



Lexington Area  
Metropolitan Planning Organization



**2026** APRIL 20-23, 2026  
LEXINGTON, KY

**PLANNING TOOLS  
& TRAINING  
SYMPOSIUM**

# AGENDA

Subject to Change | Updated March 31, 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

		<b>Pre-Symposium Mobile Workshop: Town Branch Commons Corridor Tour</b>	
9 to 11 am		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. <b>Pre-Registration Required.</b>	
11 am-6 pm		<i>Registration Open</i>	
1-1:30 pm		Welcome Remarks and Opening Session   Location: Ballroom ABC	
2-4:45 pm		Exhibitor Set-up	
		<b>MPO 101 Track   Location: Ballroom D</b>	<b>Deep Dive Track   Location: Magnolia Ballroom</b>
1:45-3:15 pm	<b>BLOCK 1</b>	<b>Designing Better Maps and Geospatial Apps</b>	<b>Future-Ready MPOs: A Hands-On Lab in Strategic Foresight</b>
		Session leaders: Caitlin Smith (Esri); Melissa Miracle, Margaret Minzner, & 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	<b>BLOCK 2</b>	<b>Road Safety Audits: Advancing Safe System Implementation</b>	<b>Corridor Prioritization Lab: Apply the Active Transportation Tool to Your Region</b> You're encouraged to bring your laptop to this session
		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-5 pm		Registration Open
8:30-9:15 am		Continental Breakfast with Exhibitors
		<b>MPO 101 Track   Location: Ballroom D</b>
		<b>Deep Dive Track   Location: Magnolia Ballroom</b>
9:15-10:30 am	<b>BLOCK 3</b>	<b>Off the Road! Getting Your Plan Back on Track When Things Go Wrong</b>
		Session leaders: Katrina Van Every & Paul Brewster, Thurston Regional Planning Council
		<b>Data That Saves Lives: Building Better Safety Tools at a Regional Scale</b>
		Session leaders: Kate Gregory & Jake Lovell (Oregon Metro)
10:30-11 am		Break with Exhibitors
11 am to noon	<b>BLOCK 4</b>	<b>Crash Safety Planning Scenarios Using a Crash Data Dashboard</b> You're encouraged to bring your laptop to this session
		Session leaders: Greg Conant, Denver Regional Council of Governments
		<b>Visualization for Dallas-Fort Worth Traffic Counts and High-Speed Transportation Connections Ridership Forecast</b> You'll need to bring a laptop to fully participate in this session
		Session leaders: Zihao Li & Hua Yang (North Central Texas COG)
noon-1:30 pm		Lunch, featuring Premiere Sponsors <b>EcolInteractive</b> and <b>StreetLight</b>   Location: Ballroom ABC
1:30-3:30 pm	<b>BLOCK 5</b>	<b>Transit Networks 101: The Prairieville Interactive Network Design Game</b>
		Session leaders: Sean Northup & Jen Higginbotham (Indianapolis MPO); & Scudder Wagg (Jarrett Walker + Associates)
		<b>Applied AI for MPOs</b> 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)
		<b>Mid-Week Mobile Workshop: Road Safety Audit.</b> 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)
3:30-4 pm		Break with Exhibitors
4-5 pm	<b>BLOCK 6</b>	<b>Made With AI: Practical Takeaways for Utilizing Artificial Intelligence in Planning and Outreach</b>
		Session leaders: Chelsea Favero & Dana Santos (Forward Pinellas)
		<b>Safe Routes to School: A Collaborative Discussion on Strategies for Infrastructure &amp; Engagement</b>
		Session leaders: Tim Verbeke & Chloe Barnes, Region 1 Planning Council
5:30-8:30 pm		<a href="#">Social Event at LexLive   301 S Broadway</a>

Wednesday, April 22		
8:30 am-5 pm		Registration Open
8:30-9:30 am		Continental Breakfast with Exhibitors
		<b>MPO 101 Track   Location: Ballroom D</b>
		<b>Deep Dive Track   Location: Magnolia Ballroom</b>
9:30-10:30 am	<b>BLOCK 7</b>	<b>BTS: Transportation Data and Analysis Products</b> You're encouraged to bring your laptop to this session
		<b>NextGen Travel Demand Models with AI Digital Twins</b>
		Session leaders: Ramond Robinson & Patricia DiJoseph (USDOT)
		Session leaders: Ximon Zhu (Numobility); Jiaqi Ma (UCLA); and Jinghua Xu (Southern California Association of Governments)
10:30-11 am		Break with Exhibitors
11 am to noon	<b>BLOCK 8</b>	<b>Turning Gameday Lessons into Everyday Wins</b>
		<b>Case Study Clinic: Nicholasville Road Corridor Redesign</b>
		Session leaders: Daniel Rudge (Bryan-College Station MPO); Debbie Albert & Jessica VanDenBogaert (Texas A&M Transportation Institute)
		Session leaders: Christopher Evilia (Lexington Area MPO); Steve De Witte (Kentucky Transportation Cabinet); Anne Warnick (WSP)
noon-1 pm		Lunch, featuring Premiere Sponsors <b>PMG</b> and <b>Social Pinpoint</b>   Location: Ballroom ABC
1-2:30 pm	<b>BLOCK 9</b>	<b>Understanding Travel in your Region: Tools and Knowledge to Use the Census Transportation Planning Product (CTPP)</b> You're encouraged to bring your laptop to this session
		<b>Using the Resilience and Disaster Recovery Tool Suite to Support Resilient Transportation Infrastructure Project Prioritization</b> <u>You'll need to bring your laptop with the tool suite already installed. Click this link to access instructions, which will be posted 1 week before the Symposium.</u>
		Session leaders: Julia Glickman (AASHTO); Heath Lupton (Cambridge Systematics); & Kevin Tierney (Bird's Hill Research)
		Session leaders: Kevin Zhang, Andrew Breck, & Juwon Drake (USDOT)
2:30-3 pm		Break with Exhibitors
3-5 pm		Exhibitor Tear Down
3-4:30 pm		Closing Session   Location: Ballroom ABC