



PRELIMINARY AGENDA

Subject to Change | Updated Aug. 27, 2025

Sessions with a small MPO speaker are open to any attendee. We are highlighting them on the agenda for those who wish to learn from small MPOs (those with a population under 200,000).

Monday, September 15	
11 am-1 pm	AMPO Board of Directors Meeting (Board members only)
noon-7 pm	<p>Pre-Conference Mobile Tour: Gateway to the Ocean State – Keeping History Above Water in the City by the Sea</p> <p>Take in the beauty of Narragansett Bay from the Rhode Island Department of Transportation’s contracted ferry service, Seastreak, on a one-hour journey from Providence to Newport, the Sailing Capitol of the World. Upon arrival in Newport, the tour will visit The Point neighborhood, an historic gridded street neighborhood mapped by early Quaker settlers, and site of recent efforts to respond to the threat of climate change and develop resiliency. The tour continues with a shuttle ride to Rough Point, Doris Duke’s historic mansion on Ocean Road where her vision for preserving and restoring cultural heritage through Keeping History Above Water® was founded in 2016 to foster a global conversation focused on the increasing and varied risks of sea-level rise to historic coastal communities. Separate registration and fee required after conference registration is completed (sign-up link in registration confirmation email). More details here: https://ampo.org/news-events/ampo-annual-conference/2025-ampo-annual-conference/#mobile</p>
2-5 pm	<i>Exhibitor set-up</i>
2-4 pm	AMPO Policy Committee Meeting (Policy Committee members only)
2-4 pm	AMPO Technical Committee Meeting (Technical Committee members only)
4-5 pm	Joint Policy & Technical Committee Coffee & Chat (Policy & Technical Committee members only)
5-7pm	Registration Open
5:30-7 pm	Opening Reception with Sponsors and Exhibitors
Tuesday, September 16	
7-8 am	<i>Exhibitor set-up</i>
8 am-5 pm	Registration
8-9 am	<i>Breakfast with Sponsors and Exhibitors</i>
9-10:15 am	Main Stage 1: Opening Ceremonies
10:15-10:45 am	<i>Coffee break with Sponsors and Exhibitors</i>

