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AMPO News

2027 Call for Committee Members and Leadership

Want to get more involved as an AMPO member at the national level?

We're pleased to announce that the 2027 call for Committee Members and Interest Group Leadership is open! You're invited to apply for one of the numerous positions on AMPO's Leadership Forum, Applied Research & Training (ART) Committee, Intergovernmental Affairs Group, Interest Group Leadership Team, or our newest addition, Transportation Connections.

This is an excellent opportunity to help lead the discussion about vital transportation topics at the national level. Applications are due by **August 24**.



AMPO

Volunteer Leadership Applications Open!

Represent the MPO Community at the National Level

- MPO Leadership Forum**
4 Leaders
- Policy Committee**
20 Voting Positions
5 Ex-officio
5 Emerging Professionals
- ART Committee**
20 Voting Positions
5 Ex-officio
5 Emerging Professionals
- Intergovernmental Affairs Group**
4 leaders
- 7 Interest Groups**
4 Leaders per group
- Transpo Connections**
4 leaders

Contact Us
ezavisca@ampo.org

ampo.org

[Position Details Here](#)

[Apply Now](#)

Questions about the Committee and Leadership positions?

Join us for our upcoming Open House on **August 3 from 1:30 - 2:30 PM ET**. Drop in any time within the hour to get your questions answered.

[Register for the Open House](#)

Build Your MPO Expertise & Invest in Your MPO Career

Training developed by MPO professionals for MPO professionals.

Unlike general planning courses, MPO Institute courses focus on the unique



THE MPO INSTITUTE

challenges MPOs face every day from federal requirements and funding programs to long range planning and transportation programming.

Current courses include:

 New MPOs and Graduated TMAs (Free)

Perfect for new MPO staff and agencies navigating designation or TMA responsibilities.

 MPO 101

A foundation course covering MPO history, structure, core products, the 3C planning process, and the evolving role of MPOs.

 Federal Funding

Learn how transportation funding flows from Congress to projects, including the Highway Trust Fund, formula programs, and discretionary grants.

 MTP Deep Dive

A comprehensive look at developing Metropolitan Transportation Plans—from visioning and public engagement to forecasting, scenario planning, and adoption.

 TIP Deep Dive

Explore the complete Transportation Improvement Program process, including project prioritization, fiscal constraint, air quality conformity, and implementation. Whether you're an MPO planner, executive director, board member, consultant, transit agency representative, or DOT partner, the MPO Institute offers practical training built around real-world transportation planning.

Invest in yourself. Invest in your team. Invest in the future of your MPO.

[Explore the full course catalog today](#) OR contact [Chris Ryan](#) directly.

Annual Conference Early Bird Rates Ending Soon!

Early bird registration rates for the [2026 AMPO Annual Conference](#) are set to close on Friday, **July 31!** Registration is available to both members and non-members.

Registering early not only saves you money, it also increases your chances of staying on-site and taking advantage of our discounted conference room block before it fills up.

If you are unable to secure a hotel reservation at the Sheraton, please email events@ampo.org for further assistance.

Join us **September 14–18** in America's Farm-to-Fork Capital, Sacramento, California, for the 2026 AMPO Annual Conference, where MPOs converge to ignite innovation, foster continuous learning, and forge powerful connections.

We've also released an updated [conference program](#) featuring expanded networking opportunities, timely policy discussions, technical sessions, and peer-led learning designed to help MPO professionals navigate today's challenges and prepare for tomorrow's opportunities.

[Learn More](#)

Welcome Our Newest AMPO Members

Please join us in welcoming our newest MPO members! First up we have Northeastern Indiana Regional Coordinating Council (NIRCC). You can learn more about our newest Indiana-based member [here](#).



Next, please join us in welcoming Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments! Learn more about our newest Oregon-based member [here](#).

Interested in joining AMPO as an MPO member, DOT Partner or Industry Partner? Click [here](#) to learn more or contact our Membership Director, [Jessica O'Keefe](#), directly.

AMPO Is Hiring

AMPO is seeking an **Education Associate** to help shape the future of professional development for the MPO community. This position will support the development and delivery of MPO Institute courses, coordinate educational programming, collaborate with subject matter experts, and help ensure high-quality learning experiences for transportation professionals nationwide. If you're passionate about education, project coordination, and advancing the metropolitan planning profession, this is an exciting opportunity to make a national impact. View the full position description and apply below.

[Learn More](#)

Join Us

Interest Group participants can claim AICP credits following the webinar

Environment & Resiliency Interest Group Q3 Webinar

Topic: How Do We Continue to Fund Resiliency Work

August 6 | 2:00 - 3:00 PM ET

Register [here](#)

Core Products Interest Group Q3 Webinar

August 12 | 2:00 - 3:00 PM ET

Topic: Innovative Web-Based Visualization Approaches for More Engaging MTPs

Register [here](#)



In The Weeds

In the weeds, you'll find timely updates from the Federal Register as it pertains to our industry.

