washington State DOT

This session will discuss how freight plans can benefit an MPO, no matter the size. It will also explore strategies for facilitating truck parking to create a more efficient freight network.

Kiva I-III
Big Data Modeling
MODERATOR:
- Casey Covington, MetroPlan (AR)

PRESENTERS:
- Timothy Canan, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
- Britton Hammit, Kimley-Horn DC
- Matthew Lehane, Fredericksburg Area MPO
- Jim Hubbell, Streetlight Data

This session will begin with how one MPO has begun evaluating Big Data products, sharing their process and methodology to better inform the Big Data acquisition practices. Taking the next step, learn how Big Data from mobile devices can be used to estimate home-work trips efficiently, accurately, and comprehensively.

Encanto/Fiesta
Regional Policy and Growth
MODERATOR:
- Paul Calvaresi, Broward MPO

PRESENTERS:
- Oliver Gilbert, III, Southeast Florida Transportation Council
- Greg Stuart, Broward MPO
- Aileen Bouclé, Miami-Dade TPO
- Andrew Uhlir, Palm Beach TPA
This session will explore how the three MPOs in the Miami TMA, the fourth most populous in the nation, used empirical methodologies to determine which policy changes to transportation and land-use will allow the region to mature and continue to thrive economically while supporting a rapidly growing population.

10:45 AM – 12:00 PM
Mohave I-III
Equity
MODERATOR:
- Helen Wiles, Dover/Kent County MPO

PRESENTERS:
- Doise Miers, CAMPO (TX)
- Arezoo Besharati, Urban Sim
- Paul Waddell, Urban Sim
- Lindsay Hollander, Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

This session will share outreach methods that do not rely on internet access, recognizing the challenges many communities faced during COVID-19 as much of the planning process shifted to a virtual setting. It will also explore how UrbanSim’s recent equity analysis has facilitated a broad exploration of transportation equity and its relationship with housing affordability. CMAP will also share the results of its first comprehensive analysis on the impact of transportation fees, fines, and fares to residents and households with low incomes, including policy recommendations to reduce inequitable financial impacts.

Kiva I-III
Scenario Planning Across the Country
MODERATOR:
- Saleem Salameh, KYOVA Interstate Planning Commission

PRESENTERS:
- Tim Canan, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
- Rachel Copperman, Cambridge Systematics

This session will share the results from a thirteen MPO survey about scenario planning, including details about experiences with tools, reasons for conducting a scenario planning process, study budget and timeframe, and study outcomes. It will also share case studies on efforts to engage stakeholders and the public in developing future scenarios.

Encanto/Fiesta
Safety
MODERATOR:
- Craig Lyon, Municipality of Anchorage’s Planning Department

PRESENTERS:
- Nicole Waldheim, Burgess & Niple
- Bala Akundi, Baltimore Metropolitan Council
- Margaret Herrera, Maricopa Association of Governments
- Ellen Zavisca, Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization

This session, based on case study examples, will explore opportunities for MPOs to integrate a new FHWA
framework, the Safe System Approach, into their planning processes. It will also explore how the Knoxville Regional TPO has built a series of databases, public maps, and infographics to share safety data while spotlighting the need for additional improvements.

12:00 PM – 1:30 PM  
_Hacienda I-Paloma III_
Lunch with Featured Speaker  
_Sponsored by Decision Lens_

- **Grady Gammage, Jr, Author and Founder, Gammage and Burnham**

Join us in welcoming author and guest speaker, Grady Gammage. Is Phoenix sustainable? It’s just one big sprawling mess, right? Isn’t climate change a huge problem for the future here? What about water? Grady will discuss the sustainability of Phoenix.

1:45 PM – 3:00 PM  
_Mohave I-III_
Data Management  
MODERATOR:  
- **Becky Karasko, North Front Range MPO**

PRESENTERS:  
- **Felix Nwoko, Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro MPO**  
- **Caitlyn Meyer, GeoDecisions, Gannett Fleming**  
- **Sudhir Murthy, TrafInfo Communications**  
- **Brian Rubin, Maricopa Association of Governments**  
- **Mark Egge, High Street Consulting**

This session will provide MPOs an example of data management while sharing the approach taken to create a data management process that fosters stakeholder engagement. It will also provide an overview of a platform for evaluating the status of an MPO’s transportation network and analyzing potential projects for submission by member agencies.