Tuesday, September 16				
	TRACK A	TRACK B	TRACK C	TRACK D
10:45-11:45 am	<p>Breakout 1A <i>Complete Street Makeovers</i></p> <p>From Danger Zone to Destination: Combining Complete Streets and Land Use (Mavrick Fitzgerald & Sajid Hossain, Memphis MPO) & The Role of Regional Agencies in Implementing Quick-Build Projects for Safety and Complete Streets (Rachel Om, SCAG; Aaron Villere, DRCOG; & Cassidy Boulan, DVRPC)</p>	<p>Breakout 1B <i>Transportation Resilience Strategies for Mountain and Resort Communities</i></p> <p>Workshop featuring: Kira Richardson & Rebecca Cremeen, Tahoe Regional Planning Agency</p> <p>*small MPO speaker*</p>	<p>Breakout 1C <i>Getting More Bang for your FTA Section 5310 Buck</i></p> <p>Panel featuring: Carrie Diamond, Easter Seals; Rachel Fichtenbaum, Massachusetts DOT Rail and Transit Division; & Bill Wagner, Community Transportation Association of America</p>	<p>Breakout 1D <i>Clearing the Air</i></p> <p>CATALYZER – A Data-Centric Platform for Evaluating Emissions (Alireza Yazdiani, Cornell University Transportation Systems Engineering student) & Atlanta Energy and Emissions Modeling and Analysis Tool (AEEMAT) (Guy Rousseau, Atlanta Regional Commission; & Mahyar Amirgholy, Southern Polytechnic College of Engineering / Kennesaw State University)</p>
noon-1:30 pm	Main Stage 2: Luncheon with 2025 AMPO host, Rhode Island Division of Statewide Planning			
1:45-3 pm	<p>Breakout 2A <i>Shaping the Future: Collaborative Strategies for Reliable Transportation Funding Across Three MPOs</i></p> <p>Panel featuring: Matt Maloney (MTC), Chris Martinovich (Carson Area MPO), John Bullen (MAG), & Justine Sydello (CDM Smith)</p> <p>*small MPO speaker*</p>	<p>Breakout 2B <i>How Human Stories Shape Policy</i></p> <p>Workshop featuring: Darcie Vandegrift and Bethany Brandt-Sargent, Metropolitan Council; Linda Spohr, Zan Associates; & Corrin Behmis, Bolton & Menk</p>	<p>Breakout 2C <i>Strategic Approaches to Core Products</i></p> <p>Streamlining Project Prioritization from Solicitation to Consensus (Jesse Buerk, DVRPC) & Demystifying 40 CFR Part 93: A Simple User’s Guide to Navigating the Air Quality Conformity Process (Kate Horton, Memphis MPO) & From Planning to Delivery: Insights from a Transportation Investment Analysis (Ryan Brown & Wenonah Venter, Sarasota/Manatee MPO)</p>	<p>Breakout 2D <i>Coordination at the State and Regional Scales</i></p> <p>Statewide Associations of MPOs Across the Country: Structures, Functions, and Key Insights (Jeff Kramer, Center for Urban Transportation Research at the University of South Florida) & Forging Stronger Connections to a Region’s Municipalities – A Scalable Model (Patrick Day, Lily Brack, & Mai Dang, Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning) & Beyond Mobility: The Power District Regional Transportation Study’s Mission to Create a Thriving Urban Space (Julie Bjornstad & Ted Knowlton, Wasatch Front Regional Council)</p>
3-3:30 pm	<i>Break with Sponsors and Exhibitors</i>			
3:30-4:30 pm	<p>Breakout 3A <i>How Missoula is Using BRT and Transit Investments to Build Community & Catalyze Growth</i></p> <p>Panel featuring: Aaron Wilson (Missoula MPO), Chris Proud (HDR Engineering), & Annette Marchesseault (City of Missoula)</p> <p>*small MPO speaker*</p>	<p>Breakout 3B <i>Safe Roadways, Shared Corridors: Enhancing Transportation for People and Wildlife</i></p> <p>Creating Safer Roads with Wildlife Passage (Ron Sutherland, Wildlands Network; Tristan Winkler, French Broad River MPO; & David Miller, Triangle West TPO) & Leading the Way on SS4A: Serving as a Resource to Local Agencies (Kyle Simpson & Chelsea Favero, Forward Pinellas)</p>	<p>Breakout 3C <i>NOAA’s Atlas 15 Product: A Precipitation Frequency Tool to Help Mitigate Flood Risk</i></p> <p>Workshop featuring: Emily Mutkoski & Lydia Churchill, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Affiliates; Tom Jacobs, MARC; & Chris Linn, DVRPC</p>	<p>Breakout 3D <i>Concept to Coordination: Advancing Housing & Transportation Integration</i></p> <p>Session 1 of 2: So What is Housing Coordination Anyway? Defining Housing Coordination within MPO Planning</p> <p>Workshop featuring: Sumi Malik & Kyle Smith, ICF</p>
4:30-5:30 pm	AMPO Reception for MPO Leadership (invitation only)			
5:30-7:30 pm	Transportation Trivia Challenge			