EPA Releases Draft Assessment of NOx Standards

The Environmental Protection Agency has made available for public review [a draft document](#) that assesses the health impact of oxides of nitrogen (NOx). NOx are among the

six criteria pollutants regulated by the national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS) under the Clean Air Act. This assessment is relevant to MPOs primarily because NO_x contributes to the formation of ground-level ozone. Numerous MPOs across the U.S. are in nonattainment or maintenance status for federal ozone standards, requiring them to model emissions to demonstrate air quality conformity. The Clean Air Act requires periodic reviews of the primary (health-based) and secondary (welfare-based) impacts of the criteria pollutants, which can lead to revisions of the NAAQS. Read [more](#).

In the Weeds



EPA Designates New Methods for Measuring PM & CO

The Environmental Protection Agency issued notice on July 15, 2026 (and then issued a correction on July 20) related to new methods for measuring particulate matter (PM) and carbon monoxide (CO), which are two of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) established in the Clean Air Act. These changes are of interest to MPOs because being in nonattainment or maintenance status for one or more of the NAAQS requires MPOs to determine the air quality impacts of their planning and programming work. Read [more](#).

Events & Resources

Events

ITS America Webinar: AI is Changing the Way We Manage Traffic Tuesday, July 28 | 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM ET

Between ATSPMs, hardware telemetry, safety metrics, and citizen complaints, today's traffic engineers are managing more complexity than ever with the same staff, the same budgets, and less time than ever to make sense of it all.

Artificial intelligence is starting to close that gap. Not as a distant concept, but as a working part of how agencies detect problems, investigate causes, and communicate results today, in production, in real cities. This session is a thought-leadership conversation about where AI is headed in traffic operations, moderated with real practitioners who are living this shift right now. Register [here](#).

Bay Area Trails Collaborative Trail Talk – Beyond Cost Per Mile: Understanding Trail Costs

Estimating the cost of a trail is rarely as simple as a price per mile — material types, site conditions, prevailing wage, and inflation all shape what a project will actually cost. Join the Bay Area Trails Collaborative for a Trail Talk on **July 29 at 2 PM ET** featuring a trail manager, designer, and contractor who will utilize two case studies to share their perspectives on cost estimating philosophy, breaking down project components, and avoiding scope gaps from planning through construction. Whether you're sourcing unit prices, interviewing contractors, preparing bid documents, or navigating funding requirements, you'll leave with practical tools and real-world insights to build more accurate estimates. Register [here](#).

Advancing Pavement and Bridge Performance Through Transportation Programming

The webinar will present findings from research on how State departments of transportation (DOTs) and metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) are prioritizing National Highway System (NHS) pavement and bridge condition in the development of their statewide and metropolitan transportation improvement programs (STIPs and TIPs) and how agencies use the asset management process and the development of the asset management plan to optimize investments in achieving a state of good repair. The webinar will take place **August 4 from 2:00 - 3:30 PM ET**. Register [here](#).

Preparing for Successful Trail-Based Tourism

Date/time: **August 05, 2026 at 1 pm ET**

Trails play a vital role in the growing outdoor recreation economy, serving as valuable community assets that attract visitors seeking outdoor-focused destinations. As trail-based tourism continues to expand, communities of all sizes have new opportunities to strengthen their local economies and enhance visitor experiences.

This webinar will feature community leaders from along the route of the Great American Rail-Trail, as well as representatives from other communities highlighted in Rails to Trails Conservancy's new Trail Tourism Toolkit. Speakers will share perspectives from a variety of trail tourism development stages and discuss how communities can prepare to welcome trail users through strategic partnerships, amenities, and visitor services. Attendees will also learn practical, replicable best practices from the toolkit that can be adapted and implemented in communities across the country. Register [here](#).

Resources

New: AMPO Research Roadmap for FHWA

At the request of the Federal Highway Administration, AMPO has developed a research roadmap for FHWA that reflects the priorities and challenges we've heard from MPOs across the country. The document highlights opportunities for research investments that will produce practical, implementation-ready tools to support metropolitan planning and improve day-to-day practice. Conversations we've had with MPOs across the U.S. have informed this document, and our [Applied Research & Training Committee](#) has diligently reviewed and improved upon it. Access the Research Roadmap [here](#).

Your Data Matters: Contribute to the Next Parking Generation Manual

The Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) is seeking parking demand data to support development of the Parking Generation Manual, 7th Edition, a foundational resource for transportation planning and engineering scheduled for publication in 2027.

ITE is accepting submissions across all land uses, with a particular need for data from emerging and evolving development types, including high-cube industrial facilities, multifamily and zero-parking residential developments, lodging and office uses, retail and service establishments, EV charging stations, and boutique fitness studios.

Data submissions should include multihour parking counts, site characteristics, and contextual information. Contributions will help ensure the manual reflects current trends and provides practitioners with accurate, real-world insights into parking demand. The deadline for submissions is **August 1, 2026**. For more information or to submit data, click [here](#).

AMPO Job Board

Interested in learning more about the latest job opportunities in our industry? Click the button below. If you have a job posting that you'd like us to share on our website, please click [here](#).

[AMPO Job Board](#)

Please forward this bi-weekly email newsletter to members of your staff that may be interested in its contents. To subscribe or unsubscribe to AMPO Email, please send an email to communications@ampo.org and indicate your request. AMPO's distribution list will be updated approximately every two weeks.

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