**Kiva I-III**  
Environmental Resiliency  
PRESENTERS:  
- **Karina Graeter, Southern Maine Planning and Development Commission**  
- **Krishnan Viswanathan, Cambridge Systematics**  
- **Jason Lemp, Cambridge Systematics**  
- **Thomas Hill, Florida DOT**

This session will share one MPO’s methodology to estimate on-road transportation emissions which can in turn be used to help municipalities set emissions reduction targets, prioritize emission mitigation strategies, and ensure climate-ready transportation planning. It will also share how LBS data can be used in the MPO planning process for two types of resiliency efforts; understanding evacuation behavior for modeling and determining where populations are located during different times of the day to better inform and coordinate emergency services.
Encanto/Fiesta
Core Products II
MODERATOR:
- Regina Aris, Baltimore Metropolitan Council

PRESENTERS:
- Alvan-Bidal Sanchez, Denver Regional Council of Governments
- Kate Horton, Memphis Urban Area MPO
- Nick Warren, Memphis Urban Area MPO

Don't let your core products grow stale! Join us to hear from DRCOG on how they've recently updated their RTP, resulting in the most multimodal plan yet. Memphis will also share how they keep their TIP fresh by strengthening the link between the planning and programming process, extensive project tracking, and coordination with project sponsors.

3:00 PM – 3:30 PM
Silverman Foyer
Afternoon Coffee Break

3:30 PM – 5:00 PM
Mohave I-III
COVID-19 Traffic Changes
PRESENTERS:
- Tewari Edmonson, Miami-Dade TPO
- Aileen Bouclé, Miami-Dade TPO
- Thomas Bamonte, North Central Texas Council of Governments
- Wang Zhang, Maricopa Association of Governments

This session will discuss how three MPOs have used the traffic changes due to COVID-19 to further explore and test drastic scenarios due to telework and its impact on congestion. The Miami-Dade TPO will provide the results of their study and the subsequent implementation of a pilot project while NCTCOCG and MAG will share the results of trends observed during the pandemic.

Kiva I-III
MTP Scenario Planning
PRESENTERS:
- Lorna Parkins, Michael Baker International
- Catherine Koval, Michael Baker International
- Wilson Fernandez, Miami-Dade TPO

This session will provide examples of tactical scenario planning that will provide an engaging framework for “war gaming” investment strategies and outcomes. In addition to this tactical scenario planning, this session will highlight the Miami-Dade TPO's scenario planning process that was used for their long-range plan.

Encanto/Fiesta
Organizational Structure and Partnerships
MODERATOR:
- Ashby Johnson, CAMPO (TX)

PRESENTERS:
- Jillian Harris, Cheyenne MPO
- Jeff Meilbeck, MetroPlan Flagstaff

This session will highlight the many successes and challenges associated with the development and adoption of policies
relating to micromobility and learn how to convey who you are and what you do in a simple, engaging way.

5:30 PM – 6:30 PM
Silverman Foyer
Light Reception with Conference Sponsors

Friday, October 8

6:00 AM – 9:00 AM
Azul
Hot Breakfast Buffet provided in the Azul restaurant

9:00 AM – 11:00 AM
Silverman Foyer
Exhibits

9:00 AM – 11:00 AM
Kiva I-III
AMPO Open House
Please join AMPO staff and their leadership teams for a Meet & Greet Open House. We will answer questions about committee positions, working groups and how to get involved. If you are not an AMPO member, come learn about our member benefits. It will be a great opportunity for casual conversation.

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Bike Tour of Scottsdale
Exercise your brain and your heart with an easy 10-mile bike tour in and near Old Town Scottsdale. Take the Indian Bend Wash Path through a series of parks that line one of the most innovative flood control projects in the nation. The Arizona Canal and Scottsdale Waterfront area feature private mixed-use development, public paths, and award-winning public art along the Salt River Project canal system. Recognized by the League of American Bicyclists as a Gold Level Bicycle Friendly Community, Scottsdale continues to expand the bikeway network on streets, paths, and trails while integrating public art into the Transportation program. Registration required. Additional $35 fee.