Wednesday, September 17				
8 am-5 pm	Registration			
8 am-4 pm	Exhibits open			
8-9 am	Breakfast with Sponsors and Exhibitors			
9-10 am	<p>Breakout 4A <i>Fitting Freight into Regional Planning</i></p> <p>Regional Freight Planning with a Local Impact (Daniel Studdard, Atlanta Regional Commission) & Integrating Freight into the MPO Planning Process (Sandeep Datla, Alamo Area MPO; & Guilherme Leao, Cambridge Systematics)</p>	<p>Breakout 4B <i>On-Demand Microtransit Service, a New Tool for Closing Transit Service Gaps</i></p> <p>Panel featuring: Sam Gold & Brendan Geraghty, RiverCOG; Joe Comerford, River Valley Transit; Richard Donovan, NVCOG; & Mark Pandolfi, Valley District Transit</p> <p>*small MPO speaker*</p>	<p>Breakout 4C <i>Using Data to Move the Needle on Safety</i></p> <p>Coordination on Safety With Student-Led Organizations (Neil Cahill, University of Pittsburgh Urban Planning student) & From Data to Decisions: Turning Complex Crash Data into Simple Safety Insights (Julie Richmond, Herkimer-Oneida Counties Transportation Council; & Cory Hopwood and Gui Vendemiatti, Cambridge Systematics)</p>	<p>Breakout 4D <i>Enhanced MPO/DOT Collaboration</i></p> <p>Constituent Level Prioritization (Sara Fields, Ozarks Transportation Organization) & FDOT's Congestion Management Multimodal Planning Initiative: Enhancing MPO-State DOT Modal Collaboration (Dave Hutchinson, Sarasota/Manatee MPO; Don Scott, Lee County MPO; & Peyton McLeod, Florida Department of Transportation)</p>
10-10:30 am	Coffee Break with Sponsors and Exhibitors			
10:30-11:45 am	<p>Breakout 5A <i>Cool Tools</i></p> <p>From Pavement to Platform: Digitizing Pedestrian Infrastructure (Asher Eskin, Rhode Island Division of Statewide Planning) & Automating Comment Classification using Large Language Models (Janica Mendillo & Kaya Tollas, MTC) & How Big Data Can Enhance MPO Travel Surveys (Kenneth Joh & Zhuo Yang, National Capital Region TPB)</p>	<p>Breakout 5B <i>Bridging Data, Planning & Risk Management</i></p> <p>How a Small MPO Accomplishes Integrated Transportation, Housing, and Resilience Planning (Mikala Jordan, Southern Maine Planning and Development Commission; Jamel Torres, Southern Maine Planning and Development Commission; and Thomas Morley, Portsmouth Naval Shipyard) & Developing an Approachable Toolkit for Resilience and Recovery: Miami Valley's Regional Resilience Guidebook & Toolkit (Elizabeth Baxter, Miami Valley RPC; Surbhi Agrawal, Siqi Zhu, & Serena Galleshaw, Sasaki Associates)</p> <p>*small MPO speaker*</p>	<p>Breakout 5C <i>Accessibility in Action</i></p> <p>MPO Strategies for ADA-Compliant Communities (Jaemi Jackson, CMAP) & Leveraging the National Accessibility Evaluation Study (Andrew Owen, University of Minnesota) & Leveraging Deep Learning to Identify Sidewalks and ADA Ramps (Raj Parikh & James Turnwald, Michiana Area Council of Governments)</p>	<p>Breakout 5D <i>Transportation Demand Management – Operationalizing Long Range Transportation Plans to Connect People to Places</i></p> <p>Panel featuring: Lisa Kay Schweyer (Foursquare ITP), Sabrina Green (Atlanta Regional Commission), & Veronica Jarvis (Thurston Regional Planning Council)</p>
noon-1:30 pm	Main Stage 3: Luncheon & Keynote Speaker			

