



Lexington Area
Metropolitan Planning Organization



2026 APRIL 20-23, 2026
LEXINGTON, KY

**PLANNING TOOLS
& TRAINING
SYMPOSIUM**

AGENDA

Subject to Change | Updated March 10, 2026

A note about session tracks: MPO 101 sessions are designed for newer MPO staff, while MPO Deep Dive sessions are aimed at more experienced staff. However, attendees are welcome to attend sessions in either track and can move between tracks throughout the Symposium.

All events at the Hilton Lexington Downtown unless otherwise noted

Monday, April 20

8:30 am to noon		MPO Institute (Pre-Registration Required)	
9 to 11 am		<p>Pre-Symposium Mobile Workshop: Town Branch Commons Corridor Tour</p> <p>Join City of Lexington Complete Streets Coordinator Brandi Peacher for immersive, guided walking tour of the Town Branch Commons Corridor, a transformational urban multimodal corridor and linear park reconnecting downtown Lexington to surrounding neighborhoods and regional trails. This award-winning project integrates buried infrastructure, historic waterways, green infrastructure, multimodal transportation, and public space design into a single cohesive vision creating a safer, more vibrant, and economically catalytic corridor. Participants will explore project phasing, partnerships, community engagement, and implementation strategies that position Town Branch Commons as a replicable model for corridor delivery and sustainable urban development. Pre-Registration Required.</p>	
noon-6 pm		Registration Open	
1-1:30 pm		Welcome Remarks and Opening Session Location: Ballroom ABC	
2-4:45 pm		Exhibitor Set-up	
		MPO 101 Track Location: Ballroom D	Deep Dive Track Location: Magnolia Ballroom
1:45-3:15 pm	BLOCK 1	Designing Better Maps and Geospatial Apps	Future-Ready MPOs: A Hands-On Lab in Strategic Foresight
		Session leaders: Caitlin Smith (Esri); Melissa Miracle, Margaret Minzer, & Beau Ryck (Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana COG)	Session leaders: David Giguere, Katherine Atteberry, & Kristin Allin (Atlanta Regional Commission)
3:15-3:30 pm		Break	
3:30-4:45 pm	BLOCK 2	Road Safety Audits: Advancing Safe System Implementation	Corridor Prioritization Lab: Apply the Active Transportation Tool to Your Region
		Session leaders: Matthew Hardy (ITE); Evan Schoss & Nancy Hirsch (Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission); & Kate Pipa (Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments)	Session leaders: David Miller and Sophie Menner (Foursquare ITP); & Curtis Bridges (Charlotte Regional TPO)
4:45-6 pm		Welcome Reception with Exhibitors	

Tuesday, April 21		
8:30 am to noon		MPO Institute (Pre-Registration Required)
8:30 am-5 pm		Registration Open
8:30-9:15 am		Continental Breakfast with Exhibitors
		MPO 101 Track Location: Ballroom D
		Deep Dive Track Location: Magnolia Ballroom
9:15-10:30 am	BLOCK 3	Off the Road! Getting Your Plan Back on Track When Things Go Wrong
		Session leaders: Katrina Van Every & Paul Brewster, Thurston Regional Planning Council
9:15-10:30 am		Data That Saves Lives: Building Better Safety Tools at a Regional Scale
		Session leaders: Kate Gregory & Jake Lovell (Oregon Metro)
10:30-11 am		Break with Exhibitors
11 am to noon	BLOCK 4	Crash Safety Planning Scenarios Using a Crash Data Dashboard
		Session leaders: Greg Conant, Denver Regional Council of Governments
11 am to noon		Visualization for Dallas-Fort Worth Traffic Counts and High-Speed Transportation Connections Ridership Forecast
		Session leaders: Zihao Li & Hua Yang (North Central Texas COG)
noon-1:30 pm		Lunch, featuring Premiere Sponsors EcoInteractive and StreetLight Location: Ballroom ABC
1:30-3:30 pm	BLOCK 5	Transit Networks 101: The Prairieville Interactive Network Design Game
		Session leaders: Sean Northup, Jen Higginbotham, Annie Dixon (Indianapolis MPO); & Scudder Wagg (Jarrett Walker + Associates)
		Mid-Week Mobile Workshop: Road Safety Audit. This workshop will test drive a Road Safety Audit, with a focus on vulnerable road users and a spotlight on work being done by the Lexington MPO in collaboration with the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet. (Pre-Registration Required)
1:30-3:30 pm		Applied AI for MPOs From Hours to Minutes: How Planners are Automating Tasks with AI Agents & Reimagining Public Engagement: VR, AI, and GIS for the 2050 LRTP
		1st half session leaders: Varun Tandon & Ryan Johnston (Waypoint Transit); Erick Aune (Santa Fe MPO)(small MPO); 2nd half session leaders: Franchesca Taylor, Elizabeth Rockwell, & Jerry Jackson, Jr. (Miami-Dade TPO)
3:30-4 pm		Break with Exhibitors
4-5 pm	BLOCK 6	Made With AI: Practical Takeaways for Utilizing Artificial Intelligence in Planning and Outreach
		Session leaders: Chelsea Favero & Dana Santos (Forward Pinellas)
4-5 pm		Safe Routes to School: A Collaborative Discussion on Strategies for Infrastructure & Engagement
		Session leaders: Tim Verbeke & Chloe Barnes, Region 1 Planning Council
5:30-8:30 pm		Social Event at LexLive 301 S Broadway

Wednesday, April 22						
8:30 am to noon		MPO Institute (Pre-Registration Required)				
8:30 am-5 pm		Registration Open				
8:30-9:30 am		Continental Breakfast with Exhibitors				
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2:30-3 pm		Break with Exhibitors				
3-5 pm		Exhibitor Tear Down				
3-4:30 pm		Closing Session Location: Ballroom ABC				