Wednesday, September 17

<p>1:45-3 pm</p>	<p>Breakout 6A <i>TIP of the Spear</i></p> <p>Developing a More Strategic Long-Range Transportation Plan and Aligning with the TIP (Cole Hiniker & Steve Peterson, Metropolitan Council)</p> <p>&</p> <p>A Regularized Process for TIP Development & Management (Nick Flanders & Markey Jonas, Wichita Area MPO)</p> <p>&</p> <p>Improving Statewide Coordination for TIP and STIP Management (Maria Schaper & Jon Heider, MORPC)</p>	<p>Breakout 6B <i>Collaborating on Complete Streets</i></p> <p>Complete Streets Lending Libraries: MPO Resources for Pop-Up Projects (Alina Borja, SCAG; & Jasmine Lawrence, North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority)</p> <p>&</p> <p>Complete Streets + Complete Readiness = Complete Success (Jennifer Marandino, South Jersey TPO; Blythe Eaman, North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority; & Leigh Ann Von Hagen, Rutgers University)</p>	<p>Breakout 6C <i>Regional Visions</i></p> <p>The Great Symphony: The Well-Orchestrated, Multi-Agency Financial model Behind Utah's Unified Transportation Plan (Julie Bjornstad, Wasatch Front Regional Council; & Jeff Gilbert, Cache MPO)</p> <p>&</p> <p>Creating a Regional Vision for a Connected Off-Road Bicycle Facility (David Nolan, Cape Cod Commission)</p> <p>&</p> <p>Region in Motion: Creating a Multiregional Active Transportation Plan (Kate Horton & Keiaron Randle, Memphis MPO)</p>	<p>Breakout 6D <i>Innovative Financing for Transportation Reconnection Projects</i></p> <p>Workshop featuring: Jon Stover & Jessie Stonberg, Reconnecting Communities Institute; Nathan Macek, HDR; Michael Morris, NCTCOG; & Eric Myers, Chattanooga Design Studio</p>
<p>3-3:30 pm</p>	<p><i>Break with Sponsors and Exhibitors</i></p>			
<p>3:30-4:30 pm</p>	<p>Breakout 7A <i>Regional Coordination for Flood-Ready Roadways</i></p> <p>Panel featuring: Roberta Groch (Rhode Island Division of Statewide Planning), Alex Maxwell (Fuss & O'Neill), Christos Xenophontos (Rhode Island DOT), Herbert Durfee III (Town of Barrington, RI)</p>	<p>Breakout 7B <i>Innovative Engagement</i></p> <p>Developing a Community Ambassador Program in Lima, OH (Megan Kinnear, Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission; and Caroline Daigle, ACEEE)</p> <p>&</p> <p>Beyond Compliance: Innovative Outreach and Storytelling in Broward MPO's Route to 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (Christopher Restrepo, Broward MPO)</p> <p> *small MPO speaker*</p>	<p>Breakout 7C <i>Mobility Hub Masterminds: Designing the Future of Urban Connectivity</i></p> <p>Workshop featuring: Sirinya Matute, SCAG; Lauren Batalias, San Joaquin COG; Victoria Cacciatore, SACOG; & Stacy Cook, Cambridge Systematics</p>	<p>Breakout 7D <i>Concept to Coordination: Advancing Housing & Transportation Integration</i></p> <p>Session 2 of 2: Putting it Together: Implementation Strategies for Housing Coordination</p> <p>Workshop featuring: Sumi Malik, Kyle Smith & Michael Grant, ICF</p> <p>It's recommended that you attend Session 1 of this series (Breakout 3D) before attending this session</p>
<p>6-9 pm</p>	<p>AMPO 2025 Conference Night Out</p>			

Thursday, September 18				
8 am-3:30 pm	Registration			
8 am-3:30 pm	Exhibits open			
8-9 am	Breakfast with Sponsors and Exhibitors			
9-10 am	Main Stage 4: Policy Update with the LOT Coalition (Local Officials in Transportation)			
10-10:30 am	Coffee Break with Sponsors and Exhibitors			
10:30-11:45 am	<p>Breakout 8A <i>Innovations in Funding</i></p> <p>Creative Use of TIP Funds for Micromobility Projects (Colleen Medeiros, Cape Cod Commission; Yahaira Graxirena, Central Massachusetts RPC; and Ethan Lapointe, Boston Region MPO)</p> <p>&</p> <p>Unlocking Value and Fostering Supportive Development in Rail Corridors (Francis Pickering & Todd Fontanella, Western Connecticut Council of Governments)</p>	<p>Breakout 8B <i>Collaborative Strategies for Safer Streets</i></p> <p>Building a Safer Future: A Collaborative Approach to Vision Zero in Central Florida (Gary Huttman, MetroPlan Orlando)</p> <p>&</p> <p>A Proactive and Inclusive Approach to Roadway Safety: Priority Network Screening and Systemic Analysis for MPOs (Julie Richmond, Herkimer-Oneida Counties Transportation Council; & Cory Hopwood and Gui Vendemiatti, Cambridge Systematics)</p> <p>&</p> <p>School Site Planning with Safe Routes to School in Mind (Karla Windsor, North Central Texas Council of Governments)</p>	<p>Breakout 8C <i>AASHTO CEE/AMPO Workshop on Collaboration Between MPOs and State DOTs</i></p>	
noon-1:30 pm	Main Stage 5: Luncheon & AMPO General Membership Meeting followed by AMPO Awards			
1:45-3 pm	<p>Breakout 9A <i>Transforming Iowa's Regional Economic Potential and Quality of Life Through Active Transportation</i></p> <p>Panel featuring: Mary Ellen Koontz, Rails to Trails Conservancy; Michael Helgerson, MAPA; & Bryan Schmid, Bi-State Regional Commission</p>	<p>Breakout 9B <i>Beyond Coordination: Strengthening MPO and DOT Collaboration to Deliver Projects</i></p> <p>Panel featuring: John Kaliski & Richard Denbow, Cambridge Systematics; Meredith Brady, Rhode Island Division of Planning; Carrie Lavalley, Massachusetts DOT; Michael Morris, NCTCOG; & Tigist Zegeye, Wilmington Area Planning Council</p>	<p>Breakout 9C <i>Connected Vehicle Innovations for Regional Arterial & Traffic Signal Program Management</i></p> <p>Panel featuring: Alex Wolfson, RTC of Washoe County; Gregory Masota, North Central Texas COG; Arminta Syed, Maricopa Association of Governments; & Shaun Quayle, INRIX</p>	
3-3:30 pm	Break with Sponsors and Exhibitors			

3:30-4:45 pm	<p style="text-align: center;">Breakout 10A <i>BTS Transportation Vulnerability and Resilience Data Program</i></p> <p>Panel featuring: DJ Mason, USDOT; Meredith Brady, Rhode Island Division of Planning; Mike Lawrence, Jack Faucett Associates; & Chandler Duncan, Metro Analytics</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Breakout 10B <i>Addressing Transit Deserts Through Customized Vanpool Solutions</i></p> <p>Panel featuring: James Turnwald, Michiana Area Council of Governments; Sarah Ingle, Rhode Island Public Transit Authority; & Matt Lyhne, Commute with Enterprise</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Breakout 10C <i>Raising the Bar on Core Products</i></p> <p>Maximizing In-House Resources: Cost-Effective Strategies for MPO Planning Products (Natasha Longpine, Ozarks Transportation Organization) & Keeping Your Metropolitan Transportation Plan Fresh: Innovation Through Collaboration (Neil Burke, Charlotte Regional TPO; & Allison Fluitt, Kimley-Horn) & Conveying Regional Vision through Innovative Planning (Mukesh Kumar & Nora Ray, Waco MPO)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">*small MPO speaker*</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Breakout 10D <i>AI Agents in Action: Reshaping Transportation Planning with Digital Twins</i></p> <p>Experts' Insights into AI Innovations in Transportation (Greg Stuart, Broward MPO; Ben Levine, Bentley; Avinash Srivastava, AECOM's Center of Excellence for Urban Analytics; & Abdeltawab Hendawi, Professor & Co-director of the AI-Lab, University of Rhode Island) & SMART METRO Digital Twin Demonstration & Discussion, USDOT SMART Grant (Vice Mayor Yvette Colbourne, Broward MPO Chair; Anant Dinamani, Deloitte; & Andrew Riddle, Broward MPO)</p>
3:30-6 pm	<i>Exhibitor move-out</i>			
Friday, September 19				
8:30 am-noon	<p style="text-align: center;">Post-Conference Mobile Tour</p> <p>In the heart of Providence, there's an urban greenway managed and developed by the Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council (WRWC) to spark economic development through work restoring the Woonasquatucket River and the communities around it, and by enhancing, extending and bringing people to the Woonasquatucket River Greenway. Woon-as-kwah-tuck-it – the name of the river means “where the salt water ends” in Algonquin. On July 30, 1998, President Clinton designated the Woonasquatucket River as one of only 14 American Heritage Rivers in the nation. The Woonasquatucket River was chosen in part because of the significant role it played in the Industrial Revolution. It was one of the first rivers to be dammed by mill owners to insure a steady supply of water year-round for their mills. The WRWC is a successful model of community revitalization that helps people discover this local American Heritage River and its natural resources, channeling life and economic development into neighborhoods. This bike tour will take in some of the highlights of the corridor, with stops to talk about significant projects and green infrastructure, ending at Farm Fresh Rhode Island, a hub for local food in Rhode Island. More details here: https://ampo.org/news-events/ampo-annual-conference/2025-ampo-annual-conference/#mobile</p>			